

**TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

PUBLIC PORTION/CONFERENCE SESSION

December 22, 2014

The Township Council held a Public Portion/Conference Session in the Municipal Building, Pascack Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Council President Thomas Sears with the Clerk leading a salute to the flag. Members present: Glenn Beckmeyer, Peter Calamari, Steve Cascio, Richard Hrbek, Thomas Sears. Also present: Janet Sobkowicz, Mayor; Matthew Cavallo, Administrator; Absent: Ken Poller, Attorney.

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 Ridgewood News, forwarded to the local newspapers, posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

Ayes: Councilpersons Beckmeyer, Calamari, Hrbek, Sears.

Nays: Councilperson Cascio.

Catherine Deloy, 84 Hampshire Road – Ms. Deloy states her street is in dire need of paving, there are holes all up and down, especially between Douglas and Van Emburgh. Her husband and she walk every morning on Hampshire Road and you can fall down and hurt you and the cars also swerve to avoid the holes. Ms. Deloy would like to know if there are any plans to pave Hampshire Road. Administrator Cavallo states an engineer was hired to give a road study and we should have a report by after the first of the year. Administrator Cavallo states at that time we will be able to tell you when specific roads will be getting done. Administrator Cavallo states all the road programs that were bid this year are complete with the exception of Colonial Boulevard will be done this Spring. All the roads are being analyzed throughout the entire Township and they will be rated on a scale rating the worst roads that need the most work. Ms. Deloy states the whole road is not bad, it is just bad between Douglas and down to Van Emburgh, and that is Ridgewood past Johnson. Administrator Cavallo states yes, that is correct. Ms. Deloy states between Douglas and Johnson that area really needs to be paved. Mayor Sobkowicz states the engineer will give us a report; they are going to rank the roads. Ms. Deloy states that will be after the first of the year. Mayor Sobkowicz states it is being done at this time, and we will know where that area falls.

Ray Bernroth, 838 Crest Place – Mr. Bernroth states when he comes to the meeting, he hits the handicap button for the door to open and today he hit it a couple of times and it does not work. Mr. Bernroth states after the last council meeting, the leaves on his street were picked up, a large pile up the hill, down the hill, across the street. Mr. Bernroth states he had a small pile in front of his house, and they skipped his pile. Mr. Bernroth states he called the road department and the secretary told Mr. Bernroth that she would tell the superintendent about it, since then they picked up everything. Mr. Bernroth states it is kind of annoying since they do everybody else and they didn't do his. Mr. Bernroth states that he is giving council his words of wisdom for New Year's Eve that is there is nothing wrong with drinking like a fish, as long as you drink what the fish drink.

Toni Plantamura, 808 Robinwood Road – Ms. Plantamura states she has updated information that she would like to give Council President Sears to distribute. Ms. Plantamura states the documents are from the New Jersey Work Environment Council, it is updated information about the chemicals and toxins that are in more modern artificial turf. Ms. Plantamura states she is

very upset and perturbed as to the fairness of this artificial turf dilemma that faces us in this town. Ms. Plantamura states the Mayor appoints the Rec Board, and then two members of the Rec Board are constantly coming to the Mayor and Council every year and asking for artificial turf for about 200 children in this town, from football and lacrosse. Ms. Plantamura states she doesn't want to fund that field, and she has been going around so you know the updated information, she has over 500 petitioners that have signed a referendum and they are very upset about this too. Ms. Plantamura states she is directly talking to the residents in this town, they are upset the way this town looks, all the ongoing things that are discussed every time someone comes, the same issues are brought up. Ms. Plantamura states the issue about the field is they don't want their taxes going up; this is what she is hearing, for a select group of kids that are basically pee-wees. Ms. Plantamura states her idea is the people that want this to have a fundraiser or balance the budget and get rid of something else so you can put about three million dollars into this field. Ms. Plantamura states she also had brought up sharing fields, there always seems to be a block, everybody wants what they want, but you can't always get what you want. Ms. Plantamura states she feels alternatives need to be brought up on this field issue before you go spending this kind of money. Ms. Plantamura states the information she just gave council is updated information and there are toxins and chemicals. Ms. Plantamura states she does not understand why children would be allowed to even play on something that is questionable as far toxicity goes and chemicals in a surface that children are playing on. Ms. Plantamura states she would like to address the woman representing the cheerleaders, Ms. Plantamura knows for a fact, since she spoke to several people that have cheerleaders in this town, the cheerleaders are always designated to somewhere else on the field because football is always given priority. Ms. Plantamura states she wants to make it totally clear that she understands the politics behind that. Ms. Plantamura states with regard to Green Acres it is a gray area whether you are allowed to take money from Green Acres and then convert a natural field to artificial turf, that has not been decided on in the State of New Jersey and Ms. Plantamura questions if this is allowed to be done. Ms. Plantamura suggests that the people that really want this field to be paid for by the rest of the taxpayers and a lot of them don't, that maybe they can get out their themselves and maintain the field, or find maintenance workers that are willing to maintain the field without putting this money into it before you really know what you are doing. Ms. Plantamura states she does not understand why people from two companies that represent artificial turf are allowed to come before this board as salespeople. Ms. Plantamura states Mr. Beckmeyer is bringing in people from two companies and Ms. Plantamura feels Mr. Beckmeyer is a salesman for the company to give your side of the story. Mr. Beckmeyer states he was asked by the Council President to bring someone in to talk about it, and that is what he did. Ms. Plantamura states if Mr. Beckmeyer is representing a company that makes a lot of money and has a particular product. Mr. Sears states that Ms. Plantamura cannot say that Mr. Beckmeyer is representing a company. Ms. Plantamura states Mr. Beckmeyer's name is in the paper and he is a football coach too. Mr. Sears states that he did ask Mr. Beckmeyer. Ms. Plantamura asks Mr. Beckmeyer if he is a football coach. Mr. Beckmeyer states he used to be. Ms. Plantamura states she does not see how it is fair for someone on the board. Mr. Beckmeyer asks is that because he volunteers for the town? Ms. Plantamura states she has three jobs she volunteers for and she doesn't think it is fair for Mr. Beckmeyer to have a vote when he is a football coach in this town. Mr. Beckmeyer asks why, he doesn't make any money from it. Ms. Plantamura states she just wanted to bring that up, and she will put this to a referendum and continue to get signatures on this and there are a lot of people out there that do not want this field, and you need to listen to the people too. Ms. Plantamura states she understands that people have a limited amount of

time that they are allowed to come to a meeting like this, including her, but this is something that is really expensive and she thinks all aspects of this need to be looked into.

