

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

PUBLIC PORTION/PUBLIC SESSION

February 23, 2015

The Township Council held a Public Portion/Public Session in the Municipal Building, 350 Pascack Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. by Council President Peter Calamari with the Clerk leading a salute to the flag. Members present: Glenn Beckmeyer, Steve Cascio, Dave Frank, Thomas Sears and Peter Calamari. Also present: Janet Sobkowicz, Mayor; Ken Poller, Attorney; Matthew Cavallo, Business Administrator.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act this meeting was listed in the Township Council Annual Meeting List which was published in The Bergen Record, forwarded to the local newspapers, posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

PLAQUE PRESENTATION

Mayor Sobkowicz – Mayor Sobkowicz stated we are here to recognize these two employees who worked for the Township for quite a while, between the two of them they have over 51 years of service to the Township of Washington. She states that Mr. Clossey was born in the Township, then moved away, and any time he was needed during snowstorms or hurricanes, he was always here. Mrs. Cunningham was always at the Township early in the morning and has given 18 years of service. Mayor Sobkowicz stated you are both very appreciated and she is very happy to do this for you both this evening.

Mr. Calamari – Mr. Calamari thanked Mr. Clossey and Mrs. Cunningham for their service to the Township.

Plaques were presented to Mr. Tom Clossey and Mrs. Rosemary Cunningham.

Mr. Calamari – Mr. Calamari stated we do have a few more plaques to present, Randy Ciocco, Chief of Police, Mary Ann Ozment, our former Clerk, and Councilman Richard Hrbek who did put many years into the Township. It was short notice, but we do appreciate the service they have given to the Township.

Mayor Sobkowicz – Mayor Sobkowicz stated the Contemporary Women's Club has asked the Township to declare March as Women's History Month. (Mayor Sobkowicz then read the Proclamation).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Sears, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer, to approve the February 9, 2015 Public & Conference Minutes. (All Vote)
Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.
Nays: None.

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

A motion was made by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer, to open the general public discussion.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

Michael Ullman, 2 Clark Place – Mr. Ullman spoke of the VFW update the Administrator gave last week with regard to the four units, with only one of the units earmarked for a Veteran, which he believes is a disservice to our Veterans. Mr. Calamari stated that is a fluid number, subject to change. Mr. Ullman spoke at length that the Township would be able to provide ADA Compliant housing to a Veteran coming home who may be disabled, and the

fact that these units may not be on the tax roll. Mr. Calamari stated that Mr. Ullman echoed much of his opinions, and he does hope the number goes up. Mr. Sears stated he seconds that. Dr. Cascio believes the housing should be exclusively for Veterans.

Ray Bernroth, 838 Crest Place – Mr. Bernroth spoke of a situation he encountered at the shopping center in which of a small box truck was taking up two handicap parking spaces. He stated that Police Officer Heather, who was not in uniform, took charge of the situation by having a uniformed police officer ticket the vehicle. Mr. Bernroth stated he was happy to see that.

Rose D'Ambra, 423 Colonial Boulevard – Mrs. D'Ambra stated that she has sent letters to the Pascack Press, Community Life and The Record and hoped that the Administrator and Mayor have read them. Mrs. D'Ambra then read from one of her letters. She then asked if a Planning Board/Zoning Board secretary had been hired. Mayor Sobkowicz stated applications have been received, but interviews have not started yet. Administrator Cavallo stated that he is covering the Zoning Board meeting on the 24th of February. Mrs. D'Ambra feels that the administrator should not be doing that, and that the professionals should be paid the money they deserve. Mrs. D'Ambra then spoke at length of the various positions in the Township and what they are getting paid. She then asked what is being done with the money generated from the cell tower. Mr. Calamari states it is a revenue line item, not earmarked for one specific thing, it is used to balance the budget.

