

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 5, 2018

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 Michael DeSena called the meeting at 7:34 p.m. by reading the following statement

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

The regularly scheduled Public Meeting of February 5, 2018 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 Web Site.

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 Robert Bruno, Steve Cascio, Arthur Cumming, Michael Ullman and Council President Michael DeSena. Also, present: Peter Calamari, Mayor; Mary Anne Groh, Administrator; Ken Poller, Township Attorney; and Susan Witkowski, Township Clerk.

The Clerk read the totals of the list of bills:

TOTAL	2017 Reserve	\$46,476.64
TOTAL	2018 Current	\$2,271,552.11
TOTAL	Capital Fund	\$38,610.00
TOTAL	Animal Control	\$0.00
TOTAL	Trust Fund	\$41,947.03

Councilman Bruno asked at the end of 2017 the actual expenditures encumbered, along with a budget number, and a reserve number, should be what the Township paid, and what the Township has encumbered against the budget, then difference is the appropriated reserve. Administrator Groh stated the appropriate reserve in the budget books is down to less than \$500,000, from the 2.2 million that Council saw when they were working with the temporary budget. She stated past due balances from 2017 will be paid, the Verizon bills have been cleared up, but she is still working on SUEZ and PSE&G. There are still some bills coming in for Mr. Statile as a result of some projects he began, as well as the Road Program, which is still being closed out. The Maintenance Bond extends 2 years after the date of acceptance. There is a resolution on the Agenda for a change order, closing out some of the grants, as well as following through on Prospect sewer. A discussion followed on Page 10, which are voided checks, as well as Page 13, which \$2,900 was taken out of the snow plow reserve for salting, which will be the plan going forward.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(Councilmen Cumming and DeSena abstain from the 2017 minutes)

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

- September 11, 2017 Public Meeting Minutes
- September 11, 2017 Conference Meeting Minutes
- September 25, 2017 Public Meeting Minutes
- September 25, 2017 Conference Meeting Minutes
- October 16, 2017 Public Meeting Minutes
- October 16, 2017 Conference Meeting Minutes

Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Cascio, Ullman.
 Nays: None.
 Abstain: Councilman Cumming, Council President DeSena.

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

January 16, 2018 Closed Session Minutes

Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Cascio, Cumming, Ullman,
 Council President DeSena.
 Nays: None.

Administrator Groh stated regarding the bill list, there may be additional encumbrances to 2017, you can spend 2017 monies in 2018, if there still clean up and clear up. That does not mean there will be no further encumbrances to 2017, if a bill comes in and it is appropriate we will be encumbering. Councilman Bruno stated there are appropriations and encumbrances, then against the budget the difference goes into reserve which then flows through the surplus? Administrator Groh replied that is correct, the comment was made about temporary budget document, there was also left over that would fall into appropriate reserve. Subsequent to that there was the normal payment of bills before the General Ledger was closed out for the year end, and by that time it was down to \$700,000, as of today it is down to another \$500,000. The good news to the taxpayers is there is only \$500,00 out of the 12.1 million that has not been paid yet, it may be closer to \$200,000 or it may be closer to zero, we do have a couple of months. Administrator Groh stated she understood there was concern that the taxpayers were being taxed for monies that were being spent to provide services.

Mayor's Report, February 5, 2018

Community Calendar

He hopes everyone received the calendar. He thanked the Director of Public Affairs, Dina Burke, her team and everyone in Town Hall that helped put the calendar together. There are many nostalgic pictures, facts, phone numbers and important dates of what is going on in the Township. Recreation Director Eammon Twomey and himself toured the new facility of the Bethany Church, along with Pastor James and Community Center Director Bliss Varhees. They have done some amazing work in the building and look forward to working with them to make their facilities and programs a true part of our community.

Intersection

He stated Councilman Cumming, Mr. Sears, the Township Engineer, Paul Azzolina and himself attended a meeting in Hackensack. The people in attendance from the County were Joe Femia, County Engineer, Nancy Dargis,

Assistant County Engineer and Marc Shrieks, Deputy Chief of Staff to the County Executive. The meeting was very positive about moving forward on the intersection project. However, due to the Township not doing anything for years on it, the project needs to start from scratch, which will not happen again. The County needs to review a current topographic map, as well as a few other things from the engineer, that he already prepared, before the next meeting is scheduled.

Emergency Services Dispatching

The Township hired a full-time dispatcher who started on February 1st and is now training with our existing dispatcher. He happens to be in our audience this evening, Bill Biliias, and we welcome him aboard.

Police Department

He met with the Chief, Captain and two Lieutenants, and went over some policy and procedure changes that they have wanted to implement for a while. They have ideas and plans to update and increase efficiencies within the Department. These changes will result in increase service, and decreasing costs, as well as better working conditions for the staff. He looks forward to working towards implement these changes.

Commuter Parking

He reached out to some of the businesses in the area, and they have expressed an interest in helping us make more spots available for our resident commuters. More information will follow.

Snow Plowing and DMF

We have had a couple of snowstorms since February 1st and the feedback from the residents has been positive. DMF Director Dan Scudieri and himself reached out to Superintendent Bill Lawlor before and after each storm to make sure the DMF had the resources needed to get their job done. It is a little too late for this season, but we are going to research working with private contractors to see how they can contribute in the future to assist in getting the job done.