Robert Moss, New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club, 17 New Street, Bloomfield – Mr. Moss states the Sierra Club is opposed to the use of artificial turf, at least for young people. Mr. Moss states there is a member on the Conservation Committee who pointed out there is no studies proving that it is harmful, but that is not the chapter policy. Mr. Moss states just as prescription drugs, they have to be proven to be not harmful; they have to be shown to be safe and effective. Mr. Moss states that artificial turf should be shown to be safe and effective first before it is used. Mr. Moss states we don't want to see children playing on it and 10, 20 or 30 years later as adults they develop health problems because the effects are not known at this time. Mr. Moss states that they are concerned about public access to Green Acres facility, any facility that has benefitted from Green Acres money or even is on the recreation open space inventory is supposed to be open for public outdoor recreation. Mr. Moss spoke of this area being a municipally sponsored league. Mr. Moss states the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra club believes an analysis must be made of how many children are going to be participating compared to the population and the requirements to be in the league. Mr. Moss states organized sports runs from whoever shows up or other leagues that are selective in getting the best athletes. Mr. Moss states we also would need to know alternative facilities for general public use and a scheduling policy, that being how are the fields going to be allocated, if they would have to be shared, that being if there is not sufficient space for the general public to do athletic activities. Mr. Moss states the Sierra Club believes the State Department of Environmental Protection should require this before fields are dedicated to a particular league. Mr. Moss states it is incumbent on the municipality to do this analysis and provide the results to the public.

Rose D'Ambra, 423 Colonial Boulevard – Mrs. D'Ambra read from the New Jersey Work Environmental Counsel, Beware of Artificial Turf, which she believes was distributed to council. Mrs. D'Ambra states it is not right for our young children to be playing on this. Mrs. D'Ambra states she gave a photo to Administrator Cavallo regarding dumping in the back of the A&P shopping center. Mrs. D'Ambra states she spotted a bag from Garfield and believes there are outside people dumping along our waterways. Mrs. D'Ambra states the town owns that land and it should be cleaned up, it is filthy. Mrs. D'Ambra states there are rat traps thrown over the fence, there are people throwing over the fence, instead of in the receptacle. Mrs. D'Ambra states that the back of the shopping center needs to be looked at since it is disgusting. Mrs. D'Ambra states an ordinance should be made that every store that comes into that shopping center should have their own container. Mrs. D'Ambra states by the time Sunday comes, there is garbage all over the place, from the Post Office all the way down to the A&P. Mrs. D'Ambra states with regard to Colonial Boulevard, the fire truck passed her home today, about twenty to nine this morning, and her house shook because there are big craters in front of her house and if that cracks her gas line, the town is going to pay for it. Mrs. D'Ambra states those pot holes have to be filled with something proper, anyone that comes down in the big SUV's the whole house shakes. Mrs. D'Ambra states that happened in the 70's, her sewer line in the house came down, and we had to fix it. Mrs. D'Ambra states she wants the town to fix those potholes. Administrator Cavallo states that Colonial Boulevard was on the list to get paved this year, due to the weather it did not get paved. Administrator Cavallo states if anything is put down now, it will come up with the next snowstorm. Mrs. D'Ambra states you can put cement. Administrator Cavallo states cement can't be put down because it is an asphalt roadway. Mrs. D'Ambra you put a binder and cement it. Mr. Sears states he will go down and look at it.

Jim Hanson, 11 Lindenwood Court – Mr. Hanson thanks council for volunteering their time to listen to a lot of different opinions. Mr. Hanson states at the last meeting there was a lot of progress on the field, and some people that spoke already today clearly weren't at the last meeting, with regard to fixing the lighting and the drainage, and then there was a conversation of grass versus artificial turf. Mr. Hanson states he walked on the field again today and took a jog, and didn't realize how bad the geese were. Mr. Hanson states he paced off how much grass needs to be replaced, it is dirt and in bad shape, 70 yards of grass isn't growing, there is 70 yards of dirt. Mr. Hanson states there are websites for grass fields and websites for turf fields. Mr. Hanson spoke of the various things a grass websites states to do in order for the grass to work, such as rotate activities, limiting the field to only necessary events, changing the daily activity of the field, having a portable goal, having the players warm up off the field, executing team drills outside of painted areas and spreading seeds in wear areas before games and practices. Mr. Hanson states the only things that grows on that field is plastic, the field gets used because we have a great town, lots of people doing activities and a lot of people want to use that field. Mr. Hanson states he would like to keep a focus on fixing the field so that we can all have a field we can be proud of and something that is going to last, this is an investment. Mr. Hanson states invest in something that is going to last and is going to work so we can stop this conversation that has been going on since he moved into town.

Mary Ann Ozment, 960 Adams Place – Mrs. Ozment states she spoke to Mr. Sears in reference to the decorations. Mrs. Ozment states where are all the lights, the front of the tree are lit and the back of the trees are not. Mrs. Ozment knows that Mr. Sears is on the committee, and Mr. Sears is very dedicated to this town, and Mrs. Ozment would like to thank Mr. Sears for being Council President for this year. Mrs. Ozment also would like to thank the fire department since she understands they put up a lot of the lights. Mrs. Ozment states if there are not going to be enough lights to make it presentable, then please don't decorate. Mrs. Ozment states the Town Hall is not decorated, there used to be wreaths, trees on each level and on the staircases there used to be borders and there is nothing. Mrs. Ozment knows Mr. Sears really cares about this town and Mr. Sears has always been straightforward with her, and Mrs. Ozment thanks him for that. Mrs. Ozment states with regard to the decorations of this town and she understands there are people that are more interested in a turf field, but Mrs. Ozment states that people in this care more about other things that are not being done. Mrs. Ozment states she herself comes from Adams Place, then going to Jackson which is nice and paved, and Adams Place is a mess, Hoover is nice and paved, and there is another section, lower which is worse than Adams, and then there is Ridgewood Boulevard East. Mrs. Ozment states she hopes Hampshire Road is on the list, as well as Adams. Mrs. Ozment states it is very obvious that Mr. Poller is not here and in the 28 years she worked for this town she has never seen Mr. Poller not be at three consecutive meetings, and Mrs. Ozment hopes he is well. Mrs. Ozment does not know who is advising people about what is going on in this town. Mrs. Ozment states she sees there is only one meeting in July and one in August, and she did ask in previous years to only have one and one and she was told she couldn't do that, the Mayor didn't want that and that is not happening. Mrs. Ozment would like to speak to Mr. Poller about this, while she was the clerk she did ask for the codes to be recodified and she was told in a nice way to mind her own business and it was not going to happen. Mrs. Ozment states to look at the Township ordinances and look under Chapter 5-10, which talks about having four meetings a month, it has never been changed. Mrs. Ozment states Mr. Poller and the Mayor are very well aware of that. Mrs. Ozment states during the time of the former Clerk Julie Zyckoff, she changed it to three meetings and council agreed. Mrs. Ozment states during her time she conducted a survey of all the other towns, presented it to council

and then it came down to two meetings and now in July and August we are only having one meeting. Mrs. Ozment states since two people are paid to attend these meetings will their salaries be lowered. Mrs. Ozment noticed that the Administrator had an RFP for the DMF building, is the Administrator a Registered Municipal Clerk. Administrator Cavallo replies yes he is. Mrs. Ozment would like to know if the council has discussed who is going to be Council President next year. Mr. Sears states no we have not discussed that yet. Mrs. Ozment states her suggestion would be Mr. Beckmeyer. Mrs. Ozment states that Mr. Sears is a Fire Director, Fireman and resident and does know a lot about this town. Mrs. Ozment states if not Mr. Beckmeyer, Mr. Hrbek would be a good candidate for Council President since he does know this town and always tries to push things forward.

