

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

March 19, 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 7:31 p.m. by reading the following statement.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

The regularly scheduled Public Meeting of March 19, 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 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 Councilmen Robert Bruno, Steve Cascio, Arthur Cumming, Michael Ullman and Council President Michael DeSena. Also present: Peter Calamari, Mayor; Ken Poller, Township Attorney; Mary Anne Groh, Township Administrator; and Susan Witkowski, Township Clerk.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(Councilmen Cumming and DeSena to abstain from the 2017 minutes)

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

November 27, 2017 Public Meeting Minutes
November 27, 2017 Conference Meeting Minutes

Councilman Bruno asked if Lukoil came before the Township regarding the selling of diesel fuel. Attorney Poller stated there is nothing preventing them from selling diesel, the ordinance permits filling stations, however they are prohibited from having signs and if they want a sign they have to go to the Planning Board for approval. A conversation followed on the diesel sign that is reflected in the pricing (DSL). Attorney Poller stated that sign should come down. Mayor Calamari stated he will reach out to Gary Mazanec.

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

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

February 26, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes – Budget
March 3, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes – Budget

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

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.

Mary Ann Ozment, 960 Adams Place – Mrs. Ozment spoke of the lag time it took to fix the clock tower. She spoke of the cracks on her street, and the crack seal program asking who filled in the cracks? She also spoke of the water main breaks on her street, and Council receive a report on why there are so many cracks on a street that recently been paved. She stated Ridgewood Boulevard East also had the crack seal program done years ago, and it didn't work. Councilman Bruno stated that is also occurring on his street. Council President DeSena stated if the entire road was not milled, the cracks will reflect from the old road to the new road, we will have to have Mr. Statile confirm that is the problem. Administrator Groh stated she will reach out to Mr. Statile. Council President DeSena stated in lieu of the new paving program, this needs to be reviewed in more detail, because the savings of not milling the center of the streets will happen over and over, the cracks will just reflect from the old crack to the new crack.

Cindy Cannon, 804 Manhattan Avenue – Ms. Cannon commended the Police Department and the DMF on the wonderful job they did when a tree, along with wires, went down on Manhattan Avenue. She stated barricades were put up, but they did not have reflective tape. A conversation followed in the ordering of a chipper for the tree debris and personnel training to operate the chipper. At this time, the tree debris will continue to be picked up as it always has been.

Toni Plantamura, 808 Robinwood Road – Ms. Plantamura asked why a sign on the fencing at Memorial Field facing Pascack Road, "Field Closed." Mayor Calamari stated he does not know, he will consult with the DMF tomorrow, and let Ms. Plantamura know. Ms. Plantamura spoke of her concern of fixing up the intersection of Pascack Road and Washington Avenue, she feels that would be inviting additional traffic to use that area. She stated in her opinion, an exit more northerly on the Parkway should be addressed, to coincide with the fixing up of the intersection, which would encourage drivers to use that exit and not the improved intersection. She also spoke of the area being built up and additional traffic coming to the area.

Fred Goetz, 587 Washington Avenue – Mr. Goetz asked if there is an update on the paving of Washington Avenue from the County, in particular the curbing. Administrator Groh stated Mr. Azzolina is working with the County, and she will follow-up with him. Mr. Goetz asked when the next street sweeping is scheduled for. Mayor Calamari stated he will coordinate this with the DMF, but he believes it would be sometime in April. Mr. Goetz spoke of his concern, after watching the street sweeper on his street, that the sweeper needs to empty the load more often than not, since the driver was avoiding debris and driving four feet away from the curb. Administrator Groh thanked Mr. Goetz for the information, and suggested he call the Township as it is happening. Mr. Goetz suggested striping of the crosswalks by the shopping center, along Pascack, since students from the high school do cross that area. He stated he noticed Mr. Twomey speaking on behalf of the Recreation Department at the budget meeting, and he understands that his position along with other positions were not passed with

