TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

December 4, 2017

The Regular Meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Washington was held at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Meeting Room of the Municipal Complex, 350 Pascack Road, Township of Washington, New Jersey.

Council President Robert Bruno called the meeting at 7:33 p.m. by reading the following statement.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT
The regularly scheduled Public Meeting of December 4, 2017 of the Township of Washington Township Council. Adequate notice of the meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by the Township Clerk to at least two (2) newspapers in January and this notice has been posted on the Township Bulletin Board and on the Township website.

Please notify the Municipal Clerk for any disability requirements necessary for attendance at Mayor and Council meetings. The fire exits are located through the double doors to your right and through the door on your left. Please silence all cell phones.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL
Council Members Peter Calamari, Steve Cascio, Thomas Sears, and Council President Robert Bruno. Also present: Janet Sobkowicz, Mayor; Ken Poller, Township Attorney; Mary Anne Groh, Township Administrator; and Susan Witkowski, Township Clerk. Absent: Councilman Ullman.

The Clerk read the totals of the list of bills representing November 9, 2017 through November 30, 2017:

TOTAL	2016 Reserve	$0.00
TOTAL	2017 Current	$1,252,977.08
TOTAL	Capital Fund	$90.65
TOTAL	Animal Control	$4.80
TOTAL	Trust Fund	$680.00

RECOGNITION:

DWI Safety Awards
Presented by Steven Benvenisti (MADD) to: Corporal Riedel
Patrol Officer Ferrarini

Mr. Benvenisti congratulated both Corporal Riedel and Patrol Officer Ferrarini on being recipients of Mothers Against Drunk Driving most prestigious award the "Law Enforcement Recognition Award" which is a national award given to law enforcement every year. Mothers Against Drunk Driving is the world's largest and leading organization with its mission being to end the violent crime of drunk driving, which every single year results in 10,000 deaths. The organization's success is credited to police officers; they are called "work heroes." A police officers mission is to protect the public, and they do it every day, putting their lives at risk, that is why they are called heroes. Mr. Benvenisti hopes the community joins him in congratulating these two impressive law enforcement officers, recognizing they save lives, which he guarantees they have done. He stated he is a personal injury attorney at

Davis, Saperstein & Salomon, for over 20 years. He spoke at length of the various boards he is involved in and testimonies he has given. He stated these Police Officers make effective stops and arrests that will change people's lives and that one individual's life that is changed, that person can contribute to society and live their life. He spoke of a the most significant case of his career, of a student from Montvale, New Jersey, who attended the College of New Jersey, and was on spring break with his fraternity brothers in Florida, when one night a drunk driver crashed into him as a pedestrian. He stated the parents were called in the middle of the night and asked to consent to his organ donation since it looked as if he would not wake up due to severe brain damage, and if he did wake up he would not be able to function. The parents declined organ donation, flew down to Florida to be by their son's side. The reason why this is the most significant story of his career it is because it is his story, before he became an attorney. Due to his recovery, he speaks at medical conventions as a key note speaker because doctors and hospitals never hear of a story like his. He spoke of the "I Pledge" keychain, as well as the "Contract for Life" which is a pledge between parents and children not to drink and drive. He stated these two officers are humble heroes and they have no idea how many people are alive because of the successful traffic arrests these two officers made.

Mr. Benvenisti read the following words, which are on the certificates presented to both Corporal Riedel and Patrol Officer Ferrarini on behalf of M.A.D.D. (Mothers Against Drunk Driving.)

The 2016 Law Enforcement Award for Distinguished Service in recognition of your meritorious service, lifesaving actions and proactive efforts in keeping our roads safe from drunk and impaired drivers. Your diligence and professionalism have saved and protected countless lives.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Cascio, seconded by Councilman Sears to approve the following minutes:

October 30, 2017 Closed Session Minutes

Ayes: Councilmen Calamari, Cascio, Sears, Bruno.
Nays: None.
Absent: Councilman Ullman.

REPORT OF MAYOR

TREE AND MENORAH LIGHTING CEREMONY
Our annual tree and Menorah lighting ceremony will be Friday, December 8, 5:30 p.m. at Finnerty Place right near the library. Prior to the lighting, the library is the Snow Person Festival with crafts, snacks, and music provided by Miss Fran. Please join us for a nice holiday event!