Shared Services

He accompanied Police Chief Glenn Hooper, Fire Department Director Bill Biliias and DMF Superintendent Bill Lawlor to a meeting with Ridgewood Superintended of Public Works Dan Keily, and member of his staff. They gave a tour of their facility as it pertains to vehicle and small engine maintenance. Everyone liked what they saw and heard. Both municipalities are working on minor changes to the agreement started last year. We look forward to both municipalities signing the agreement and working together.

Summer Concert Series

He would like to thank Peter Nieri. Due to his efforts the Township will have four concerts this Summer, one Country, one Oldies and two Rock Bands. Mr. Nieri took the lead in choosing and securing the bands. This gives him a great time to talk about community spirit and involvement. Mr. Nieri had a vision for the concert, put a preliminary plan together and reached out to him with it. We met, discussed it and it is happening. He encourages all residents to come forward with their ideas, unlike the past your ideas will be met with enthusiasm and encouragement.

Ice Rescue Drill

He was happy to attend the ice rescue drill that the Fire Department conducted on Schlegal Lake. He would like to thank the Lake Association for allowing the use of the lake for the drill. Talk about volunteerism at its finest, these people took time away from their families to come out on a bitterly cold night to practice for an event that we hope never occurs, but if it should, we know we have the finest people trained to deal with it. This is just one example of the numerous times the volunteers from our Fire Department and Ambulance Corps sacrifice time from their busy schedule to stay trained when they are needed. They make themselves available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to selfishly answer the call of community, and we thank them.

Annual Ambulance/Fire Department Dinners

He was happy to attend the dinners and would like to work jointly with the Council at the next meeting to give Proclamations to those volunteers who received recognition at those dinners so the entire Township can witness what great things their friends and neighbors are doing.

Golden Seniors

Along with Dina Burke, he had the pleasure of meeting with Mr. Kevin Lynch from Oritani Bank. In addition to reaffirming his commitment to our Township organizations, we also spoke about creating a walking path between the end of Hudson Avenue and the Oritani parking lot, which will enable our Township employees to park at the Oritani parking lot on days that seniors have activities going on in the Jack Woods Senior Center, freeing up those spaces for the seniors to utilize. He has already authorized our Township engineer to commence to work on it.

Library

He had the pleasure of attending his first Library Board meeting. They look forward to expanding the remarkable programs they have in place for people of all ages. If you have not visited the library recently, you owe it to yourself to do so.

Memorial Field Committee

He attended his first meeting of this committee. After discussing the long-term plans of the field, a lot of time was spent discussing how to best prepare the field to get through the upcoming playing season. He did recommend the next meeting just be spent talking about that so a plan can be formulated to present to the governing body.

Tax Assessor

The Township's long time Tax Assessor, Ray Damiano has retired. Interviews were conducted for the position and are happy to report that Murty Arisetty has been chosen to fill the position. Mr. Arisetty has done a great job in the current position and he knows he will bring the same great qualities to the Assessor position.

Scouting

He attended the "Girl Scouts Billy's Baseball Event" to send Valentines to our local Veteran's. It was a joy to see so many girls come out and support our Veterans. Even though he is not a Veteran, he did receive some Valentines which

he greatly appreciated. He also viewed a presentation from James Stickel on a great plan he has for his Eagle Scout Award that will also honor our Veterans.

REPORT OF COUNCIL

Councilman Ullman stated he has no report this evening.

Councilman Cumming stated he has several items he would like to mention, some are a little older, but in the future, he hopes to be able to convey news, especially good news as soon as possible. He stated he would like to start off by making our residents aware that some young men in our community performed an act of very good citizenship. It was brought to his attention that a student of Westwood Regional Middle School had a medical procedure before Christmas and has a long road to recovery ahead of him. During the past snow storm, four young men of our community took the initiative to go out into our neighborhoods and solicited work by shoveling snow. These young men were able to earn \$235.00, which they donated completely to the fundraising page for this young man. If he may, on behalf of my fellow councilmen and the Mayor, we commend these young men and their parents for their actions. Without a sense of caring, there is no sense of community. He would like to acknowledge Jack Dugan, Robert Larsen, Ibrahim Hamza and Adam El-Moslemany. These four young men went out to shovel snow, and for \$235, it doesn't sound as if they charged much, but they gave it all to the other young man. He also attended the ice rescue drill conducted on frozen Schlegal Lake by the Township Fire Department. As a scuba instructor for 22 years, who has taught police scuba rescue to two police departments over the years and more, he was impressed with their capabilities and professionalism. For more than one and a half hours, three young men went into the water of the solidly frozen lake, while others preformed rescues with specialized equipment. He stated it was terribly, terribly cold, and he was pleased to spend time with the Mayor and two of the Township's finest, who were off duty. On Monday, January 15th Martin Luther King Day was observed with some mention in the news, minor observation. As one who has lived through 1968 as a young adult, he wishes to express that he hopes "the time soon comes when all of our children can play together and will only be judged by the content of their character, and not the color of their skin." Saturday, January 27th was Holocaust Remembrance Day." He saw almost nothing in the news, and if it were not for WQXR radio playing the hauntingly beautiful theme from Schindler's List, by the great composer American John Williams, he might not have known. He believes that the take away from all of this is that it should be remembered that seven to nine million people were perished during the Holocaust, and we should resolve to be better, more productive people and to help one another in daily life. On February 1st there was an awards ceremony at the Art Gallery in Westwood, located at the Five Corners, which was sponsored by the Art Gallery. The project was entitled "Westwood Regional School District has Heart." The students submitted projects, posters and drawings around this theme. Many awards were given out for the projects that were made by the school children, grade by grade, and was posted on Facebook. The ceremony and the drawings were truly wonderful. Parents and children were thrilled by this exercise and the many awards given per grade. It was wonderful to be there and wonderful to see my granddaughter Gina Castronova, who was among the winners, but he was happy for all of the children. Some of the teachers attended, as well as the Superintendent. On Saturday, January 20th, he was privileged to attend the Washington Township Fire Chief's Dinner, with the installation and honors for outgoing prior years chief. It was a wonderful time, a well-deserved ceremony and many "Thank You's." It was a tremendous opportunity to meet and congratulate the new officers, and the retiring officers. On Thursday, January 25th the Girl Scout Troops of Washington Township put together care baskets for Veteran's in conjunction with Billy's Baseball. They were care packages for Veteran's in a Veteran's home, and cards for actively serving soldiers. It was a wonderful, commendable pursuit for Billy Cook, who he was privileged to meet