Linda Murphy, 675 McKinley Avenue – Ms. Murphy spoke with regard to Zoning Board meetings in 2009 that involved the application of the intersection of Pascack and Washington Avenue. She then forwarded to Mr. Calamari a copy of a letter to council with documents attached. She spoke at length with regard to the work order, which has 21 things the municipality must be responsible for, in particular with number 6, number 20 and number 21 and she also spoke of a traffic study that was conducted between August 2010 and 2011. She also would like to know if a new traffic study would be done, if so would the amount of vehicles coming off of Exit 171 be looked at. She also spoke of a crash study done by the Police Officers in 2011 and a traffic study done for the Sky Trading application. She would like to know what engineering firm the Township will be looking at. She states that the residents, commuters and firefighters in that area need to come first. Mr. Calamari stated that council is now getting reacquainted with the intersection, and there will be an update during the conference session. She also asked that an access study needs to be done for the firehouse during rush hour, to see if the firefighters can get in or get out.

Toni Plantamura, 808 Robinwood Road – Ms. Plantamura spoke of the article that was on the front page of The Bergen Record with regard to carcinogen in artificial turf. She spoke at length with regard to putting this to a referendum vote, as was done in Glen Rock. She also spoke of hidden costs, such as a \$150,000 engineering cost and a cost of \$40,000 to bring the heat temperature down on the field surface. At this time she has between 550-600 signatures on a petition. She states that this field is being done for less than 200 kids that are in this program, and they should raise the money themselves. She spoke at length with regard to the various things that are in bad shape in the Township, such as the roads, the intersection and Exit 168. Mr. Calamari explained the process of putting this subject to a referendum vote, council as elected officials are elected to do things as they see best. Mr. Calamari also stated at the last meeting an informal vote was taken to see if there was enough support for an engineering study. Mr. Calamari spoke at length with regard to the numbers being 2.3 million for a turf field, which is not accurate since this would be a renovation of the entire complex. Mr. Beckmeyer stated that the 2.3 million is for the whole project, the lights, stands, walking track, new backstops, and dugout, the turf itself is \$300,000 to \$400,000 tops. He also spoke of installing a grass surface and every year putting another \$150,000 towards the grass due to it wearing out. He stated that there are more than 200 kids using the field. He also spoke of the maintenance of grass

field as compared to artificial turf, artificial turf being less maintenance, and the turf would also make it easier on the DPW and manpower.

Joe D'Urso, 12 Viola Terrace – Mr. D'Urso spoke of the field not being a priority, the intersection, the roads and the municipal buildings are a priority. He also stated that the VFW should be for the Veterans. He also spoke of Washington Avenue, being a county road and the pothole situation in that area. Mayor Sobkowitz stated she did speak with Mr. Tedesco at a meeting, but it will be his aid/assistant that will be setting up an appointment. Mr. D'Urso stated if Memorial Field is done, it should be for everyone and not chained up as are Clark Field and Sherry Field. Mr. Calamari spoke at length to what he believes the priorities are and it is his intent to work of them vigorously.

A motion was made by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer, to close the general public discussion.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

ORDINANCES

2ND Reading Ordinance No. 15-01

The Clerk read Ordinance No. 15-01 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT FEE SCHEDULE

A motion was made by Mr. Sears, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer, to introduce and pass Ordinance No. 15-01 at second reading by title.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Hrbek, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: Councilman Cascio.

The following resolution, Resolution No. 15-141 was presented and adopted on a motion by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

BE AND IT IS RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington that Ordinance No. 15-01 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT FEE SCHEDULE be read on second reading and the public hearing be held thereon pursuant to law.

A motion was made by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer, to open the Public Hearing.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

A motion was made by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer to close the Public Hearing.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

A motion was made Mr. Sears, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer, to pass Ordinance No. 15-01 on a second and final reading, submit the same to the Mayor for her approval and thereafter be published according to law.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: Councilman Cascio.

2ND Reading Ordinance No. 15-02

The Clerk read Ordinance No. 15-02 entitled: AN ORDINANCE CREATING TOWING AND STORAGE OF VEHICLES

A motion was made by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer, to introduce and pass Ordinance No. 15-02 at second reading by title.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

The following resolution, Resolution No. 15-142 was presented and adopted on a motion by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

BE AND IT IS RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington that Ordinance No. 15-02 entitled: AN ORDINANCE CREATING TOWING AND STORAGE OF VEHICLES be read on second reading and the public hearing be held thereon pursuant to law.