Beatrice Napier, 324 Hudson Avenue – Mrs. Napier states her grandchildren are into sports, and knows how wonderful it would be if the field was a turf field but the older people have to be looked out for. Mrs. Napier states we cannot stay in this town if we have to pay for this field, it is too much money. Mrs. Napier spoke of the taxes increasing and the field paying itself off in 30 years. Mrs. Napier states in 30 years the guys that want this field are going to be in her position and then wonder about the money too. Mrs. Napier states the senior citizens are moving out, and she is a senior citizen and does not want to move out. Mrs. Napier states if there is some way to conduct a fund drive or at least having the kids work to get the money, then they would appreciate it more. Mrs. Napier states there have to be a way to get around this so everyone can be satisfied. Mrs. Napier states the elderly cannot be pushed out, we are important and we care. Mrs. Napier states she has given 40 years to the Ambulance Corps with no pay, and she did it because she loves the town. Mrs. Napier states the senior citizens need to be looked out for a little bit.

Julie Lipnick, 184 Finnerty Place – Mrs. Lipnick would like to know the status of the left turn signal at Washington and Pascack that does not exist when you travel north and south on Pascack as it exists the opposite way. Mrs. Lipnick did ask about this at a previous meeting and has not received any answer, has there been any work in investigating that and putting in a turn signal to make it easier to make a turn. Mr. Sears states he does not know if a turn signal was looked into, but he does have tons of documentation on the intersection that will be discussed tonight. Mrs. Lipnick also when traveling east on Washington Avenue, drivers coming off of 168 have decided they are going to make a second lane going east on Washington Avenue. Mrs. Lipnick states most mornings it exists as far back as Robinwood, and there are days that it goes all the way back to Jackson. Mrs. Lipnick states there are never any police vehicles visible, except for vehicles on Season's property. Mrs. Lipnick would like something done about this, like having a police officer there to ticket drivers because they are crossing the yellow line and it is only a matter of time before someone gets hurt. Mrs. Lipnick states the contamination that is around the town is unacceptable, the gas station, the shopping center and also Town Hall property. Mrs. Lipnick states looking at the DEP website, she found that Washington School has now been added to the list of contaminated sites in town. Mrs. Lipnick would like to know what the contamination is, if samplings have been done, is the groundwater effected in this particular area. Mrs. Lipnick states there are six sites in town, Sky Trading, Washington School, Washington Town Center, Washington Municipal Building, the BP and one residence. Mrs. Lipnick states these are active sites; they are sites that have one or more active case with any number of pending and closed cases. Mrs. Lipnick hands Mr. Sears a document off of the DEP website.

David Snyder, 91 Windsor Circle – Mr. Snyder states that there were potholes on Washington and Pascack and now they have become craters. Mr. Snyder wonders if a metal grate that they put in on the asphalt can be put in

that area, so there is not an accident. Mr. Snyder did notice there was another crater there and feels this is something that should be addressed, with the cold weather coming and ice freezing, it can be a problem. Mr. Snyder states with regard to the second lane that Mrs. Lipnick spoke about, it could be revenue for the town. Mr. Snyder states advance warning can be given that if you do go over the line to make the left turn you will be ticketed. Mr. Snyder also suggested putting a sign, even a temporary sign stating that a driver will be ticketed as of a certain date. Mr. Snyder states a lot of vehicles can be ticketed since most of them are not from our town that comes off 168. Mr. Snyder states that could be a revenue stream, but let us give them enough notice. Mr. Snyder states the left turn signal is something he has been speaking about for about 11 years. Mr. Snyder states there has to be a way with the county to get a left turn signal. Mr. Snyder states if someone is coming south on Pascack Road and there is a person coming north who is taking the left turn, since there are so many cars coming from Hillside since it is all backed up, you can't make a left turn. Mr. Snyder states the fair thing to do is a put a left turn signal. Mr. Snyder spoke of the sidewalks, specifically near the Korean Church, from the shopping center; a lot of the sidewalks are off. Mr. Snyder states there need to be an ordinance and it needs to be enforced. Mr. Snyder states that no one wants the taxpayers of this town to be burdened with any increase in expenses, but the sidewalks need to be fixed in the area of Pascack Road going up to Washington Avenue and Washington Avenue going down to Colonial Boulevard. Mr. Snyder spoke of putting crossing lines where the shopping center is to go across, also at Memorial Field where the school is and also at the corner of Washington Avenue and Pascack Avenue. Mr. Snyder spoke of the barriers on Hillside Avenue that state Stop for Pedestrians, if someone hits it, it is a rubberized sign and at least drivers will slow down. Mr. Snyder states he is asking to slow down on Pascack Road before someone gets hit and then we will have to go back to this conversation. Mr. Snyder states drivers need to see something they can adhere to when they see someone crossing the street.

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

Ayes: Councilpersons Beckmeyer, Calamari, Cascio, Hrbek, Sears.

Nays: None.

Mr. Sears – I would like to go to a Public Hearing for Resolution #14-247 2014 Bergen County Open Space Trust Fund Park Improvement Grant Application. Administrator Cavallo, can you please explain this to us.

Administrator Cavallo – I mentioned a couple of weeks ago we were going to be submitting for the 2014 Municipal Park Improvement Program. Last year we received the equipment for Memorial Field which will was delivered in March and we received the roof the year before that or vice versa. One of the requirements of the application process is that we have a Public Hearing and announce at a public meeting that we applied and if anyone has any questions. This year we applied for municipal park access improvements which are for the reconstruction of the sidewalks aligning Memorial Field on Pascack Road and on School Street. Originally we applied to the program to replace the curbing also, the county does not have enough money in the project, so they asked us to revise it, so now we are down to a lower amount of \$22, 775.00, which is a matching grant for the replacement of the sidewalks on the property. The council has a copy of the pictures that were taken to be submitted as part of the application. As you can see most of the sidewalks are not even there anymore. We need to have an open public hearing to answer any questions that the public may have and then close the hearing.

Mr. Sears – Does the council have any questions for Administrator Cavallo before we open up the public hearing?

Mr. Hrbek – So we are not doing the curb cut at the corner?

Administrator Cavallo – Are you talking about the curb cut for the handicap ramp?

Mr. Hrbek – Yes.

Administrator Cavallo – That we are able to put in. We are just not cannot replace the entire length of Pascack Road with this money.

Mr. Hrbek – It is just for sidewalks and it is the full length.

Administrator Cavallo – It is the full length of School Street and on Pascack Road, up to the park property itself.

Mr. Hrbek – That is up to Birch and then the full length of Pascack. How about the adjacent sidewalks.

Administrator Cavallo – The adjacent sidewalks on School Street are school property.

Mr. Hrbek – Can we coordinate that with the school.