from Billy's Baseballs. The Girl Scouts put together the packages and made out many, many cards. This was started as Billy's Bar mitzvah project, for his becoming a young man, it has gone on for a few years and he continues these worthwhile pursuits. It was a great community activity supported by your Council, and Councilmembers were there in attendance, including Councilman Ullman and Council President DeSena. It was a wonderful event and that is some of the good news in our Township.

Councilman Bruno stated we have the Contemporary Women's Club here tonight, which he believes is spectacular. He has written some op-eds about the work they have done around the Township, including lovely flower plantings they do around the library. We are happy to have them here tonight.

Councilman Cascio stated he would like to thank the Police Officers in the Township of Washington. He had two personal incidents, his daughter was involved in a car accident and his father-in-law had a medical incident. The professionals of the Police Department did a fine and outstanding job. He cannot commend them enough for their actions, their kindness and calmness in performing their services. Sometimes we all take for granted when we don't use their services that the Police are around, but when you need them they are there. He stated also we had to use Hillsdale Mutual Aid, since the Township Ambulance had a day off, and they also performed very professionally. He is very happy, satisfied and confident if there ever an emergency in the Township, that it will be handled very well, and rest assured we will get the best available care and kindness. He thanked them very much for their service.

Councilman Cumming apologizes, but he does have one more comment for public good. He stated there are ADA dances for disabled adults, everyone in the Township who is ADA or has an ADA family member between teen and adult is invited to join. The entry is \$5.00, which covers the help, the DJ and refreshments. Registration forms are available through fairlawnadacommittee@gmail.com or you can reach out to him via acumming@twpofwashington.us. Everyone is welcome, it is a wonderful young adult/adult supervised activity. The next dance is March 9th, and the theme is Saint Patrick's Day. If anyone knows anyone who is ADA, please reach out so the young person can come out for a pleasant and supervised activity.

Council President DeSena thanked the Ambulance Corps and Fire Department for having his spouse and himself at the installation ceremonies, it was very nice to meet everyone. He thanked the Girl Scouts and Billy's Baseball for putting together a great function that day. It was very well intended, a lot of Girl Scouts worked towards their badges, and it was very nice to see them, along with all the baseballs that are going to the Veterans and also the active troops at this time.

MAYOR APPOINTMENT

Mayor Calamari - Council President, and Council members of the Township of Washington, regarding the Appointment of the Tax Assessor, please be advised that I am hereby appointing Sambamurty Arisetty to the position of Tax Assessor effective immediately for a four-year term commencing on July 1, 2018, subject to receiving the Council's advice and consent, which I hereby respectfully request.

Mr. Arisetty has been an active employee in the Tax Assessor Department, working side-by-side with Ray Damiano. The appointment is a four-year term, beginning July. The appointment will begin July 1, 2018, but Mr. Arisetty will begin the duties immediately. An ad will run for Mr. Arisetty's replacement. A conversation followed regarding candidates which were interviewed, and the salary, which will be reflected in the budget. Mr. Arisetty has worked for the

Township for many years, he was recommended by Ray Damiano, the former Tax Assessor, to the position.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION RELATING TO CERTAIN APPOINTMENTS

A motion was made by Councilman Cascio, seconded by Councilman Cumming to pass Resolution No. 18-155.

Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Cascio, Cumming, Ullman,
Council President DeSena.

Nays: None.

Resolution No. 18-155

Appointment of Tax Assessor – Sambamurty Arisetty

WHEREAS, the Mayor has appointed Sambamurty Arisetty as Tax Assessor for the term as provided by law, subject to the advice and consent of the Township Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Washington, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey hereby gives its consent to such appointment by the Mayor.