WONDERLAND OF TREES AT VAN SAUN PARK
Bergen County has a program in which they place a tree at Van Saun Park for each town in the County so that the town can decorate it and then after the holidays plant it in that town. So, Administrator Mary Anne Groh, Dina Burke, and I would like us to participate. You can help us by providing ornaments or other decorations for the tree. Suggestions include: ornaments made by groups such as Scouts, Woman's Club, Golden Seniors, etc. or perhaps a decoration that connects with the Washington logo, after all, Washington crossed the Delaware in the winter. Businesses are welcomed to participate as long as it is not just advertising.
The deadline to submit your items is December 11 at 4 p.m. at Town Hall; however, you can leave the items during the day and evening until 11 p.m.

in an area set up for the event. If you leave items after hours (4:30 p.m.), please include or your name and number or email in case we need to contact you.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS
Last month I mentioned that we were notified that our application for Senior Citizen Activities for 2017-2018 funding from the Bergen County Division of Community Development has been approved for $3,338. However, in the new funding round, we have to change the program somewhat to include new ideas. As such, the administrator added ideas about exercise science and nutrition. In addition, Robert Esposito, Director of Bergen County Community Development, indicated to me that there is money available in the program fund; we are working on some ideas.

OTHER GRANTS
Our Recycling Tonnage Grant will be $20,584.50 and can actually go into the budget as revenue in 2018 (it is from 2015; state is always behind a few years). As far as the Open Space Trust Fund, we will also be receiving the $13,500 matching grant for the Gardner Park Basketball Court.

LUKOIL
Notice that Lukoil was notified to remove the diesel signs which were in violation of our ordinance and to come to the clerk's office to obtain the necessary soil movement permits for work that was already done for which no permits were issued and for any other anticipated work.

PLANNING BOARD
The Board approved an addition to a house on Eastview Terrace. It also approved a landscaping plan for the two new houses on Washington Avenue near the Parkway South entrance. The whole project was not without issues and was very frustrating at times, but the homes are beautiful and in keeping with the residential character of the community.

TOWNSHIP LEAF COLLECTION
Needless to say, all crews are presently engaged in the ongoing leaf collection program and are ahead of schedule. Zone 3 began on December 1. The last day to put leaves at the curb has been moved to December 10!
Also, I notice that a lot of you having been putting branches and things in barrels near the leaf piles; thank you. Putting them in barrels is even more important on the county roads due to the type of equipment that we use there. Actually, the propeller that went on the leaf vacuum recently was due to branches in the equipment. In the interim, the front end loader crews are dedicating more time to the county roads, but at the same time keeping pace with side streets.

DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL FACILITIES
The leaf pusher is finally here! Purchasing it was a struggle to say the least but the response from the staff has been very positive; they really like it because it is able to turn (articulate) so that it is more flexible when corralling the leaves, thereby saving time and energy. It replaced one that was 25 years old.

The salters are being installed, inspected and given seasonal maintenance. Items such as plow blades, spare parts, and hardware needed for the coming winter have been ordered. Also, we have 100 tons of salt in our shed right now if needed, and we are purchasing more this week. This weather is too good to be true.

We had one new dump truck/plow on the way that is technically a replacement for another truck, but we are really in need of two of these trucks because they are smaller than the ones we have but are large enough to handle snow plowing yet flexible enough to handle smaller jobs much easier. After 5 months of trying to vet this truck, we finally got a price of $41,338. Low and behold we have enough in that capital line to get the 2 trucks we really need.

Staff is still working on fields such as leaf pickup etc., field houses at Clark and Memorial Fields have been winterized for the season and the sprinkler systems have been cleared and shut down. Also, crew worked on abandoned house on Chestnut Street. The mechanic stripped the vehicles we are selling in the County auction.

ENGINEERING
Last month I outlined the drainage plan that Town Engineer Chris Statile and Director Vladimir Wojno-Oranski formulated to remediate this condition ongoing from day 1 of the building. The preliminary cost estimate was $39,530 but lowest bid was a little more than $51,020; this is the first time in a long time that bids came in higher than expected. The Council approved Cifelli Company as the contractor for the project. The administrator is already working to resolve the tree removal aspect of the entire project.

GIRL SCOUT PROJECTS
Troop 94343 is still collecting items for the Pediatric Department at Valley Hospital in Ridgewood to help children express their creative side. Items include crayons, colored pencils, notebooks, markers, erasers, and gift cards to any stationery or craft store. A box is in Town Hall.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS
Currently, we have several scouts working on Eagle Scout projects including Derek Lim, Ethan O'Malley, and our newest one James Stickel.

RECYCLING
For the month of November, you recycled 91.41 tons of paper and plastics with a revenue of only $1,989 as opposed to October last year of 102 tons and revenue of $4,390 slightly upwards for the next couple of months." No matter what, please recycle more.

GAS MAIN REPLACEMENT/VAN EMBURGH
Van Emburgh Ave. will still be CLOSED to through traffic Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to at least 5 p.m. while PSE&G installs 12" gas mains on Van Emburgh Ave. from Hampshire Rd. going north to the south exit of the Immaculate Heart Academy (IHA). Then they will do the individual hookups to the houses. Their goal is to get done by December 12.