A motion was made by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer, to open the Public Hearing.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

Michael Ullman, 2 Clark Avenue – Mr. Ullman would like to know if there is an ordinance on this topic and what prompted this legislative action. Mr. Calamari, no there is not an ordinance. Administrator Cavallo explained that this falls under Public Contracts Law and the two options that would be available, further explained the bid process wasn't working for the Township and the contract is expiring April 1. Administrator Cavallo spoke at length with regard to the ordinance, which involves towing of vehicles by the police department, how the permit process would work and what the responsibilities would be of the police chief and the towing operator. Administrator Cavallo further stated the towing company yard would have to be within a five mile radius of the Township, and the weekly rotation would be assigned by the Chief of Police.

A motion was made by Mr. Beckmeyer, seconded by Dr. Cascio to close the Public Hearing.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

A motion was made Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer, to pass Ordinance No. 15-02 on a second and final reading, submit the same to the Mayor for her approval and thereafter be published according to law.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: Councilman Cascio.

2ND Reading Ordinance No. 15-03

The Clerk read Ordinance No. 15-03 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

A motion was made by Mr. Beckmeyer, seconded by Mr. Frank, to introduce and pass Ordinance No. 15-03 at second reading by title.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: Councilman Cascio.

The following resolution, Resolution No. 15-143 was presented and adopted on a motion by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

BE AND IT IS RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington that Ordinance No. 15-03 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE be read on second reading and the public hearing be held thereon pursuant to law.

A motion was made by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer, to open the Public Hearing.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

Michael Ullman, 2 Clark Avenue – Mr. Ullman would like to know who the Township treasurer and the director. Mayor Sobkowicz stated the treasurer is Judy Curran and we do not have a director at this point. Mr. Ullman spoke with regard to section 5-61 and the wording "Subject to Mayor" which he believes should read "Subject to Mayor's Approval." Mr. Poller explained that this would have to also be looked at during codification time. Mr. Calamari stated at the time of codification the people that specialize in that would certainly make their suggestions. Administrator Cavallo explained who would sign the checks, and from what departments. Administrator Cavallo also stated we do have a Deputy Treasurer, Joi Apar, who was hired to replace Mrs. Cunningham who retired. Administrator Cavallo stated as the administrator,

he oversees all departments and this is one of the changes that need to be made before moving forward.

A motion was made by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer to close the Public Hearing.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

A motion was made Mr. Beckmeyer, seconded by Mr. Frank, to pass Ordinance No. 15-03 on a second and final reading, submit the same to the Mayor for her approval and thereafter be published according to law.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: Councilman Cascio.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following resolutions were part of the Consent Agenda and were made available to the Governing Body and the Public prior to the meeting.

Dr. Cascio – Dr. Cascio asked if the administrator can explain this Resolution.

Administrator Cavallo – Administrator Cavallo explained the resolution to Dr. Cascio.

The Consent Agenda was presented and adopted on a motion by Mr. Beckmeyer, seconded by Dr. Cascio.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

Resolution No. 15-144

Temporary Emergency Appropriation

WHEREAS, an emergent condition has arisen with respect to Appropriations and no adequate provision has been made in the 2015 temporary budget for the aforesaid purpose, and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 provides for the creation of an emergency temporary appropriation for the purpose above mentioned; and

WHEREAS, the total temporary budget resolution adopted in the year 2015 including this resolution total \$3,086,453.50.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVE, that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 an emergency temporary appropriation be made for:

PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS	
POLICE DEPARTMENT	
Police Car Cameras	\$ 1,500.00
Reverse 911 System	\$ 2,500.00
PUBLIC WORKS FUNCTIONS	
DEPT. OF MUNICIPAL FACILITIES	
Maintenance of Buildings O/E	\$ 8,000.00
TOTAL TEMPORARY EMERGENCY	\$ 12,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

Time noted: 8:43 pm


Elaine Erlewein
Acting Township Clerk


Peter Calamari
Council President

Approved: March 9, 2015

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

CONFERENCE PORTION/PUBLIC SESSION

February 23, 2015

Members present: Glenn Beckmeyer, Steve Cascio, Dave Frank, Thomas Sears, Peter Calamari. Also present: Janet Sobkowicz, Mayor; Matthew Cavallo, Administrator; Ken Poller, Attorney.

NEW BUSINESS

2015 Budget – Mr. Calamari stated that the binders have been given to council tonight. After a brief discussion the dates for the budget meetings would be March 7th at 9:00 am, March 9th after the regularly scheduled meeting and March 10th at 6:00 pm. Administrator Cavallo will also email out the recreation fees so they can be discussed at the first budget meeting.