PRESENTATION

Contemporary Women's Club

Ms. Gloria Switlyk

Gloria Switlyk, 327 Coolidge Avenue – Ms. Switlyk thanked Council for the opportunity to speak about the Contemporary Women's Club. She has been a resident of the Township for 53 years and Women's Club has been in existence since 1960, it is almost 58 years old, and has been contributing to the Township ever since. The Women's Club has been instrumental in the creation of the library, the Senior Club, the Memorial Day Parade, purchased the first community board, and contributed \$6,000 towards the current community board. They have supported the Fire Department, Ambulance Corps, and have purchased bullet proof vests for the Police Department, awarded scholarships to one of the Policemen who is attending school, which was the first one that was ever presented in the State. In the recent years they have supported the Junior Police Academy, the Safety Poster Contest, families in the Township who are having any financial/medical difficulties, sponsored the Christmas in July project, collected food and food supplies for Westwood Cares, which also takes care of the residents in the Township who need assistance. The Club also holds the Christmas decorating every year, along with giving gift cards to Veterans and patients in nursing homes, enjoy holiday decorations and cards the women of the club make for them. They also hold an annual pizza party, with the Knights of Columbus, with a DJ for the members of ARC, an organization for disabled adults. They award scholarships (\$1,000. each) to members of graduating students of local high schools, and also gift cards are given to students who have performed outstanding work in particular subjects. With the help of Girl Scout Troops in the Township, 1,487 books were collected, which were distributed to schools whose libraries were in need of books. Recently the Club donated monies to purchase equipment for dogs who work with traumatized Veterans, and also send Christmas stockings to the men and women in the Military stationed overseas. The Club supports Operation Smile, Shelter Our Sisters, Prevention of Child Abuse, Autism and UNICEF. These projects that were mentioned are run by the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs, of which the Contemporary Club is a member. Currently the Club has 36 members and meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm in the Senior Room. She would like to thank Councilman Bruno for mentioning that something dear to the members of the Club, that is the plantings in front of the library, and she is glad Councilman Bruno appreciates it, and in the Spring, there will be more plantings. Council President DeSena stated he appreciates all the Contemporary

Women's Club has done for the Township, and continues to do for the Township. Also present are Mrs. Marino, Mrs. Scanlon, Mrs. Ciocco and Mrs. Casciano.

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Cascio, Cumming, Ullman,
Council President DeSena.

Nays: None.

Loriann Roberts, 704 Amherst Drive – Ms. Roberts stated she is one of the Troop leaders that put together with “Billy’s Baseballs” event. She stated the Troop was grateful for the use of the Senior Center, the snacks that were provided, and meeting various members of Town Hall. The Girl Scouts had a great time, they got the idea of government, and did earn a badge “Being a Good Friend.” Valentine’s, toiletries, and Billy’s Baseballs were sent to Veteran’s homes, and a couple of people overseas. She spoke of the corner of Amherst Drive, the leak has been fixed, handicap ramps put in and the road has been paved, but there still is a drainage issue. The corner is filled with puddles of water, when it rains/snows, and does get icy. She stated it is a hazardous condition and should be looked into. She stated regarding the handicap ramp at Memorial Field, there is no signage indicating that there is a ramp in the location. She also spoke of the ramp, which leads to a clay patch, the ramp does not get the person onto the field. Administrator Groh stated there is no grant for the connection between the top of the ramp and further access to the field, it may have been part of the larger plan, and may need to be revisited. Ms. Roberts thanked the Council members for not playing into the social media game that is currently going on.

Mary Ann Ozment, 960 Adams Place – Mrs. Ozment asked if Council was aware of postcards that Mayor Calamari indicated he was working on, at the Memorial Field Committee meeting, which occurred 3 weeks ago, that would be sent to residents asking them to prioritize different projects within the Township. Mayor Calamari replied he indicated he would be working on it, but it has not been done. Council President DeSena stated he is not aware of any postcards, Council is waiting for recommendations/findings from the Committee, which will be reviewed before a decision is made. Mrs. Ozment spoke at length of the Township Calendar, which does not have the names of any members of any of the Township organizations, or employees of the Township, as it has had in the past. She also stated that meetings should be incorporated into the date boxes. She spoke of the last issue of “The Citizen” which was a tribute to the Mayor, which she believes was written by the Mayor. A conversation followed on incorporating the names of the members of Township organizations, as well as employees in “The Citizen.” Mrs. Ozment spoke of her street, which has been paved 1.5 years ago, and already is showing signs of cracks. Council President DeSena stated it should be under the two-years maintenance bond. She also inquired when the clock at Town Hall would be fixed, since she was told at the last meeting it would be fixed within 3 weeks. Administrator Groh replied she doesn’t believe it was stated it would be fixed within 3 weeks, the gentleman has been sick, but she will reach out again. Council President DeSena requested a letter from Mr. Statile addressing the issue on Amherst, since he was the engineer at the time. Councilman Bruno spoke of “The Citizen” coming up during the budget process last year, perhaps doing it quarterly, and it will be discussed again during the budget process this year. He thanked the Township Clerk for working with him in updating activities on the website.

Julianne Lipnick, 184 Finnerty Place – Ms. Lipnick thanked the “Contemporary Women’s Club” for the beautification of the library, she does appreciate it, and come the Spring she will donate flowers. She stated she understands, after talking to some parents that football registration is \$190, which includes the uniform. She stated in many cases the boys play the following year and use the same uniform, with no reduction in registration costs, which she believes is

unfair. She requests Council keep this in mind when the Recreation Fees are being discussed.

Todd Compesi, 378 Colonial Boulevard – Mr. Compesi thanked Mayor Calamari and Administrator Groh for taking care of the tax issue that he had. It was a little frustrating for him and he just wanted thank you both for taking care of the issue.

A motion was made by Councilman Cascio, seconded by Councilman Bruno to close the general public discussion.

Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Cascio, Cumming, Ullman,
Council President DeSena.

Nays: None.

INDIVIDUAL RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Councilman Bruno, seconded by Councilman Cumming, to approve Resolution No. 18-149, Budget Transfer to Landfill & Dumping Fees/Dept. of Law Other Expenses.