GOLDEN SENIORS
The Golden Seniors held their annual Halloween Party on Wednesday, October 25, at the Senior Center. The highlight was the costume contest with first place going to The Biker, Ann Marie Dunne, second place to Queen for a Day, Bridget McGlone, and third place to The Wicked Witch, Lee Van Tassel.

Any resident of the Township interested in joining the Golden Seniors come as a guest to a meeting to meet the folks. If interested, call Jim Joyce, Membership Committee Chairman, at 201-444-1778.

NEW FEDERAL TAX PLAN

In a recent report I mentioned my concern about the new income tax plan specifically in reference to losing deductions for real estate tax and state income tax. While there appears to be a compromise of allowing a $10,000 deduction for property tax, many residents pay a lot more than that now. I also mentioned that this brings new meaning to surplus to be able to reduce the part of property tax that we control. Also, it is unclear as to whether we can continue to deduct state income taxes which are high in New Jersey. Another issue that the conservative House Republican Study Committee is concerned about is that the Senate bill sunset's individual tax cuts after 2025.

A bright light is that the personal exemption may increase.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

From January to November 30, the department answered 7,657 calls.

Congratulations to Cpl. Steve Riedel and Officer Mike Ferrarini for receiving the MADD award for being very proactive in drunk driving arrests.

The Department continues to:

- conduct Traffic Enforcement details on Washington Avenue between Meisten Street and Burke Street during the PM rush hour and in the area of the Fire House during the AM rush hour as manpower allows;
- monitor the parking situation on the surrounding streets of the high school; and
- conduct Active Shooter Training at various locations throughout the Township.

Firearms training for 2017 will be completed by next week. Sgt. Pecora and Cpl. Fasciano attended a five day training course at New Mexico Tech, funded entirely by the Department of Homeland Security.

Our new Radar Speed/ Message Board Trailer finally arrived on November 28. It not only does radar speed surveys but can post messages as well since it comes with a programmable message board. This gives the department the capability of placing the trailer at various locations with important messages to residents and drivers about future road work or events.

As you know, the Township received the Award of Excellence from AAA of North Jersey for outstanding traffic safety programs. This is based on a 285-page report that documented traffic safety activities and programs performed by the Police Department in 2016.

All Township residents are reminded with this being the Holiday Season that it usually relates to an increase in home burglaries to be more aware of any suspicious vehicles or persons. Remember no call about suspicious activity is a waste of time. Residents should leave inside and outside lights on so as to give homes an occupied look. Also, be very careful to keep purses closed and wallets hidden as there has been quite a bit of shoplifting; what's to stop pick pockets--remember, the hand is quicker than the eye!

Also, please be alert and extra careful while driving this holiday season; already we have experienced horrible accidents; about 12:15 a.m. Thursday morning, November 30, there was an accident in which an individual was

driving east on Washington Avenue near Calvin Street when the actor hit and cracked a utility pole, which cracked another pole and then affected wires from a third pole. The repair was not completed until late Thursday evening due to the severity of the damage. A special supervisor had to travel here from Pennsylvania during the night and then arrange for crews who did not arrive until 9:30 a.m. that day. Fortunately, there were able to work hot and residents did not lose power. On Saturday morning around 7 a.m. a pickup truck going east collided with a pickup truck going west at the top of the hill on Washington Avenue between Jackson Avenue and Robinwood Road. Five people were taken to the hospital with one of them having to be transported via helicopter.

STREET SWEEPING
Our next street sweeping will be scheduled for one week after the end of leaf pick up, whenever that will be. Leaves are still on the trees.

NO KNOCK ORDINANCE
I thank the Council for passing the No Knock ordinance as I tried to have this passed before; this is good for our residents.

VETERANS DAY CEREMONY
I thank the VFW for having their annual Veterans' Day Ceremony on Saturday, November 11, at the Senior Center. Originally, they wanted it outside but it was a very cold day but our spirits were warm. It was very encouraging to see so many residents of all ages there to thank our veterans for their commitment to protecting us.

WALL OF VETERANS
If you know of a veteran who lived in the Township at some point or still lives here and would like to have his/her picture, please send or bring to Bernadette at Town Hall.

PHYSICAL WELLNESS PROGRAM
I am happy to report that the Healthy Steps program organized by Valley Hospital Community Outreach in January of this year and scheduled to end in April is still going strong on Saturday mornings at 10 a.m. We meet at the Library. Please join us.