Administrator Cavallo – We have a meeting with the superintendent next month and that will be discussed.

Mr. Hrbek – And on Pascack Road, if someone can review that.

Administrator Cavallo – I understand.

A motion was made by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer to open the public hearing with regard to Resolution #14-247.

Ayes: Councilperson Beckmeyer, Calamari, Cascio, Hrbek, Sears.

Nays: None.

Al Gillio, 746 Wayne Place – Mr. Gillio asked with regard to the sidewalks being replaced on school street, and the field being turf or sod, work is going to be done there. Mr. Gillio states living on Wayne Place, School Street is an exit from his block. Mr. Gillio states good ideas were presented, even though Lieutenant Hackbarth did not agree, for diagonal parking on School Street. Mr. Gillio states if the sidewalks are done, that can't be done. Mr. Gillio would like to see some parking included, because when there are events in that area, which is quite often, it is hard on the residents on Wayne Place. Mr. Gillio is hoping before the sidewalks are put in there can be some consideration to parking alternatives, even if it including a little area that is between Memorial School and the field itself.

Jim Hanson, 11 Lindenwood Court – Mr. Hanson is in agreement with Mr. Gillio. Mr. Hanson has brought up the park before and he will continue to do so. Mr. Hanson states he has heard parking in not an issue there and he will challenge anyone to go to that neighborhood during an event and try to move around, it is just not possible.

Mary Ann Ozment, 960 Adams Place – Mrs. Ozment states Pascack Road is a County Road. Mrs. Ozment knows that this is a matching grant, but sidewalks we were told were the responsibility of the County. Administrator Cavallo states the county goes from curb to curb, and does not include the curb. The County's responsibly on the County Road is from curb to curb, but does not include the curb, the roadway only. Mrs. Ozment states there have been complaints on Washington Avenue that there are no sidewalks and any time anyone has ever come before the council they have always been told that that is a county road, so therefore the sidewalk is the responsibility of the county. Mrs. Ozment states that Mr. Goetz lives on county road and we had a problem with his sidewalk and it was stated it was the county. Mrs. Ozment asks if someone can check into this. Administrator Cavallo states he has gone to the county multiple times since he has been here on curbing issues that need to be replaced and the response from the County Superintendent of Operations is they are only responsible for the roadway, not the curbs or the sidewalks. Mrs. Ozment asks if you are putting in the sidewalks and spending the money and a matching, can we take the money out of the town somehow and put the curbs in also, since the curbs are important in that area. Mrs. Ozment would like to know if someone can look into seeing how much, after we

get this grant, looking into how much that section would be, not all the way up School Street, but at least on Pascack Road since the curbs in that area are not in great shape. Mr. Sears asks if Administrator could look into the curbing. Administrator Cavallo states the county would not pay for the curbs, that are why it had to be removed from the grant application. Administrator Cavallo states as per the road resurfacing, there is a set price for curbing so he can give you a price on it.

Toni Plantamura, 808 Robinwood Road – Ms. Plantamura asks the county is not going to pay for the curbs, so the curbs are being taken out. Administrator Cavallo states no, we had to take it out of the grant application. Ms. Plantamura asks if curbs are going in. Administrator Cavallo states the curbs are there, they are existing. Administrator Cavallo states they were going to be done with the grant funding, but had to be taken out of the grant application, that is not saying it is not going to get done, it just had to be taken out of the grant application.

A motion was made by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer to open the public hearing with regard to Resolution #14-247.

Ayes: Councilperson Beckmeyer, Calamari, Cascio, Hrbek, Sears.

Nays: None.

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.

The Consent Agenda was presented and adopted on a motion by Mr. Hrbek, seconded by Mr. Calamari.

Ayes: Councilpersons Beckmeyer, Calamari, Cascio, Hrbek, Sears.

Nays: None.

Administrator Cavallo – Council President #14-250 needs to be pulled as per the attorney.

Mr. Sears – Yes, Resolution #14-250 will be pulled from the Consent Agenda.

Administrator Cavallo – Just for a clarification, Resolution #14-246 this is to fill the vacancy that occurred from Mr. Strambone's passing.

Resolution #14-233

Permanent Veteran's Disability/Mahoney

WHEREAS, Mr. Edward Maloney, who resides at 149 Fern Street, Block 4506, Lot 3, and;

WHEREAS, Mr. Maloney was granted a permanent disability resulting from service-connected injuries as declared by the United States Veteran's Administration pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:04-03.30, which grants total exemption from local property taxes and;

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Washington, New Jersey, authorized, the Tax Collector, Elaine Erlewein, by this resolution allows the Tax Collector to cancel the pro-rated balance of \$360.80 from 4th quarter 2014 tax bill and all future tax bills to be cancelled through this resolution.

Resolution # 14-234

Permanent Veteran's Disability/Kohlreiter

WHEREAS, Mr. Steven Kohlreiter, who resides at 572 Hoover Avenue, Block 2306, Lot 19, and;

WHEREAS, Mr. Kohlreiter was granted a permanent disability resulting from service-connected injuries as declared by the United States Veteran's

Administration pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:04-03.30, which grants total exemption from local property taxes and;

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Washington, New Jersey, authorized, the Tax Collector, Elaine Erlewein, by this resolution allows the Tax Collector to cancel the pro-rated balance of \$510.84 from 4th quarter 2014 and all future tax bills to be cancelled through this resolution.

Resolution #14-235

Tax Refund/Brodsky

WHEREAS, the Tax Court of New Jersey granted a judgment for Block 4210, Lot 30, owner, Norman and Phyllis Brodsky, 557 Hickory Street for year 2011, 2012 and 2013.

WHEREAS, under the New Jersey Statute 54:3-27.2, in the event a taxpayer is successful in an appeal for a reduced assessment the taxing district shall refund excess taxes paid within 60 days of judgment. Michael Muller, Esq. is attorney for plaintiff.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, New Jersey that the Tax Collector, Elaine Erlewein, be authorized to issue a refund to:

Norman and Phyllis Brodsky
557 Hickory Street
Township of Washington, NJ 07676

Original Assessment	\$	526,600.00
Revised Assessment from judgment	\$	465,000.00
Difference	\$	61,600.00
Refund Due @ 1.858 per \$100 (2011)	\$	1,144.53
Refund Due @ 1.865 per \$100 (2012)	\$	1,148.84
Refund Due @ 1.898 per \$100 (2013)	\$	1,169.17
Total Refund	\$	3,462.54

Resolution #14-237

Tax Lien Redemption/Laskowski

WHEREAS, at the Tax Sale held on September 18, 2013, the Township of Washington sold a tax lien on Block 3201, Lot 2, Qualifier C016B, also known as 16 Danbury Ct, for delinquent 2012 taxes, owned by Michelle Laskowski and;

WHEREAS, this Tax Lien Certificate #12-00002 was sold to Clemente Enterprises at 0% interest rate and a premium of \$11,000.00:

WHEREAS, TD Bank, mortgage holder will redeem of Certificate#12-00002 in the amount of \$ 29,626.42 on January 5, 2015, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, New Jersey that Elaine Erlewein, Tax Collector be authorized to refund a total of \$29,626.42 plus the premium of \$11,000 made payable to Clemente Enterprises, P.O. Box 141, Wyckoff, NJ 07481.