the consent and approval of Council and is wondering why Mr. Twomey is still here if that is the case. He spoke at length, as an attorney researching the Faulkner Act, and his understanding that there are no such things as holdovers and wonders where the concept comes from. Attorney Poller spoke of Section 43 of the statute, and case law which is specific that Directors are holdovers. A conversation followed on Sharpe James versus Newark, as well as Meyers versus the Township of West Caldwell, which as per Mr. Goetz, at midnight on December 31st those positions end. Attorney Poller stated except for Directors of Departments, which are specifically governed by the statute, Section 43, it is part of the organic law of the Faulkner Act, and there is no obligation to come forth with an alternative. Mr. Goetz stated in the case of Sharpe James versus Newark, the council was dealing with the interest of "corporation attorney" and it was self-evident that Council needed separate counsel to advise them. Attorney Poller stated not in a general sense, only in a sense that there was a suit by the Council against the Mayor, which is a very specific reason. Attorney Poller stated a holdover can sit indefinitely, and that is his giving of statute and case law. He stated if Council requests further opinions, he would be happy to get it for them, but Council asked for his opinion. Mr. Goetz stated that presents the appearance of impropriety, the Council should be allowed to select an attorney separate when it involves the position of the attorney. He believes it would behoove both Mr. Poller and Council to seek an alternate opinion when it involves anything having to do with employment of independent contractor of that position.

Diane Grimaldi, 441 Van Emburgh Avenue – Ms. Grimaldi asked when are the ordinances going to be codified in the General Code book, the new laws start with 2014. Attorney Poller stated he spoke to General Code and hopefully within the new few months a manuscript will go out. The edits were submitted, part of the codification process is to get rid of old stuff, that no longer law anymore or where the law has changed. He stated he has reached out to our Health Officer from Northwest, and that is one section that is still being worked on. This is a codification of the entire code. Mrs. Witkowski, the Township Clerk, stated she has spoken to General Code, once the codification process, as a whole is being codified, everything up to that point will be codified. Moving forward she has requested, twice or three times a year, they get put into the main code book. Councilman Bruno asked are we waiting for any departments. Attorney Poller stated he did reach out to Angela Musella (Health Officer) from Northwest for certain provisions, he also reached out to Paul Azzolina regarding planning and zoning, but nothing is being held up.

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

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

Nays: None.

Councilman Ullman asked for the administration to reach out to the Turnpike Authority to see if they have had a change on an exit north of Exit 168. Council President DeSena stated the Turnpike Authority will not proceed until Woodcliff Lake passes a referendum by the voters to open up the right-hand turn. Councilman Ullman stated he is speaking of additional exits. Council President DeSena replied it is not in the ten-year plan, at this time all of the intersections have already been widened. Councilman Ullman asked if striping of the crosswalk at Meisten can be considered, along with installing durablend in that area. Council President DeSena asked that be included in the negotiations with the County. Mayor Calamari stated at the next Mayor's meeting, he will request all towns send something to the Turnpike Authority regarding opening up another exit. Council President DeSena stated the ordinance is very well crafted that shut down the right-hand turn, and to get that turn open again, it would have to be by a referendum passed by the voters. The area by the toll bridge,

exit 168, is a designated contractor's staging area for the Route 17 project, which is six months away from completion.

ORDINANCES:

Adoption, 2nd Reading: None.

Introduction 1st Reading

Ordinance No. 18-02

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FEES FOR SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND RELATED SERVICES

A motion was made by Councilman Ullman, seconded by Councilman Cumming, to introduce and pass Ordinance No. 18-02 at first reading by title.

Councilman Bruno stated his answer is no. He stated the Summer Recreation ordinance was put together with some new fees, but he is not sure what the rest of the fees are for the rest of the programs. He stated his feeling is the recreation program fees should be part of all of the fees, so we can understand once and for all what monies are taken in, what is spent and what the fees are.

Ayes: Councilmen Cascio, Ullman,
Council President DeSena.

Nays: Councilman Bruno, Cumming.

The following resolution, Resolution No. 18-180 was presented and adopted on a motion by Councilman Ullman, seconded by Councilman Cascio.

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

Nays: Councilman Bruno.