AMBULANCE CORPS
From January 1 to November 30, our ambulance corps was dispatched 446 times. The members of the Corps are always working hard to get new members to provide more service to the residents.

FIRE DEPARTMENT
The Fire Department is having their annual sale of trees, wreaths, grave blankets, etc. Please support them when purchasing these items for the holiday season. From January 1 to November, the Fire Department was dispatched 182 times. Their service calls include fires, rescues, accidents, utility issues, etc. In the last month or two before the election, a new fire truck as well as new firehouse was proposed. However, earlier this year at budget time, the ladder truck was proposed by the fire department as an important need in terms of providing the members with the resources they need as they are called upon to answer emergency calls. I supported the truck based on the reasons listed above.

COMPLAINT FROM OUTSIDE AGENCY
We received a notice from an Environmental Company that the sidewalk in front of the firehouse was blocked by the wreaths laid out for sale and could

cause a hazard to public safety since you have to walk in the roadway. We did receive a thank you letter after they were removed. Please make sure that sidewalks are kept clear.

MEMORIAL FIELD COMMITTEE
After polarization of passions in regard to the referendum, I am glad to say that the committee has come a long way in recent meetings. It's like a reality check. Actually, in last month's report I congratulated the members for working hard to find solutions by doing research including articles and state agencies. As a result, they discussed a plan for sodding in the spring with a professional overseeder and moving sports to alternate sites in the meantime. They requested that the new administration let them continue as a group since they are now making a lot of progress.

WASTE MANAGEMENT PERMIT RENEWAL
I am sure that you are aware of all the work done by Hillsdale and the Township to stop the request by Waste Management to renew its permit for a solid waste transfer station in Hillsdale notwithstanding the fact that the facility has been nonoperational since February 2014. I recently received a letter from the DEP saying that Bergen County did not review the request sent by the DEP to revisit truck routes, environmental issues, and the need for such a facility in the County's solid waste plan; therefore, the DEP has no choice but to renew the permit. However, they note that any change in the truck routes would have to be made by Bergen County.

I spoke to Hillsdale Mayor John Ruocco, and he indicated that he spoke to BCUA officials to urge them to do the review suggested by the NJDEP. Personally, I don't think that is going to happen...so we may have to pursue the truck route aspect since that is what affects the Township the most.

RECREATION
Our recreation football and cheerleading squads did very well this year in the NNJJFL. The PeeWee and Junior football teams were in the super bowl but lost to River Vale and Garfield. Enrollment in basketball is 299 with 78 boys/girls in instructional and 221 in intramural boys/girls. The enrollment in travel basketball is expected to be 103.

LIBRARY
The library is sponsoring The Nutcracker on Wednesday, December 6 at 2 p.m. Enjoy this free Lincoln Center Movie of the classic ballet! It runs 100 minutes. Don't forget to check the afternoon movies on Monday and Thursdays at 2 p.m. and Gaming Fridays @2:30-4:45 p.m. Local genealogist Fred Voss will assist you in unraveling the secrets of your family tree on December 13 at 6:30 p.m.

REPORT OF COUNCIL

Councilman Cascio stated he would like the residents of the Township know that himself, Councilman Sears, Councilman Calamari and Administrator Groh went down to Atlantic City and attended several seminars. He attended two seminars, one was on consolidation of emergency services, fire and police, and the other one was on government ethics and OPRA Law. He would like to remind the Council that all electronic communication is OPRA'ble, as well as all government employees. He would like to remind the public that the referendum for the middle school is on December 12 and he urges everyone to go out and vote, because our Veteran's gave us that right to do so and he hopes everyone exercises the right to vote.

Councilman Sears stated at the last council meeting gentleman sitting the audience from the Iron Workers made a statement about non-union workers at the high school being drug tested and failing those tests. He stated he is concerned with the referendum coming up, and where the Township stands financially with the middle school going up. He stated he agrees with Councilman Cascio to please go out and vote. He spoke of a vicious rumor that he mentioned at a Council meeting back in 2015, that Councilman Cascio used his political persuasion to get rid of some building/and other fines that were brought against him. He stated he would like to apologize to Councilman Cascio at this time because it was wrong for him to bring this rumor out at a meeting. Councilman Cascio thanked Councilman Sears. Councilman Sears stated he has known Councilman Cascio for over 25 years, and that rumor does not fit his character, demeanor or person and again, he does apologize.

Councilman Calamari stated he is happy to say that the transition is going well, and he has met with a lot of department heads so far, and hopes to finish up meetings with department heads by the end of this week, afterwards he will be turning his attention to starting the budget process.

Council President Bruno stated he thanked the Mayor for her thorough reports on the first of the month when Council meets and he also thanked the Mayor for all she has done for the Township.

