

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON  
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

PUBLIC BUDGET MEETING

March 17, 2018

Saturday

The Township Council held a Budget Meeting in the Municipal Building, 350 Pascack Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m. by Council President Michael DeSena, with the Council President leading a salute to the flag. Members present: Robert Bruno, Steve Cascio, Arthur Cumming, Michael DeSena and Michael Ullman. Also present: Peter Calamari, Mayor; Mary Anne Groh, Township Administrator; Susan Witkowski, Township Clerk.

This Special Meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notices of this meeting were emailed and provided to The Ridgewood News, Pascack Press, The Record and Community Life on March 13, 2018. In addition, copies of said notices were posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Complex and filed in the office of the Township Clerk on the aforementioned date.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

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

Nays: None.

Seeing none, 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.

DISCUSSION

2018 Budget Review

Councilman Cumming stated he would like to be a part of the energy audit. A discussion followed on winterizing the fields every season, such as water shut off as well as power, and breakdowns of electric/water bills. A request was made for a breakdown of bills. The Superintendent of Westwood High School would

like to do a presentation regarding running a fiber line and will be contacting the town for a meeting date. Councilman DeSena requested that Mr. Poller review the agreements with surrounding towns to see if the Township has any leverage to install new meters (water flow) so the actual numbers can be ascertained. A conversation followed on the State pension plan, the various components and DCRP/PERS. Recycle Tonnage Grant and Clean Communities Program were discussed, which need to be used at 100% and reported to the State how the monies are used. Recycling containers at various fields was discussed, as well as getting a container from Buldo at DMF for them to pick up. Salary increases were discussed, which are large this year to bring the salary up to the national level. A conversation followed on "catching up" on salaries, losing valuable employees due to salary, and the yearly 1.5% annual increase. Surplus was discussed, taking monies out of surplus, which will go against what was taxed, and the reduction of surplus. A discussion followed on matching the Ambulance Corp 50/50 with their fundraising, and the trailer, which they are to apply for grant money. BANS (sheet 33) were discussed, as well a long-term bond. Accelerating bond payments was discussed. Councilman Bruno requested a need schedule from Ms. Morrone.

At 11:10 a.m. a five-minute break taken.

Council will revisit what was originally approved for the original grant receivable. A conversation followed on the viability of the recent tax appeal, which is sound as per Mr. Damiano, former Tax Assessor. A conversation followed on reserve for uncollected taxes, sheet 22 and sheet 25. General ledger entries and budget entries were discussed. It was requested that Ms. Morrone explain line 14, actual collection, and completing sheet 25 for future review. Ms. Morrone will be asked to provide the surplus revenues, the debt schedule and the uncollected taxes breakdown. Mayor Calamari will provide the engineering breakdown.

The next budget meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 19, 2018 after Conference Session.

PAGE #	LINE ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	INC	DEC	AMOUNT	FLAGGED
41	8-01-26-315-010	POLICE VEH. PTS. INSIDE REPAIRS	500.00		4500.00	
58	8-01-43-490-320	MUN. CT. OUTSIDE CONTRACTORS			500.00	X
59	8-01-44-902-200	CAP IMPROVEMENT FUND			300,000.00	X
59	8-01-46-870-100	DEFERRED CHARGES-UNFUNDED			151,548.53	X
60	8-01-50-899-000	RES. FOR UNCOLLECTED TAXES			879,983.58	X

Resolution No. 18-172  
Closed Session, March 17, 2018

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 of 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 .

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.

**PERSONNEL/SECURITY**

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.

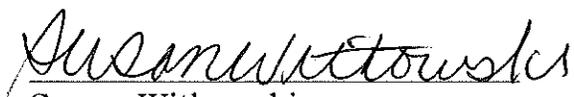
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is not possible as yet to fix the time when or the circumstances under which the discussion conducted in Closed Session can be disclosed to the public. It is anticipated that the subject matter under discussion will be made public when finalized.

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.

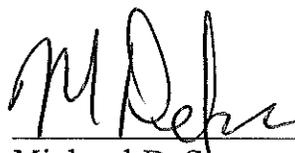
       The Township Council anticipates that an open session will be necessary.  
  X   The Township Council anticipates that an open session will not be necessary.

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

Time noted: 11:38 a.m.



Susan Witkowski  
Township Clerk



Michael DeSena  
Council President

Approved: April 16, 2018