Codification of Ordinances – Administrator Cavallo stated that there is a line item in the budget under the Department of Law for recodification of ordinances.

CURRENT BUSINESS

Road Program – Administrator Cavallo stated that the road survey is in the front cover of the budget book, and it is also included in the capital budget.

Firehouse Building – Mayor Sobkowicz stated that the bathroom is being worked on at this time. She further stated it is under maintenance of buildings and the amount is \$1,858.00.

DMF Building – Administrator Cavallo reviewed all five of the proposals, which range from \$15,000 up to \$66,000. He spoke at length with regard to experience of the vendors, and similar programming studies that they have done. He stated that we can get the same level of work out of the bid of \$16,500; it was not an RFP, so it does not have to go to lowest possible bidder. He further stated that the money is available in the capital budget, but needs to be allocated by ordinance to fund the study. He stated the best thing would be is to have a discussion during the capital budget plan and then have an ordinance introduction in March. He did speak with the current DMF Superintendent who does have some recommendations with regard to the future replacement of the current DMF fleet, and he will bring those recommendations back to council. All five proposals are calling this a Programming Study and he will give council copies of each of the proposals.

Memorial Field Improvements – Mr. Calamari stated that an informal vote was taken at the last council meeting with regard to funding the engineering portion of the field improvement. He would like to know if council needs any more time before taking a vote. Administrator Cavallo stated just to clarify, this would be funding to hire an engineer to design the field and give us an estimate. Mr. Calamari stated that if he can call for informal vote with funding that study.

A motion was made by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Sears to fund the hiring of an engineer to design the field and supply an estimate.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: Councilman Cascio.

Administrator Cavallo stated that he will work with the bond council to prepare an ordinance to fund the \$150,000 for the engineering study. It will be in council's packet and introduction will be at the next meeting.

VFW Property – Habitat for Humanity – Administrator Cavallo stated that he has been going back with Jacey Raimondo with regard to the developer's agreement. As soon as any changes are approved, they will be sent to Mr. Poller for review. Administrator Cavallo stated that the next step would be to subdivide the land before it is sold. There was a discussion with regard to how

many Veteran units there can be, and also if not Veterans, seniors. Dr. Cascio stated that he believed all four units should be for Veterans. There was a discussion with regard to deed restrictions, and a senior citizen is defined as being 55 years or older. A proposal will be done by the engineer and then the Township will start working on subdividing the property.

Intersection of Pascack Road and Washington Avenue – Mr. Sears spoke at length with regard to a meeting he and Mr. Calamari attended where they met with County Executive Tedesco and Mark Schrieks, his Deputy Chief of Staff. The issues discussed at the meeting were the commuters crossing on Pascack Road, Exit 171 and the design of the intersection. Four pedestrian crossing signs will be sent to mount on all four corners of Washington Avenue and Pascack Road. Mr. Sears spoke at length with regard to what was discussed during the meeting, that being Exit 171 and the traffic hardship that the Township is experiencing by not allowing the right hand turn. Mr. Sears stated he also sent letters to the District 39 representatives, Gerald Cardinale, Robert Auth and Holly Shepisi to get involve and ask why this was allowed to happen. Mayor Sobkowicz spoke at length with regard to a past lawsuit and the highway authority. Mayor Sobkowicz further stated that studies from the highway authority shows that there would be 50% less traffic if that right hand restriction was lifted. A lengthy discussion followed with regard to the intersection of Pascack and Washington Avenue, the proposals that were given in the past and the curbing. There was also a discussion with regard to a resolution that was signed with the county back in 2011 and a list of items that the Township engineer was to look at. Mr. Calamari stated that Mr. Sears did invite him to attend the meeting to voice their concerns and hopefully get some relief from Exit 171. He further stated that the priority right now is to pursue Exit 171 and then look at the intersection. Mr. Beckmeyer spoke at length with regard to Ms. Murphy's concerns of the intersection, and the curbing in the area being a 60 foot crossing.

A motion was made by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer to adjourn.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

Time Noted: 9:18 pm



Elaine Erlewein
Acting Township Clerk



Peter Calamari
Council President

Approved: March 9, 2015