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

A motion was made by Councilman Cascio, seconded by Councilman Sears to open the general public discussion.

Ayes: Councilmen Calamari, Cascio, Sears, Bruno.
Nays: None.
Absent: Councilman Ullman.

Mr. Mainelli distributed copies of his speech to Council.

Roy Mainelli, 445 Maple Avenue – Mr. Mainelli stated he is here to discuss the proposed design of the new additions and improvements to the middle school on 3rd Avenue in Westwood which will be voted on December 12, 2017, better known as the 24 million dollar bond issue. He took the time this past Saturday and went to the school to reinforce his concerns about safety issues regarding teachers and students during construction and completion of the new middle school. First, there are 11 single push bar doors and 3 double doors from the existing building into the horse-shoe area, which is 81 feet by 188 feet, that remains in the final proposed lower level floor plan. These emergency exits now lead to the area occupied by the new building inside the horse-shoe with the east-west ground level corridor at the southern end. Quite frankly, there is no way out. At the west end of the new corridor are one set of doors, opening from the inside, into an open space and again two sets of doors, opening from the inside, to an open space at the south east end and finally exit out of the horse-shoe area. The east end of the corridor has no doors, the north end of the horse-shoe has two sets of double doors leading in and out of the existing building at the north end of the school. These doors have to be opened from the inside to let the teachers and students out. You are now outside and can't get back in to get out. Second safety issue, there are 17 locations where the new construction ties into the existing building, putting construction workers into the proximity of teachers and students, thus the importance of background checks and drug testing for all constructions workers. Third safety issue is snow, how do you get rid of it when you are land-locked by the east-west corridor. Remember, the emergency exits leading to this area, 11 push-bar and 3 double doors, from the existing building. The snow will have to be removed from these exits before school re-opens after a snow storm. Here are some solutions to the safety problems: First, move the east-west corridor from ground level to the second floor with the north-south corridor present at the second floor. You may have to add one or two stair cases, this will allow clear passage at the south-east end of the horse-shoe in case of an emergency.

Second, remove the building inside the horse-shoe completely. The first floor has three new Art & Science classrooms and the second floor a new Media Center. Why does a middle school of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders need a 6,000 square foot Media Center? Add three classrooms to the main addition and forget about the Media Center. Eliminating this building, form within the horse-shoe would solve the safety problems he has listed and will ensure the 24 million bond issue, if passed, will help cover the cost of this addition at the south-end without any cost over runs which will be paid for by the taxpayers of Westwood and Washington Township. He stated he is not presenting this to Westwood since their meeting is two days after the referendum. He stated what brought this to his attention to start with was the picket line in front of the high school by Local 11 of the Ironworkers in regards to the garage being built in the back of the high school. Council President Bruno suggests giving Superintendent Gonzalez a copy of his concerns, as he has given to this Council.

A motion was made by Councilman Sears, seconded by Councilman Cascio to close the general public discussion.
Ayes: Councilmen Calamari, Cascio, Sears, Bruno.
Nays: None.
Absent: Councilman Ullman.

INDIVIUDAL RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 17-351
2017 Transfer of Appropriations

A motion was made by Councilman Cascio, seconded by Councilman Sears to approve Resolution No. 17-351.

Administrator Groh explained the budget currently provided for five physicals in the Fire Department, this is a sixth member. There is a known cost, and there is also an expectation of a seventh member. It is moving money from one Fire Department line to another, which she has received approval from the Chief to do.

Ayes: Councilmen Calamari, Cascio, Sears, Bruno.
Nays: None.
Absent: Councilman Ullman.

Resolution No. 17-351
2017 Transfer of Appropriations

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-58 authorizes the transfer of appropriations during the last two months of any fiscal year, to expend money for any of the purposes specified in the prior year's budget an amount in excess of the respective sums appropriated and encumbered therefore and there shall be an excess in an appropriation over and above the amount deemed to be necessary to fulfill the purpose, the governing body may by Resolution, 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, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington that the Deputy Treasurer be and is hereby authorized to make the following transfers in the 2017 Current Fund Budget Appropriations.

Description	Transfer In	Transfer Out
Fire Department Physicals	$550.00	
Fire Department – Other Expenses - Dues, Meetings & Conferences		$550.00

CONSENT AGENDA
All of the following items have been determined to have the unanimous consent of Council and will be enacted in one motion. Should any item require independent consideration, any Council Member may have such item removed from the Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Councilman Sears, seconded by Councilman Cascio, to the Consent Agenda.
Ayes: Councilmen Calamari, Cascio, Sears, Bruno.
Nays: None.
Absent: Councilman Ullman.