Tax Lien	\$	10,793.93	
6% Redemption Penalty		647.64	1099:
Subsequent Taxes		15,640.09	Sub. Interest: \$ 2,489.76
Subsequent Interest		2,489.76	6%Penalty 647.64
Recording Fee		43.00	Total 1099: \$ 3,137.40
Search Fee		12.00	

Total: \$ 29,626.42

Resolution #14-238

Tax Refund/Keri

WHEREAS, an overpayment tax payment was received for Block 2203, Lot, owner Christopher and Norma Keri for the 4th quarter 2014. Payments were received on November 7, 2014 by (\$2,266.00.) and on November 12, 2014, (\$2,266.00) paid by Columbia Bank.

WHEREAS, under the New Jersey Statute N.J.S.A. 54:3-27.2, overpayments must be refunded and;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, New Jersey that the Tax Collector, Elaine Erlewein, be authorized to issue a refund to:

Columbia Bank
19-01 Route 208 No
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

REFUND: \$ 2,266.00

Resolution #14-239

Tax Department/Cancellation of Small Balances

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17 allows for the cancellation of property tax overpayments or delinquent amounts in the amounts of less than \$10.00; and

WHEREAS, the governing body may authorize the Tax Collector to process, without further action on their part, any cancellation of property tax overpayments or delinquencies of less than \$10.00

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, New Jersey that the Tax Collector, Elaine Erlewein be authorized to cancel said tax amounts as deemed necessary on attached list of homeowners.

Total: \$ 13.56

Resolution #14-240

2014 Budget Appropriations

WHEREAS, Title 40A:4-58 of the New Jersey Statutes provides if it should become necessary during the last two (2) months of the year, to expend for any of the purposes specified in the budget an amount in excess of the respective sums appropriated therefor and there shall be an excess in an appropriation over and above the amount deemed to be necessary to fulfill the purpose setting for the facts, adopted by not less than 2/3 votes of the full membership thereof, transfer the amount of such excess to those appropriations deemed to be insufficient;

NOW, THEREFOR, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington that the Treasurer be and is hereby authorized to make the following transfer in the 2014 Budget Appropriations:

	FROM	TO
Police-Desk Record System 4-01-25-243-000	\$575.00	
Police-Telephone Support System 4-01-25-242-000		\$575.00

Resolution #14-241

Engineering Escrow/Fedorova

WHEREAS, Kristina Fedorova posted engineering escrow on premises known as Block 4414, Lot 28, 195 Fern Street; and

WHEREAS, the project falls within the guideline where neither a Certificate of Occupancy nor a Certificate of Acceptance is needed,

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated December 9, 2014,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the balance of the escrow money in the amount of \$608.00 to the above.

Resolution #14-242

Engineering Escrow/Maltese

WHEREAS, Maltese Pool & Spa posted engineering escrow on premises known as Block 4501, Lot 4, 175 Honeysuckle Drive; and

WHEREAS, the Construction Code Official has issued approval dated December 18, 2014, C.A. No. 00-123,

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated July 18, 2014,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the balance of the escrow money in the amount of \$21.00 to the above.

Resolution #14-243

Engineering Escrow/Andolina

WHEREAS, Michael and Guilia Andolina posted engineering escrow on premises known as Block 4502, Lot 21, 180 Fern Street; and

WHEREAS, this project falls under the guidelines where neither a Certificate of Occupancy nor a Certificate of Acceptance is needed,

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated October 31, 2014,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the balance of the escrow money in the amount of \$808.00 to the above.

Resolution #14-244

Engineering Escrow/Rothstein

WHEREAS, Russell and Shelley Rothstein posted engineering escrow on premises known as Block 3101, Lot 5, 662 Leigh Terrace; and

WHEREAS, as per Mr. and Mrs. Rothstein letter they are abandoning their project and request a refund of the escrow balance,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the balance of the escrow money in the amount of \$461.00 to the above.

Resolution #14-245

Engineering Escrow/Dang

WHEREAS, Phoung Thi Bich Dang posted engineering escrow on premises known as Viet Nameese Restaurant; and

WHEREAS, this project falls under the guideline where neither a Certificate of Occupancy nor the Certificate of Acceptance is required,

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per telephone conversation with Mr. Paul Azzolina on Tuesday, December 16, 2014,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the balance of the escrow money in the amount of \$373.34 to the above.

Resolution #14-246

Appointing Fire Official

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists in the Office of Fire Official, due to the death of James Strambone; and

WHEREAS, the Uniform Fire Safety Act, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-192, et seq., requires that the governing body adopt a resolution naming an individual to the position of Fire Official; and

WHEREAS, the Chief and Director of the Fire Department have recommended to the Mayor that Mark L. Henry be appointed as the Fire Official for the Township of Washington, and the Mayor having accepted said recommendation and having consented to such appointment.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, County of Bergen, New Jersey that Mark Henry is hereby appointed as the Fire Official for the Township of Washington; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be sent to the Division of Fire Safety in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey.

Resolution #14-247

2014 Bergen County Open Space Trust Fund Improvement Application

WHEREAS, the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund ("County Trust Fund"), provides matching grants to municipal governments and to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the development or redevelopment of municipal recreation facilities; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of Washington desires to further the public interest by obtaining a matching grant of \$22,775 from the County Trust Fund to fund the following project: Memorial Park Access Improvements; and,

WHEREAS, the Township has reviewed the County Trust Fund Program Statement, and the Trust Fund Municipal Program Park Improvement application and instructions and desires to make an application for such a matching grant and provide application information and furnish such documents as may be required; and,

WHEREAS, as part of the application process, the Township Council has held a public hearing on December 22, 2014 to receive comments of said application; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Bergen shall determine whether the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the County Trust Fund; and,

WHEREAS, the applicant is willing to use the County Trust Fund in accordance with such rules, regulations and applicable statutes, and is willing

to enter into an agreement with the County of Bergen for the above named project and ensure its completion on or about the project contract expiration date.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, County of Bergen New Jersey that it is hereby authorized to submit the above project application to the County; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in the event of a County Trust Fund award that may be less than the grant amount requested above, the Township of Washington has, or will secure, the balance of funding necessary to complete the project, or modify the project as necessary; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township of Washington is committed to providing a dollar for dollar cash match for the project; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that only those park improvements identified and approved in the project application, its Trust Fund contract, or other documentation will be considered eligible for reimbursement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township of Washington agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project.

Resolution #14-248

Approval Grant Application/Colonial Boulevard

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the Township of Washington formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council President and the Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as 00423 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Washington.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council President and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Washington and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

Resolution #14-249

Approval Grant Application/Mountain Avenue

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the Township of Washington formally approves the grant application for the above stated project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council President and the Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as 00422 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Washington.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council President and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Washington and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

Mr. Sears – At this time I will allot Councilman Hrbek time to speak to the community.