Councilman Bruno stated as he understands it, one transfer is for the dumping fees in connection with the debris program for the month of December, which \$244.68. The second one for some of T&M bills, which would take the Township to December 29th. The funds will be coming out of the Planning Department Budget for consulting services. The two amounts that were part of the bill list have been already paid, one of the bills being a partial pay, with a residual due and another bill. Administrator Groh stated this current bill cannot be paid until the transfer is complete. T&M is over budget, expending the \$25,000 that was in reserve. A discussion will follow in Closed Session regarding anticipated billing for T&M in 2018. Franklin Court was given additional work from the Court Master, which they have already paid, it has nothing to do with the other work done by T&M.

Ayes: Councilmen Cascio, Cumming, Ullman.

Nays: Councilman Bruno, Council President DeSena.

Resolution No. 18-149 (NOT PASSED)

Budget Transfer to Landfill & Dumping Fees/Dept. of Law Other Expenses

WHEREAS N.J.S.A 40A:4-58 provides that if it should become necessary during the first three (3) months of the fiscal year, to expend funds in connection with the prior fiscal year for any of the purposes specified in the budget an amount in excess of the sums appropriated therefor and there shall be an excess in an appropriation over and above the amount deemed to be necessary to fulfill another 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 Budget Appropriations:

<u>Account</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Recycling Green Team	\$244.68	
Landfill & Dumping Fees		\$244.68
Planning Dept. Other Expenses	\$3,277.60	
Dept. of Law Other Expenses		\$3,277.60

Administrator Groh requested a paired down version, striking out the language Planning Department Other Expenses/Department of Law Other Expenses. The Township Clerk stated that resolution will be numbered 18-158, keeping only the \$244.68 transfer.

A motion was made by Councilman Ullman, seconded by Councilman Cumming, to approve Resolution No. 18-158, Budget Transfer to Landfill & Dumping Fees.

Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Cascio, Cumming, Ullman,
Council President DeSena.

Nays: None.

Resolution No. 18-158

Budget Transfer to Landfill and Dumping Fees

WHEREAS N.J.S.A 40A:4-58 provides that if it should become necessary during the first three (3) months of the fiscal year, to expend funds in connection with the prior fiscal year for any of the purposes specified in the budget an amount in excess of the sums appropriated therefor and there shall be an excess in an appropriation over and above the amount deemed to be necessary to fulfill another 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 Budget Appropriations:

<u>Account</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Recycling Green Team	\$244.68	
Landfill & Dumping Fees		\$244.68

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.

Councilman Bruno stated pertaining to Resolution No. 18-145, he did receive the contract. He asked who is responsible for the reporting requirements, bills, reports, schedules. Administrator Groh replied she is. The check for the Teen Night has already been cut. Councilman Ullman requested participation numbers for Teen Night.

A motion was made by Councilman Cascio, seconded by Councilman Ullman, to approve the Consent Agenda.

Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Cascio, Cumming, Ullman,
Council President DeSena.

Nays: None.

Resolution No. 18-145

Authorize signatory to Bergen County Trust Fund – Gardner Park

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 Mayor Peter Calamari 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. 18-150
Resolution Cancelling Small Balances

Whereas, the governing body of the Township Of Washington finds and declares that N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17-1 empowers authorized municipal employees to process the cancellation of tax refunds and/or delinquencies of less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars, and

Whereas, the Governing Body further finds and declares that the Municipal Tax Collector is qualified to process the cancellation of tax refunds and/or delinquencies of less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars, and

Whereas, the Governing Body further finds and declares that it is in the best interest of the citizens of the Township of Washington for the Municipal Tax Collector to be authorized to process that cancellation of the tax refunds and /or delinquencies of less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17-1;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Township of Washington that the Municipal Tax Collector, Ashley A. Morrone is hereby authorized to process the cancellation of tax refunds or delinquencies of less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars during the calendar year of 2018 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17-1.

Resolution No. 18-151
Authorize the Mayor to execute Shared Service/Interlocal Agreement with Westwood for Teen Night Program

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that the Council hereby authorizes the Mayor to execute the attached Shared Services Agreement referable to the Teen Center.

Resolution No. 18-152

Authorize refund of escrow monies for engineering and soil, Block 3102, Lot 13, 661 Mariann Place in the amount of \$477.50

WHEREAS, Nelson Tom posted engineering & soil escrow monies for work on premises known as Block 3102 Lot 13, 661 Mariann Place; and

WHEREAS, the Construction Code Official has issued approval, C.A. 14-436, dated 5/14/2015; and

WHEREAS, outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated December 15, 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 money to Nelson Tom in the amount of \$477.50.

Resolution No. 18-153

Authorize refund of overpayment of taxes, Block 4302, Lot 12, 378 Colonial Boulevard in the amount of \$4,161.00

WHEREAS, an overpayment for 2016-2017 taxes was received from Todd & Nicole Compesi, occupants of Block 4302, Lot 12, 378 Colonial Blvd.; and

WHEREAS, under the N.J.S.A. 54:3-27.2, tax overpayments shall be refunded to the payer, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, New Jersey, that the Tax Collector be authorized to issue a refund to Todd & Nicole Compesi in the amount of \$4,161.00.