Resolution No. 17-352
Authorization to refund engineering escrow funds, Block 1204, Lot 6, 604 Van Emburgh Avenue

WHEREAS, Prabhu Goud posted Engineering escrow monies for a project on premises known as Block 1204, Lot 6, 604 Van Emburgh Ave; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Goud has withdrawn his application and is requesting that his escrow be refunded; and

WHEREAS, outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his correspondence of November 29, 2017 have been satisfied; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the balance of the escrow monies in the amount of $853.00 to the above.

Resolution No. 17-353
Authorization of issuance of 2018 commuter parking permits firehouse parking lot

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council that the Township Clerk is hereby authorized to issue unlimited commuter parking permits for the Firehouse Parking Lot for the year 2018. As of November 27, 2017 fifty seven (57) parking permit applications have been received.

Resolution No. 17-354
Authorization signatory to Bergen County trust fund project contract

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Township of Washington ("the Township") wish to enter into a Bergen County Trust Fund Project Contract ("Contract") with the County of Bergen for the purpose of using a $13,500.00 matching grant award from the 2016 Funding Round of the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Floodplain Protection, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund ("Trust Fund") for the municipal park project entitled "Gardner Park Improvements," located in Gardner Park in Lot 2.01 in Block 1305.01 on the tax maps of the Township.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby authorize Janet Sobkowicz to be a signatory to the aforesaid Contract; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council hereby acknowledge that, in general, the use of this Trust Fund grant towards this approved park project must be completed by or about August 9, 2019; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council acknowledge that the grant will be disbursed to the municipality as a reimbursement upon submittal of certified Trust Fund payment and project completion documents and

municipal vouchers, invoices, proofs of payment, and other such documents as may be required by the County in accordance with the Trust Fund's Requirements; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council acknowledge that the grant disbursement to the municipality will be equivalent to fifty (50) percent of the eligible costs incurred (not to exceed total grant award) applied towards only the approved park improvements identified in the aforesaid Contract in accordance with the Trust Fund's requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that should there be an unexpended balance at the completion of the project, Professional Services Costs will be reimbursed from grant award's unexpended balance in accordance with the Municipal Park Improvement Program Rules & Procedures Manual.

Resolution No. 17-355
Authorization of change order No. 2 final quantities with D&L paving contracxt for sidewalks and ADA compliant curb cuts

WHEREAS by Resolution No. 17-224 dated June 12, 2017, the Township Council accepted the bid of D&L Paving Contractors, Inc. (hereafter "D&L") ") for the base price of $22,715.20 and authorized the Mayor to execute a contract for Pascack Road at Memorial Field Sidewalk Improvements (hereinafter "the Contract; and

WHEREAS by Resolution No. 17-257 dated July 17, 2017, the Township Council authorized the addition of A.D.A. compliant curb cuts at the corner of Pascack Road and Ridgewood Boulevard East to afford increased access to Memorial Field and Change Order No. 1 to the Contract for the amount of $4,500.00; and

WHEREAS the final quantities have been determined for the work under the Contract and Change Order No. 1 such that there is an additional cost of $42.68 over the previously-approved amounts of 27,215.20; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that funds are available in the Capital Account in the amount of $42.68 for such additional work.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Washington that the Administrator and Town Engineer are authorized to execute Change Order No. 2 in the amount of $42.68.

Resolution No. 17-356
Endorsement of FY 2018 application for CDGB for ADA compliant improvements – Memorial Field Parking and Acess

WHEREAS a Bergen County Community Development Block Grant in the amount of $47,850.00 has been proposed by the Administration and Township Engineer for ADA Compliant improvements to Memorial Field located at Pascack Road in the Township of Washington, County of Bergen, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the State Interlocal Service Act, Community Development funds may not be spent in a municipality without authorization by the Governing Body; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid project is in the best interest of the people of the Township of Washington; and

WHEREAS, this resolution does not obligate the financial resources of the municipality and is intended solely to expedite expenditure of the aforesaid Community Development funds.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that we hereby endorse the aforesaid project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Administrator is authorized to execute and submit the attached grant application; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Director of the Bergen County Community Development Program so that implementation of the aforesaid project may be expedited.

Resolution No. 17-357
Endorsement of FY 2018 application for CDBG for Senior Citizens Activities

WHEREAS a Bergen County Community Development Block Grant in the amount of $5,000 has been proposed by the Administration for Senior Citizen Activities at the Jack Woods Senior Center, 350 Hudson Ave., Township of Washington, NJ 07676; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the State Interlocal Service Act, Community Development funds may not be spent in a municipality without authorization by the Governing Body; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid project is in the best interest of the people of the Township of Washington; and

WHEREAS, this resolution does not obligate the financial resources of the municipality and is intended solely to expedite expenditure of the aforesaid Community Development funds.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that we hereby endorse the aforesaid project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Administrator is authorized to execute and submit the attached grant application; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the Director of the Bergen County Community Development Program so that implementation of the aforesaid project may be expedited.