Mr. Hrbek – Thank you Council President. It is tough thing for me right now, but in the last year and a half situation at work has taken a lot more of my time and I am trying to make it work, although I am not able to devote the time that I feel the residents deserve from an elected official, so at this point I am stepping down as of January 1, midnight from my seat on council. I deeply regret having to make this decision; it is a very difficult decision for me to

make. It was an honor to serve the residents of the town, and it was an honor to be elected by the residents of this town, but it is in fairness we have our budget meetings coming up, which will be difficult for me to get to. When you elect someone you expect them to be there to serve you, so at this time. I also checked to see if things were going to be changing, I was trying to make it work, but at this time my responsibilities at work are not going to be decreased. Believe me it is a very difficult decision for me to be making at this time because I feel honored to serve and took great pride in serving everyone. This is my town and I am proud of it. I have been here for over 51 years, so it is something that I think in fairness to the residents I feel this is something I need to do. Who knows where the future may lie, but at this time with the budget coming up and a lot of issues on the table, I think the residents may be better served by someone that can devote a lot more of their time.

Mr. Sears – I can personally say thank you. I have known you a very long time and you have dedicated a tremendous amount of time and effort into the town to make it better. You will be missed dearly. Thank you very much for everything you have given to this town.

Elaine Erlewein
Acting Township Clerk

Thomas Sears
Council President

**TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

CONFERENCE PORTION/PUBLIC SESSION

December 22, 2014

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

PRIORITY

Habitat for Humanity – Mr. Sears states there was a meeting with Jacey from Habitat. Mr. Sears states there are several legal issues that need to be done and also engineering. Mr. Sears states the legal issues are going to be discussed between the Habitat attorney and our attorney, such as availability, who can buy it, and who can rent it. Mr. Sears states those issues need to be answered, along with deed restrictions and age restrictions. Administrator Cavallo expects an answer from Habitat the first or second week of January. Mr. Sears states Jacey indicated the second week of January, at that time we will have an update. Mayor Sobkowicz believes a lot of progress was made. Mr. Sears states it was a long meeting and all of these issues need to be addressed by the attorneys and hopefully we can move forward. Dr. Cascio asks will restrictions be discussed. Administrator Cavallo states a list of questions was given on what we could restrict and they are coming back to us with this yes, and this no and so on. Mayor Sobkowicz states then we can review everything; we did ask about 100 questions. Mr. Sears then we need to find out what the state restrictions are.

Intersection of Pascack and Washington – Mr. Sears states he found some maps and paperwork going back to 2009 and 2011. Mr. Sears states he is not 100% sure the way these maps are designed. A discussion of the maps followed, which were A, B and C and then one alternate was presented at a later time. Mr. Sears has 1, 2, and 3 which are the alternates, and a single alternate was presented later on in 2011. Mr. Hrbek stated there was a traffic study in 2011 and he also has the letter. Mr. Hrbek states it may be the 2010 drawing since the Lieutenant's Hackbarth's study is dated February 28, 2011. Administrator Cavallo states he did not call the county since they are in transition. There was a discussion on what the plans call for. Mr. Hrbek states there were some that had a right turn lane, a straight lane and a left turn lane, and also a through lane. Mayor Sobkowicz states in 2011 we went to the county. Dr. Cascio states Mr. Hrbek has provided him with a file on this subject and also Exit 168. Dr. Cascio would like to make copies of this file, since all the reports are in there and distribute them to the council. There was a discussion of what the county did in their study and how the intersection was rated. Mr. Sears asked if copies of the file could be given to the rest of council.

UPDATES

Memorial Field – Mr. Beckmeyer states that he was asked by the Council President at the last meeting if he could get someone from the manufacturer to explain the materials and that is what he did. Mr. Beckmeyer has brought two gentlemen from FieldTurf, which is one of the largest artificial turf company in the country, or even the world, Mr. Perry DiPiazza and Mr. Bill Squires. Mr. Sears asks the gentlemen to come to the conference table. Mr. Sears states usually there is 15 to 20 minutes of discussion. Mr. Sears states he has been going through researching fields and looking at fields that were replaced after the 14 years. Mr. Sears states there has been a lot of discussion on chemicals, pros and cons what the field is made of, health issues, wear and tear, safety issues, ACL injuries and maintenance and cost. Mr. Sears would like to get a true understanding of the turf field, the health issues, the long term cost and where we can move on with this project. Mr. Squires thanks

council for having him. Mr. Squires states he has been in the industry 20 years now, has worked for FieldTurf since they began and the company he represents was the inventor of this new style of synthetic turf, there has been a lot of change in the synthetic turf marketplace. Mr. Squires states he has attended a lot of council meetings and Board of Education meetings and he respects where the residents are coming from and the questions they have. Mr. Squires states he is not here to act as a salesman. Mr. Squires states his company represents about 95% of the turf fields that have been sold in New Jersey. Mr. Squires states they are the largest manufacturing firm in the county and all of the products are made in the United States and New Jersey they have over 500 fields in place. Mr. Squires asks the residents that do have questions on this to have an open mind and listen to what the experts are saying. There is a lot of information, pro and con that you can find on the internet about the synthetic turf and natural grass industry. The natural grass industry is a huge industry, whether it is for irrigation equipment, watering, seeding, fertilizing and lawn care. Mr. Squires states a lot of the negative that is towards the turf industry are actually funded by the natural grass industry. Mr. Squires asks the residents who have concerns to listen to the science and consider the science behind it. Mr. Squires states we have been making turf fields for about 20 years, and there are over 10,000 installations worldwide. The fields are comprised of polyethylene, plastic, which are these blades of grass that are supposed to emulate natural blades of grass, natural sand and a very large majority of the fields are made of granulated tire rubber. In a full size field about 30,000 tires are not going into a landfill, they are coming off of cars and being granulated and used as a resilient property in these fields. Mr. Squires states he has three sons that play on these fields, they attend Bergen Catholic which is one of the first fields that FieldTurf did in New Jersey. Mr. Squires states if there were concerns, he would have one as a parent as well. Mr. Squires states the use of tire rubber in these types of applications is totally safe; there is nothing that shows us that it is unsafe for the applications that it is used for. Mr. Squires if you were to take the tire rubber and burn it and inhale what is coming off of it there would be consequences for that and also if you were to introduce acid to it. Mr. Squires states there are things in tire rubber that you would not want to have yourself exposed to if they were broken down by acid or by flame but in this solid format, there is very little leaching of any type of materials and there have been over 800 governmental studies throughout the world. Mr. Squires states he has provided a booklet called Synthetic Proof, Safety Proven with Science. This booklet touches base on water quality, air quality, temperature, what the components of tire rubber are, and all of the different aspects with regard to question such as are these materials safe for our kids or anyone to play on. Mr. Squires states in 2014 we put 62 new fields in the State of New Jersey, year before 59; there are a total of 550 or so fields. Mr. Squires states each of those fields is comprised of the combination of tire rubber and sand. Mr. Squires states there are council, engineers, architects, and every community is doing their due diligence, and there has yet to be anyone that has opted to put anything else other than the tire rubber. Mr. Squires states where the tires are manufactured, they break these tires down by chopping and cutting. Mr. Squires states there is no evidence of anyone working in the plants in this dusty environment with tire rubber has suffered any type of cancer that we know of, there is no report out there in the industry. Mr. Squires states the science proves that these materials and these types of applications are absolutely safe for the environment and as well as the people using them. Tire rubber has been used in running track surfaces for 35 years and daycare centers for flooring for outdoor playgrounds for 30 years. Mr. Squires states we have been doing turf fields for over 20 years and we are not aware of any cases where there has been a single case of any type of negative human health effect associated with the use of this material. Mr. Squires states not to say we are not going find out in