Resolution No. 18-154

Authorize refund of taxes due to a successful Tax Appeal for Block 1101, Lot 5, 77 Gorga Place in the amount of \$2,770.80

WHEREAS, an overpayment was received for Block 1101, Lot 5, 77 Gorga Place, homeowners Donna Baboulis & Gary Gyscek. Said property was awarded a tax reduction due to a successful tax appeal, and

WHEREAS, under the N.J.S.A. 54:3-27.2, in the event a taxpayer is successful in an appeal from a reduced assessment, the taxing district shall refund any excess taxes paid within 60 days of judgement, and

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

Jacobus & Associates, Trustee for Donna Baboulis & Gary Gyscek
201 Littleton Road, 1st Floor, Morris Plains, NJ 07950

Original Assessment:	\$1,195,000.00
Reduced Assessment:	\$1,075,000.00
Amount to be Refunded:	\$ 2,770.80

Resolution No. 18-156

Authorize Change Order No. 1 with Mike Fitzpatrick & Son, Inc. for 2017 Road Program

WHEREAS by Resolution dated June 12, 2017, the Township Council accepted the base bid of \$747,202.00 by Mike Fitzpatrick & Son, Inc. ("Fitzpatrick") for the 2017 Road Program and authorized the Mayor to execute a contract for the base bid, as well as a Change Order up to 20% of the base bid or \$149,440.40; and

WHEREAS certain roads were added to the program necessitating a Change Order; and

WHEREAS the determination of actual quantities has been made necessitating a Change Order; and

WHEREAS Christopher P. Statile, P.A., the Township Engineer overseeing the project, has determined the net cost of the foregoing changes to be \$93,192.62 as reflected on the attached Change Order No. 1.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Washington that the attached Change Order No. 1 is hereby approved; and

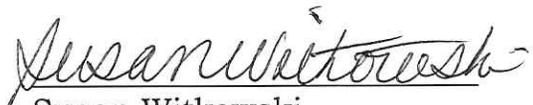
IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the attached Change Order on behalf of the Township of Washington.

A motion was made by Councilman Cascio, seconded by Councilman Bruno to adjourn to Conference Agenda.

Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Cascio, Cumming, Ullman,
Council President DeSena.

Nays: None.

Time Noted: 8:43 p.m.


Susan Witkowski
Township Clerk


Michael DeSena
Council President

Approved: June 6, 2018

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
CONFERENCE PORTION/PUBLIC SESSION

February 5, 2018

Members present: Robert Bruno, Steve Cascio, Arthur Cumming, Michael Ullman, Council President Michael DeSena. Also present: Peter Calamari, Mayor; Mary Anne Groh, Administrator; Ken Poller, Attorney; and Susan Witkowski, Township Clerk.

Administration

Project Tracker – A discussion followed on keeping the project tracker updated, and not losing track of items. The top corner is re-dated each time it is updated, along with new projects being identified in bold face. One side of the tracker is current fund, the other side are non-capital projects. The Police Department flooring has been installed, but the basement floor was not done, which includes the bathrooms/lockers, which may be tiled. There will be a walkthrough of the whole building, and calculations will be done for the flooring. A quote for the door has been received, two other companies have come out, one company will be quoting, the other will not. Bill Lawlor will be asked to reach out to both the clock and door representatives. Two quotes are needed for the doors, since it is over the \$6,000 threshold, but if the Township cannot get two quotes, it can be shown via documentation that due diligence was done. Prospect Street will be added to the tracker. A conversation followed on residents of Prospect Street signing the agreement, and the project going forward even if all five residents do not respond. The purchase order has been issued, and the contractor is ready to go. Further revisions of the agreement have been requested by some residents. A conversation followed on getting an updated letter from the PBA regarding where the Township stands on the initial 12-point letter. Mayor Calamari did have a meeting with the PBA, but the letter was not addressed. He hopes to schedule a meeting with the PBA representative and Chief to review the letter. Sergeant Pecora is the PBA representative at this time. The Police Department has been painted. Flooring measurements have been forwarded for quotes, 3 were received, 2 of the 3 are interested, and they will be coming to do a measurement Thursday. A conversation followed on the current condition of the floor, which is being held together by duct tape and tiles are missing. Runners will be ordered for those areas, since it is a safety hazard. The computers have been received, one has been installed for data, and there is a date for installation. A lengthy conversation followed on the condition of Town Hall, such as the having a window study, roofing study, stairs, flooring and installing half doors for the security of the employees. Bill Lawlor will be asked about the half doors inside of the building. Quotes for all of the doors are being received, but the current vendors do have some issues. A discussion following in the insurance settlement, security in the Tax Department, as well as the Clerk's office, and moving offices around, since the offices are not ideally situated. Mayor Calamari stated he would like to walk the building from top to bottom with the administrator, as well as a councilman to put together a punch list of suggestions. Councilman Bruno requested that Council President DeSena be provided with the PBA letter regarding the condition of the Police Department, and he would also like this item added to the tracker. A conversation followed on having a Township color and being consistent with the color when the doors are painted. Councilman Bruno stated approximately \$200,000 has been sitting in a fund for 10 years, and he feels that fund should be drained to zero. The fund has been drawn on to correct the drainage issue at the Police Department. Councilman Bruno asked that Cleaning Service be added to the project tracker.

Budget, Capital Balance Sheets clean up – Old ordinances are being cleaned up, and Administrator Groh is working with the CFO, Ashley Morrone on the revenue side. The larger picture is going to be looked at, and how the monies would be best put to use. Administrator Groh spoke at length on having a long-term plan (5-year plan), the Moody's rating, and issuing debt. She also spoke of past due balances, which are seven to eight years old, and filing grant reports from 2013/2014. Purchasing procedures have been updated, such as e-signing of vouchers, and there may be a resolution prepared which would waive the need for a vendor's signature if the amount is under a certain threshold.

CFO, update status – Council is in agreement on hiring a full time CFO. The salary will be reflected in the 2018 Salary Ordinance.

Finance Director, update – Meeting later this week.

Prospect Street Agreement – A meeting was requested with Mr. Poller.