Resolution No. 17-358
Authorize refund of escrow to SUEZ for police services in the amount of $3,867.65

WHEREAS, Suez posted escrow monies for police services for a water system cleaning and lining project on Jefferson Avenue between Pascack Road and Clinton Avenue in the Township of Washington; and

WHEREAS, the project (ID: SUEZ000002) is now complete and the escrow monies that remain in the escrow account are to be refunded to Suez; and

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township for this project; and

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 $3867.65 to the above.

Resolution No. 17-359
Ratifying Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Township of Washington and Teamsters Local 125 representing Department of Municipal Facilities

WHEREAS, the Township and the Teamsters Local 125 have negotiated a Collective Bargaining Agreement governing the terms and conditions of employment of certain employees of the Department of Municipal Facilities for the period January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2022 (hereinafter "the Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, the Agreement was the result of good faith negotiations between the Township and the bargaining unit represented by Teamsters Local 125;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, County of Bergen, New Jersey that the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Township.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 34:13A-8.2, the Business Administrator shall file a copy of the Agreement with the Public Employee Relations Commission.

A motion was made by Councilman Cascio, seconded by Councilman Sears to adjourn to Conference Agenda.
Ayes: Councilmen Calamari, Cascio, Sears, Bruno.
Nays: None.
Absent: Councilman Ullman.

Time Noted: 8:20 p.m.

Susan Witkowski
Township Clerk

Robert Bruno
Council President

Approved: April 2, 2018

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

CONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES

December 4, 2017

Members Present: Peter Calamari, Steve Cascio, Thomas Sears, and Council President Robert Bruno. Also present: Janet Sobkowicz, Mayor; Ken Poller, Township Attorney; Mary Anne Groh, Township Administrator; and Susan Witkowski, Township Clerk. Absent: Councilman Ullman.

Administration

Project Tracker

Leaf Pusher/Truck –
Administrator Groh stated the truck, with the entirety of the features, was available on State contract. There was enough money to get two vehicles, with plows, and all the needed options. The requisition was approved by the Mayor, and a purchase order has been generated, and the dealership can be contacted. The two trucks are a little bit smaller than the dump truck, and can handle smaller jobs much better than a larger truck. A conversation followed on price that was received for an SUV, which would need to be authorized by Council. The DMF currently has an old Crown Victoria, and an SUV that was a hand me down, but does need a lot of work. The Mayor felt they needed a new car instead of repairing the old one.

Phone System – Work was to be sorted out in the telephone room, the install did occur and there was some training of the staff. There have been a few kinks, they have been addressed, but it is a huge improvement. Coordination had to done between the installer and Verizon. A conversation followed on the option of phone tree, each department having its own number to dial (such as dial 1 for Administration and so on), which the current phone system does have the capability of, but the current Mayor doesn't want that. Staff would like this option. A conversation followed on copper lines, fiber optic lines, PRI, POTS lines for Police Department and by using the same vendor for local and long distance will be a cost savings.

Budget – January 15, 2018 – The administration is still waiting for budgets from department heads. Councilman Calamari stated if he cannot do a formal presentation, he would like to present the expense side then the revenue and hopes to get that to Council by the January 15 due date. A conversation followed on funding for studies for building, DMF, the firehouse and fire truck. Some old ordinances do
have some funding in place.

Memorial Field – Council President Bruno stated he would like Council to read the interim reports, along with responses that went back and forth with the Memorial Field Committee. He spoke of the need for Council to understand what goes into re-sodding Memorial Field, so it can be budgeted for the next year. At the November 30 Memorial Field Committee meeting the committee did ask Mr. Statile to provide cost estimates for certain tasks in preparation for various things, which he did submit via letter and will be circulated to Council. Councilman Calamari will contact Jim Dugan of the Memorial Field Committee to be placed on the list to notify upcoming meetings.

COUNCIL

Appointments 2018 – The Township Clerk did reach out to the three current Zoning Board members (two members and one alternate) whose terms expires

12/31, and all three have shown interest to come back. Two more members need to be replaced Mr. Cumming and Mr. DeSena. George Mouravieff, Dina Burke would both like to stay on and Said Toro would like become a full member.

There is a notation that the term of the Fire Official is by Personal Action Form, which is not accurate since they are not employees of the Township, they are independent contractors. The Violations Clerk is not the Deputy Clerk; the function of that position is being done by the Deputy Clerk since there is no Violations Clerk.