20 years' time, but this quite a long time. Mr. Squires states of the fields this past year and the year before everyone opted to use tire rubber, everyone does their own due diligence process. Mr. Squires asks to please digest the conclusions that are in this booklet, none of which is the opinion of FieldTurf or our industry, they are conclusions of governmental studies that have been done in these different areas. On the FieldTurf website you can pull up the entire studies. Mr. Squires states after 87 years of playing on natural grass, Notre Dame installed field turf at their stadium. The facilities do a tremendous amount of due diligence and also the professional teams do a lot of due diligence on what these professional athletes are playing on that they are paying millions of dollars to. Mr. Squires states with regard to safety, there have been numerous long term user safety studies done on Fieldturf System. Fieldturf System has over 40 patents associated with it and over 95% market share of New Jersey, there is something good and different about FieldTurf, it is keeping the kids safe that are playing on these fields and the fields are performing very well. Mr. Squires states the orthopedic medical groups have distributed computer software to high school facilities. Mr. Squires states there is one study published in the New England Journal of Sports Medicine, it took five natural grass high school stadiums in Texas and five FieldTurf stadium fields in the same vicinity in Texas. Software was given to the trainers and the trainers had to report to the orthopedic group every injury that took place, including ACL, MCL and concussion. Fieldturf System has been proven over and over again to be safer in almost every category of injury in every one of these studies that have been done. Mr. Squires states you can link to the Fieldturf website and all the safety information is there. Concussions and ACL and MCL injuries have been greatly reduced. The natural grass faired a little bit better in the minor injury category. Mr. Squires states he is also providing a booklet on the fields in New Jersey. Mr. Sears asks if special shoes are required to play on a turf field. Mr. Squires states whatever you wear on natural grass you can wear on this type of field, regular sneakers, and flat soled sneakers. Mr. Squires states for performance basis, if you want to play the fastest on it, you would play in a cleat, anything you wear on a natural grass field. Mr. Squires states you do not have to go out and buy special cleats, all the physical education classes that are done at the high schools everyone is wearing flat soled sneakers on it. Mr. Sears just touching this grass, this stuff is going all over the place, what is the maintenance for this. Mr. Squires states once no one has stepped on this, but once it gets played on and it rains on the material, that material actually compresses into the field and that will not happen to a field that has been in the ground for a month. Mr. Sears asks if it compresses, does it become harder. Mr. Squires states when it is installed it is way too soft; you want it to tighten up and firm up. There is a measurement called G-Max where they test the fields for softness and hardness, there is a standard that you are supposed to stay within. Once you build the field, nothing much has to be done to the field to stay within that standard. Mr. Sears asks when the machine is used to that rakes the field up and down, do the little flakes come up. Mr. Squires states they do, but they just bounce back in. Mr. Squires states for example lacrosse, where they do the face off in the center of the field, they are going to displace that material over a month's time and that machine will bring the material back in place so the field remains level. Mr. Sears asks how often the machine needs to be run. Mr. Squires states every six weeks, the machine that comes with the field is 7 ½ feet wide, it is a Toby hind steel framed unit, aerator unit which has tyne wheels on it. The machine does everything that needs to be done on that field, it takes one hour to groom the field and that is done about five times a year, five man hours per year. Mr. Sears states there are several sports on this field. Mr. Squires states you can run the machine a little bit more that is the recommended maintenance on the field that gets heavily used. Mr. Squires states you will be eliminating the use of paint, you are not putting pesticides,

chemicals or fertilizers on the ground, not cutting it with fuel, and all of those things go away. Mr. Squires states you will not be using water so the consumption of water is dramatic on natural grass field as opposed to the turf, so it has a lot of environmental benefits as well. Mr. Sears states if Town Day is held on this field, and kids are eating and spilling soda. Mr. Squires states we do not recommend that you have hamburgers, hot dogs and french fries getting smashed into the fields, so you may want to put tarps down in the areas where you allowing foods. Mr. Sears states we use the whole field. Mr. Squires states he can other speak of other municipalities and they put the location of the food items in one area and tarp that area temporarily. Mr. Squires states most of the towns have a lot of events on the turf and he is not telling you not to do it, after the event use the groomer and sweeper, you would be allowed to have Gatorade and stuff, it will not harm the field. Mr. Sears states we also have a summer recreation program with 300 kids so the maintenance will have to be done more often. Mr. Squires states the rain cleanses the field, in the winter the UV rays will burn any type of staph infection off of the field. Staph does not grow or breed on the field. If it was an indoor soccer place, we would tell you to treat the field with chemicals since there is no cleansing of the field with water. Mr. Sears asks what about heat during the summer. Mr. Squires states the field can get 40 degrees or so hotter than a natural grass field. In the middle of August, if the sun is beating down all day..there has been many, many temperature studies done on these artificial turf fields, the black rubber is not creating the heat, it is the reflection of the plastic. As the UV's are hitting these blades of grass, they are reflecting off each other. Mr. Squires states the temperature being hotter is at the surface level, if you lay on the field, you can experience as elevated at that. When you get to a two foot height those numbers drop dramatically and when get to a five foot height, there is no difference whether it was a natural grass field or synthetic turf. Mr. Squires the solution that FieldTurf has come up is natural cork. There is a natural cork product that is modified per say. There are three distinct layers of field, sand, sand and rubber and then just rubber. We change out the top layer of rubber with cork material, which will reduce the heat on the field on that surface level by 35 degrees. Mr. Squires states on a field that size it will add about \$40,000.00 to the cost of field. Mr. Sears we run a summer recreation and they are out there six or seven hours, going to cork would reduce the temperature of the field, but will that effect the playing on the field. Mr. Squires no, it will not, it is very similar to what the layer of top rubber would be. Mr. Sears would like to know how that degree is calculated. Mr. Squires states temperature tests are taken on the natural grass fields at the same time and the same location where the cork material is taking place, a lot of the testing was done at Penn State. There was a discussion of the geese issue. Mr. Squires states that the geese typically will not do anything on the field, they are looking for seeds and organics which are not on the turf field. Mr. Squires states they did a turf field at Asbury High School, which is right off the ocean and right on the lake and they don't have that issue anymore. Mr. DiPiazza states he has been working in this industry for 12 years, and ran Giants Stadium and Yankee Stadium. Mr. DiPiazza states we did make the transition from the old nylon turf, went to natural grass in 2000, 2001 and found that two professional teams playing two games every weekend we could not maintain that grass field to the standards that the NFL expected. Mr. DiPiazza states then a decision was made to go to turf field. Mr. DiPiazza consults the Giants now, and reports directly to ownership and make sure the stadium runs correctly on game day. The NFL has four billion dollars' worth of salaries, if there were any issues with injuries or cardigeons, he does believe that Coach Coughlin or John Mara will allow these guys to be playing on these fields. Mr. DiPiazza states the Air Force Academy, Naval Academy and West Point all play on these fields, not just football but lacrosse, field hockey, rugby, you name it. Mr. DiPiazza states if there were any health issues, with the amount of money