Mayor's meeting with County (intersection) – update – Mayor Calamari stated the meeting went well, but due to the long delay, we would have to start from scratch. There are still some grants out there, the Township is going to try, but it is hit and miss, but we are not holding up things waiting for grants. The engineer attended the meeting, and within a week afterwards he is doing the work the County asked for. There was a discretionary grant application for \$600,000, \$700,000 for the intersection. A conversation followed on why Mr. Sears attended the meeting in Trenton. Mayor Calamari stated that County requested Mr. Sears attend, as he understood to bridge the gap, but in his understanding he will be attending further meetings. A lengthy conversation followed on having Council President DeSena involved in the County meetings for the intersection, since one of the reasons he was elected is his experiences in public work projects. A copy of Mr. Azzolina's proposal was requested, along with what the County requested. A discussion followed on the County adding this to the 2018 Capital Budget, along with seeing what other funding is available. Assemblyman Robert Auth was also at the meeting and will be asked if he can provide a letter on behalf of the Township. Ordinance No. 18-01, which was presented to Mr. Poller for further edits was discussed, as well as preparing an Emergency Appropriation, and the \$17,000 in the budget for additional work on behalf of the engineer. A conversation followed on old ordinances, which can be tapped into for the road program, along with what can be cancelled and what should stay.

Council

Code Chapter 5-7 – Councilman Bruno stated in reviewing this Chapter, there is a section which stated that a committee should review how insurance is selected and how premiums are handled, and that is not done. Attorney Poller stated the Township belongs to JIF, and since JIF took over that is no longer the case, and the whole section is irrelevant. A lengthy conversation followed on what is a valid or non-valid code, who makes the determination to show indifference and what occurred at the last Council meeting regarding the situation with the limousine, in which Council agreed to waiving the Code. Attorney Poller explained the codification which needs to occur, and statutes, which are always changing from one day to another. He also spoke of broadening the current ordinances regarding home occupations, since it is possible via a computer or smartphone, to have a business, but not have impact to neighbors, but ordering goods and having deliveries can have an impact. Councilman Cascio spoke at length of making changes to the code book, using the ordinance as a guide and discussing the verbiage.

Pedestrian Crossing – A mix of signs are being ordered for crosswalks, such as flashing signs, speed limit signs and pedestrian crossing. A conversation followed on putting a crosswalk at the Spice and Washington intersection, which the County is aware of but is hesitant due to the hill and motorists being able to see a pedestrian. Durablend, which was scheduled but did not occur due to the

weather, did not come up in at the County meeting, but Mayor Calamari stated he will bring it to their attention. Washington Avenue will be paved border to border, subject to the Township doing the curbs, and the Durablend may be part of the package.

Beautification Committee – The Green Team and Beautification Committee cannot be used as one entity, since the Green Team is for Sustainable New Jersey, which is more towards the nature of recycling and sustainable practices. Mayor Calamari stated he will reach out to Mr. Sears, since he stated he would like to be involved, and has volunteers, but it will be two separate committees.

Petition language – form of government referendum – Council President DeSena would like to ask permission from Council to reach out to the League of Municipalities and obtain the names of two attorneys that specialize in the preparation of language for the petition and have them give Council proposals. Attorney Poller explained under the Faulkner Form of Government, Council is not allowed to have their own counsel, and there is specific case law. If additional counsel is needed, such as bonding, it is a recommendation and as long as it is budgeted. Council is not allowed to have a separate counsel, it is a violation of the Faulkner Act, and Council cannot enter into any contract with any consultant, only the Mayor can do that. Council can approve contracts and reject appointments by not giving consent. A conversation followed on monies put in the budget in the past for outside council. Council President DeSena stated using that as correlation, that is why he asked. Attorney Poller stated he prepared a 23-page memo as a result of the request he was given, which highlights the procedures and changes, regarding a change of the form of government. He stated the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs on the Optional Municipal Charter Law, has put out a booklet. He stated it is 50 pages, and he will distribute the 1st page to Council members and on the bottom is the website, so Council can now have all of the provisions. This is a complete setting forth of the statutes of the optional municipal charter laws. A brochure has also been ordered by the Township Clerk, which will be disseminated to Council regarding all the different forms of Faulkner, and what is available. Petition language comes from the public, the ballot language is not the same as the petition language. Signatures will be a percentage of who voted at the last general election.

Bus Huts – A conversation followed on the bus hut at Spice, which is falling apart and is closed on 3 sides, which is a safety issue. The bus huts are owned by the Township and maintained by the DMF. The DMF will be asked to go and clean up this particular bus hut.

Crosswalk line at Spice Drive – Previously discussed.

Nominate Recreation Director – Councilman Bruno stated he would like to nominate Dave Terwilliger as a new Recreation Director. Attorney Poller stated Councilman Bruno cannot do this, the submission of a name for a Director can only come from the Mayor. Councilman Bruno stated he would like to ask the Mayor to consider David Terwilliger as the new Recreation Director. Mayor Calamari replied he will give it some thought.

Town Property behind Dawg House – There are two parcels and an easement to the bar, along with a two-car garage with the northern most parcel is owed by the Township. Councilman Bruno stated the area is in disarray, there is a boat, trucks and other debris at the location, and he doesn't understand why Township property looks like that. Mayor Calamari stated he will reach out to Gary Mazanec, Property Maintenance to go out and look at the property. A discussion followed on the liability issue.

TIGER Grant – Update – The TIGER Grant may not be applicable to the intersection, but the Congressman Gottheimer’s office is working with the Township to submit an application.