Resolution No. 18-180

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 18-02 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FEES FOR SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND RELATED SERVICES was introduced and passed at first reading at a meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Washington on the 19th day of March, 2018; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that further consideration for final passage and public hearing of said ordinance shall be held on the 2nd day of April, 2018, at 7:30pm, prevailing time, or as soon thereafter as said matter can be reached in the Municipal Complex, 350 Hudson Avenue, Township of Washington at which time and place all persons who may be interested will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the office of the Township Clerk is authorized to advertise in The Bergen Record a newspaper circulated in this Township, the introduction and notice of further consideration for final passage and public hearing of this ordinance as required by law.

Ordinance No. 18-02

An Ordinance Amending Fees for Summer Recreation Program Activities and Related Services

BE AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Washington that Section 5-92(B) of Article XVI of the Code of the Township of Washington ["Department of Recreation"] be and is hereby amended by revising the fee schedule applicable to the summer recreation program as follows:

<u>PROGRAM</u>	Fee for First Family Participant	Fee for Each Additional Family Participant
Summer recreation program (8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.) (6-week program)	\$300	\$290
Summer recreation before and after care programs:		
Full before and after care (7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.)	\$480	\$470
Full before care (7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.)	\$150	\$140
Full after care (2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.)	\$360	\$350
Fee for late pickup (paid at end of week)	\$35 per hour for each participant	
Out-of-Town Registration		
(Includes any participants who are not residents of either Washington Township or Westwood)		
Summer recreation program (8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.)	\$375	\$365
Summer recreation before and after care programs:		
Full before and after care (7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.)	\$555	\$545
Full before care (7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.)	\$225	\$215
Full after care (2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.)	\$435	\$425
Fee for late pickup (paid at end of week)	\$35 per hour for each participant	

Prorated refunds will be issued only during the first two weeks of the program. After the first two weeks of a program, registration fees are nonrefundable.

2. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

3. All Ordinances or any provisions of any ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed as to such inconsistencies and not otherwise.

4. This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication and in accordance with the Charter, and subject to such emergency resolution as may be adopted pursuant to Section 17-32 thereof. [R.S. 40:69A-181 (b)].

INDIVIDUAL RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 18-173

Emergency Temporary Appropriation – PERS/PFRS

A motion was made by Councilman Ullman, seconded by Councilman Cascio to pass Resolution No. 18-173.

Councilman Ullman asked if this was in addition to the temporary budget. Administrator Groh replied no it was not, it would consume the temporary budget, which is limited to 26.25%. They are due by the end of the month. Administrator Groh explained the unforeseen expense in connection with the IT support in the Police Department. The company (DART) who has serviced the Police Department will continue serving the Police, and they insisted on a contract to be in place. The Police Department has its own server, and the Chief was concerned if the other company pulled out since there are special needs in having a Police network as opposed to a general network. This contract is for half a year and is prorated. The IT company that is doing the upgrade of the Township computers is capable of also handling the Police Department, and that will be looked into. A conversation followed on the position the Township was put in regarding this six-month contract. Administrator Groh stated there was no contract, and she did ask the vendor (DART) for a proposal in connection with Town Hall, and he indicated he didn't do contracts. She will confer with Mr. Poller regarding breaking the contract due to the circumstances it was entered into. The resolution will be changed to reflect Library Pension \$31,307.63 and PERS/PFRS \$129,583.56. Council President DeSena requested a list of contracts and when those contracts are expiring.

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

Nays: None.

Resolution No. 18-173

Emergency Temporary Appropriation – PERS/PFRS

WHEREAS, an emergent condition has arisen with respect to appropriations and no adequate provision has been made in the 2018 Temporary Budget for the aforesaid purpose, and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 provides for the creation of emergency temporary appropriations for said purpose; and

WHEREAS, the total temporary budget resolution adopted in the year 2018 and emergency appropriations, including this resolution total \$3,720,817.39; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey (not less than two-thirds of all members affirmatively concurring) that, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20, the following emergency temporary appropriations be made and that said emergency temporary appropriations be added to the Temporary Budget adopted on January 2, 2018 and by prior emergency appropriation as follows:

POLICE-OTHER EXPENSES	\$2,000.00
PERS – PENSION LIABILITY	\$160,891.19
PFRS – PENSION LIABILITY	\$672,371.00
TOTAL:	\$835,262.19

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

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 Cascio, seconded by Councilman Ullman, to the Consent Agenda.