we are paying to put these young men and women through school, to go serve our country after they graduate, they would not have them playing in these fields. Mr. DiPiazza states he has a son who has cystic fibrosis, a life threatening disease. Mr. DiPiazza would much rather be playing on these fields than have cystic fibrosis. Mr. DiPiazza has no qualms with his family or recommending to anyone that these kids play on these fields. Mr. Squires states he is from Bergen County, born and raised in Hasbrouck Heights, but at this time lives in Ocean County. Mr. Squires would like to read to council a list of municipalities that went to turf and they can be contacted. Mr. Squires believes they will tell you all of the positives which have contributed to them having installed this field for their community, kids and everyone that is involved. Mr. Squires states he heard the numbers based on what is being spent in maintaining the field, and he does not mean this to be elementary or not, but he has not seen a number that is that high in an attempt to maintain a grass field and keep it in playable condition for grass versus of what the costs of these materials would do for you. Mr. Sears states that is debatable number that we are looking at. Mr. Sears asks what is the life expectancy of the field, based on the number of hours we are playing on it. Mr. Squires states we just replaced a field in Hasbrouck Heights two months ago, behind the High School, which is used by the high school and their entire recreation program, that field was abused, it was 14 years, and that was prior technology since the field has evolved. Mr. Squires states the life expectancy with heavy use is a minim of 10 years, you should get 12 years before you change. Mr. Squires states Overpeck County Park has four turf fields, Hasbrouck Heights has two, Fair Lawn has two, Franklin Lakes has a huge field, Wyckoff is currently doing a field, Glen Rock two fields at the high school, Ridgewood has three, Bergen Catholic is on their second cycle, first one lasted 12 years, Wood-Ridge, East Rutherford, Garfield, Lodi, Oradell, Paramus, Rochelle Park, Old Tappan, Demarest, Mahwah, Ramsey, Emerson, Park Ridge, IHA, AHA, Lyndhurst, Wallington, Rutherford, Fort Lee, Englewood, River Edge, Ridgefield, Secaucus, Hackensack and it goes on and on. Mr. Squires states here is why a lot of these towns and elected to do this, when he grew up, there was no field hockey, there was no travel soccer, there wasn't as many as football programs. The programs have quadrupled at least and the fields have not changed. Mr. Squires states in South Jersey there are not that many turf fields due to the schools and towns having dozens of fields, they have a lot of fields, and they don't have trouble maintaining grass. Mr. Squires states here where it is so populated, and land is so valuable you are limited to one field application and it is impossible to grow grass. Mr. Squires states he has listened to a lot of debate on the field, but if you have a roadway that has potholes in it is broken and residents will complain, the same thing holds true for the people using the fields. Mr. Squires states the kids deserve to be on a field that is not broken, and he has looked at the field a number of times and that field is broken, that is not a field that is at a certain level. Mr. Sears asks does the turf come in sections. Mr. Squires states it comes in carpet roll that goes right across the field, 15 feet wide and it will never shift, and it is tacked down. Mr. Squires states the Ridgewood field, which is a tough location to build a turf field and that field has survived multiple water events, the field is still there. Mr. Squires states did that field shift, yes, it had pockets in it and soot in its remaining after a storm, but it is right on the Ho Ho Kus Brook, that is not your case here, the field is not going to move. Mr. Calamari asks if Mr. Squires knows of any municipalities that have not gone to turf field and the reasons. Mr. Squires states the only one he is aware of is Ho Ho Kus, which he also took part in speaking to them, there was a debate there whether they should redo the track there as well the area inside, four baseballs areas inside. That field is used for very specific uses there and they did go to referendum that was one. Mr. Squires states it is very rare. Glen Rock did have a private organization that was raising private money, but were not able to raise the funds. The high

school did construct two fields the year before, so the town has two fields that the recreation department uses. Mr. DiPiazza state the NFL teams that have gone to synthetic turf, there is not one that has gone back to natural grass. Mr. Squires states there is two major parts of building one of these fields, one is this carpet, that is filled in with rubber and sand material that is the weight, underneath that is a big hole in the ground, stone and pipe. Mr. Squires states he did hear some of the numbers and personally thinks they are very high. Mr. Squires does not believe you would need two million dollars, he believes it would be more towards one million and a half, with all of those other things. Mr. Squires states the field portion of it will break down to approximately \$900,000, the drainage system and the turf. Mr. Squires states that Mr. Beckmeyer did speak to him about bleachers and new lighting. Mr. Squires states the way that breaks down is about half a million dollars for turf and about \$400,000 for preparations, digging the hole, getting rid of the dirt, pipes and what not. Mr. Squires states when it is time to replace the field, in 12 years, those materials will be there that are compacted stone inside of a concrete curb. Mr. Squires states they are doing ten replacements this year of the older fields, the wig comes off, recycle the sand and rubber that is reused in the field, and the turf number will probably be in the vicinity of \$400,000 to replace it. Mr. Squires states your cost per year \$400,000 divided by another 12 year cycle you are not spending another million dollars or \$900,0000, the cost greatly reduces over the next four or five or six cycles. Mr. Sears asks if Mr. Squires and Mr. DiPiazza would be available to come to a meeting with the public where we make our decision and move forward. Mr. Squires replies of course. Mr. Sears states he appreciates them coming out and also thanks Mr. Beckmeyer and hopes the rest of the council comes up with more questions and ideas for later on. Mr. Squires states one of the residents the FieldTurf company we represent is part of the cooperative purchasing network, so if in fact your due diligence says to you this is the best value, the best product for you, you can buy it off of a similar state contractor cooperative purchasing which means it was previously bid already, there should be no questioning of the fact of why there is just one firm here.

Department of Municipal Facilities – Administrator Cavallo states the need study is out and three firms have already emailed him, and downloaded it. The proposals are due back January 20th. Administrator Cavallo will email a copy of the needs study to council. Dr. Cascio states over on Taylor and Hickory, it looks as though the gas company put in a gas line and there is debris all over the street, it needs to be cleaned up.

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

Ayes: Councilperson Beckmeyer, Calamari, Cascio, Hrbek, Sears.

Nays: None.

Elaine Erlewein, Actin Township Clerk

Thomas Sears, Council President