1033A Program – Update – Lieutenant Skinner is working on this program with Hillsdale, he has made some contacts and registered with 3 or 4 different departments. The closest facility is in Pennsylvania. The equipment would be on loan to the Township, and the Township would be required to maintain the equipment.

Quest – The last letter that was mailed to the residence that the Township requires access to came back undeliverable. Attorney Poller is preparing papers to go to Court for a Court Order to let the Township onto the property. The time frame is less than four months. A discussion followed on the need to sample this particular well and the importance of the delineation. The contact person from Quest is Mr. Foster, who indicated not sampling this well does not move the Township closer to the DEP. This particular homeowner was spoken to by Quest in the past and it is a hostile situation, the homeowner does not like the idea of the Township coming on to their property to take samples.

Recreation Fee disparity – The Township Clerk polled several towns for their information regarding fees. Councilman Bruno stated regarding football, it is his understanding the football coordinator has the Township enrolled in a league, which he is the President of and his brother is the Treasurer. He believes this is a conflict of interest. Attorney Poller stated before he can speak on this, he would need to get the facts. He will reach out to Ann Lawson, the Recreation Secretary.

Ordinances and Legislation

Codification – General Code is preparing a manuscript, and Attorney Poller is cleaning up some smaller issue. Attorney Poller will contact Angela Musella, NWRHC, regarding the health provisions.

Limousine and other permitted home occupations discussion – Attorney Poller asked for some suggestions from Council for the next meeting. An ordinance can be drafted in such a way that it does not define what is going on in the home, or the number of people that come to the home. Any activity that is done in a home that is not permitted is a violation. The Township Clerk was asked to get ordinance from surrounding towns.

Municipal & County Budgets: Certifying Compliance with Federal Civil Rights Requirements – All hiring that is done in the Township is in compliance, as well as the Police Department. This will be part of the next meeting Agenda.

The Budget Meeting will be held Saturday, February 10th at 9:15 a.m. Mayor Calamari stated he would like to have each department head at the budget meetings. A conversation followed on discussing capital first.

Resolution No. 18-157

Closed Session – Tax Appeals, COAH

WHEREAS, the public is invited to attend all Meetings (whether denoted public or conference sessions) of the Township Council in accordance with its general practice and the Open Public Meetings Act; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of New Jersey declared that the public has a right to attend all meetings of the public bodies at which any business affecting the public is discussed or acted upon in any way except as set forth in the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12), which provides for the exclusion of the public from the portion of a meeting at which certain enumerated matters are to be discussed; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has determined that, because of the nature of the subject matter to be discussed, the public should not be present at that portion of the meeting of the Township Council at which certain specific matters encompassed by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 are to be discussed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington that, pursuant to the express provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, the public be excluded from the meeting or portion of the meeting (denoted as an "executive" or "closed" session) in which the following matters are to be discussed:

1. Any matter which, by express provision of federal law or State statute or rule of court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from the provision of subsection a. of this section.

2. Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the Government of the United States.

3. Any material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy such as any records, data, reports, recommendation, or other personal material of any educational, training, social service, medical, health, custodial, child protection, rehabilitation, legal defense, welfare, housing, relocation, insurance, and similar program or institution operated by a public body pertaining to any specific individual admitted to or served by such institution or program, including but not limited to information relative to the individual's personal and family circumstances, and any material pertaining to admission, discharge, treatment, progress or condition of any individual, unless the individual concerned (or, in the case of a minor or incompetent, his guardian) shall request in writing that the same be disclosed publicly.

4. Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of the terms and conditions thereof with employees or representatives of employees of the public body.

5. Any matter involving the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of banking rates or investment of public funds, where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed.

6. Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public provided that their disclosure could impair such protection. Any investigations of violations or possible violations of the law-

7. Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation other than in subsection b. (4) herein in which the public body is, or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer. **TAX APPEALS, COAH**

8. Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all the individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting.

9. Any deliberations of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act or omission for which the responding party bears responsibility.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is not possible as yet to fix the time when or the circumstances under which the discussion conducted in Closed Session

can be disclosed to the public. It is anticipated that the subject matter under discussion will be made public when finalized.

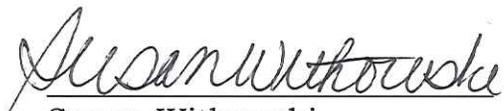
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that notice is hereby given that the Township Council may find it necessary to take action at the conclusion of the executive/closed session; that such action if taken, will occur in open session; that you are invited to stay in the Municipal Building during the executive/closed session; that the doors to the Council chambers will be opened and an announcement will be made if the Township Council will be going into open session; and you may be present during such open session.

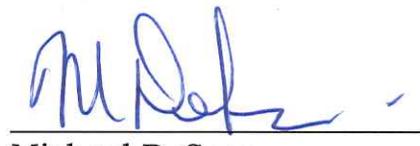
_____The Township Council anticipates that an open session will be necessary.

X The Township Council anticipates that an open session will not be necessary.

MOTION		SECOND		COUNCIL	AYES	NAYES	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Bruno	X	Bruno		Bruno	X			
Cascio		Cascio		Cascio	X			
Cumming		Cumming	X	Cumming	X			
DeSena		DeSena		DeSena	X			
Ullman		Ullman		Ullman	X			

Time Noted: 10:39 p.m.


 Susan Witkowski
 Township Clerk


 Michael DeSena
 Council President

Approved: June 6, 2018