Reorganization Date – The sitting Mayor's term runs until December 31 and the newly elected Mayor can be sworn in by a variety of people. A conversation followed on having the swearing in of the Mayor on January 1, and the Reorganization meeting on January 2. Reorganization meeting must be done within the first seven days of January. As per the Ordinance, if a holiday falls on a Monday, Council meetings are to be held the following day, Tuesday. The Clerk did give the Council both options, Council meetings on Mondays and Tuesdays, if a Holiday falls on a Monday. The Clerk will contact Mr. DeSena and Mr. Cumming regarding what date they would like to be sworn in, January 1 or January 2. A conversation followed on changing Council meeting dates to Tuesdays, since there are many Holidays that fall on a Monday. WCTV will also be contacted regarding the date of the reorganization meeting, the swearing in will not be televised.

Voter Intimidation – Council President Bruno stated during the election, he received feedback from residents that they received text messages from people about taking signs off their lawns. Allegedly, a person who handles matters for the Township did tell a resident to remove their sign and asked why they had an independent sign on their lawn. Council President Bruno stated he has filed a complaint with the Bergen County Prosecutors Office, but would like to know locally what he can do to put this matter on record. Mr. Poller stated that he can file something with the Police Department. Administrator Groh asked if this was done during the normal course of business, while this person was working as an employee of the Township. Council President Bruno replied he doesn't believe so. A conversation followed on the current Township Ordinance regarding political signs, and changing it since it does not reflect the Federal Law. Mr. Poller suggested Council have a discussion on this matter before codification.

Ordinances and Legislation

Faulkner Form of Government – Council President Bruno spoke of the March 2003 print out regarding the Faulkner Act, which reads the Council powers under the Mayor/Council Plan, states that the Council does exercise the advise/consent to actions of the Mayor and that the establishment of the Council as a committee of the whole and delegation of any number of its members as an "Ad Hoc Committee." It also states that the Council approves all contracts presented by the Mayor, along with stating that the Mayor could veto an ordinance, but if there is a 2/3 majority vote, the Mayor's veto can be overridden. Mr. Poller stated this has all been done in the past, but as far as appointments are concerned Council does not have consent of all appointments by the Mayor. This is by law, by Ordinance, by the Faulkner Act. Council has certain appointments which they can make and then there are other appointments the Mayor makes and then it is under advice and consent of Council. Mr. Poller did put together a 3 page sheet, which has the appointments of Council, Mayor, appointments under advice and appointments under consent. He stated it is still a work in progress; it does need to be supplemented. Councilman Cascio asked Mr. Poller to look into where an Ad Hoc Committee would legally stand. A conversation followed on the Salary Ordinance, which has been vetoed in the past by the Mayor.

Change Form Government – Various options were given by Mr. Poller, Charter Study Commission or Direct Petition Referendum. Council President Bruno spoke of his interpretation of a direct referendum without a charter study, and it goes to voters and requires 20% to sign the petition. A conversation followed on the various forms of government available, and also the Township form of government. Councilman Calamari spoke of the timing of this topic on the Agenda, since the last time it was on the Agenda was back in April. A lengthy conversation followed on the timing, and whether or not this is a "hot topic" among residents in the Township. Mr. Poller spoke of forming a Charter Committee Commission, and the importance of doing so. Councilman Cascio spoke at length of this topic being explored in the past, and the different factors. He also spoke of this form of government having to do with personalities and leadership, and other forms of government that take personality and leadership out of the mix, not depending on one or two personalities. Councilman Calamari stated on January 1 there will be a different Mayor, and he would like the opportunity to see that this form of government can work.

Amend Ordinance 223.27-2 updated information – A conversation followed on a variety of aspects regarding abandoned vehicles, and the parking of non-functional machinery. Feedback from residents and enforcement was discussed.

Lukoil Diesel Fuel – update – Lukoil are not serving any diesel fuel and the signs have been taken down. Permits were not issued for any of the soil they moved around or removed; they do need to come back to the Board to do so. Supposedly, a mixer was put in; tanks were not changed, so the high test can become diesel through a mixer. The Code Enforcement Official did issue a letter to them that they have to go before the Board. A conversation followed on who checks entities if they have the proper permits to do work. This is something that is usually brought to the attention of the Township by residents. Generally, there is not someone riding around the Township looking at every single site or property every single day.

A motion was made by Councilman Sears, seconded by Councilman Cascio to adjourn.

Ayes: Councilman Calamari, Cascio, Sears, Bruno.
Nays: None.
Absent: Councilman Ullman.

Time Noted: 9:20 p.m.

Susan Witkowski
Township Clerk

Robert Bruno
Council President

Approved: April 2, 2018