In discussing Resolution No. 18-178, the parking spaces will be both at Gardner and Clark Fields, on the gravel. It will be a total of 3 spots, with a van access space being the middle spot. The application was approved at the end of last year, former CDBG projects came under budget. Mr. Azzolina has been consulted, and the project is scheduled for after the summer, and it is non-matching grant.

Ayes: Councilman Bruno, Cascio, Cumming, Ullman and Council President DeSena.

Nays: None.

Resolution No. 18-174

Authorize refund of construction permit fees, B2502.01/Lot 17.02 a.k.a. 2 Rose Court

WHEREAS, STAGGER LEE, LLC paid for a New Home Building Permit No. 17-144 on April 13, 2017 on premises known as Block 2502.01, Lot 17.02, 2 Rose Court; Permit No. 17-144 and In turn, sold the property to Ms. Vimi Mehta on May 16, 2017; and

WHEREAS, according to the attached Construction Permit copies from the Building Department, this created a refund to Ms. Mehta in the amount of \$2,797.60. This reflects the original payment of \$3,613.00 minus the DCA Training Fee of \$116.00, less a 20% fee to the Building Department for Plan Review:

\$3,613.00	
<u>-116.00</u>	(DCA Fee)
\$3,497.00	
<u>-699.40</u>	(20% Plan Review Fee)
<u>\$2,797.60</u>	

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the payment in the amount of \$2,797.60. Additionally a New Home Building Permit will be issued in the amount \$6,948.00 for the premises at 4 Rose Court.

Resolution No. 18-175

Authorize refund of overpayment of taxes, B1101/Lot 5 a.k.a. 77 Gorga Place

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, in this case for the assessment year of 2016 and subsequent year 2017 under the “freeze act stipulation”, 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	\$ 2,790.07 (2017)

Resolution No. 18-176

Authorize refund of engineering escrow monies for B4407/L3, a.k.a. 307 Colonial Boulevard

WHEREAS, Axel & Elizabeth Walter posted Planning Board and Engineering escrow monies for work on premises known as Block 4407 Lot 3, 307 Colonial Blvd., and

WHEREAS, the Construction Code Official has issued approval, C.A. 16-339+B, dated 8/15/2017; and

WHEREAS, outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated 6/8/2017 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 the above in the amount of \$1,413.21.

Resolution No. 18-177

Authorize refund of engineering monies for B4102/L5, a.k.a. Koch Peak Drive

WHEREAS, Nicholas & Cristina Donato posted engineering escrow monies for work on premises known as Block 4102 Lot 5, 769 Koch Peak Drive; and

WHEREAS, the Construction Code Official has issued approval, C.A. 14-369.2, dated 2/6/2018; and

WHEREAS, outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated March 6, 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 the above in the amount of \$461.00.

Resolution No. 18-178

Authorize the Mayor to execute grant agreement for ADA parking at Clark and Gardner Fields

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 17-369, the Council of the Township of Washington authorized the submission of a grant application for ADA compliant parking and access at Clark and Gardner Fields and said application was granted for the construction of ADA compliant parking spaces in the amount of \$51,750.00 subject to the execution of a grant agreement with the County of Bergen; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Washington wishes to enter into a grant agreement with the County of Bergen for the purpose of using \$51,750.00 in FY 2017–2018 Community Development Block Grant funds for the construction of ADA compliant parking spaces at Clark and Gardner Fields in the Township of Washington, County of Bergen, and State of New Jersey;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council hereby authorizes Mayor Peter Calamari to execute the aforesaid grant agreement on behalf of the Township;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council hereby authorizes the Business Administrator Mary Anne Groh to sign all County vouchers submitted in connection with the aforesaid project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council recognizes that the Township of Washington is liable for any funds not spent in accordance with the Grant Agreement; and that liability of the Township is in accordance with HUD requirements.

Resolution No. 18-179

Authorize refund of overpayment of taxes, B2502.01/L17, a.k.a. 191 Linwood Avenue

WHEREAS, overpayments for the 1st & 2nd Quarter 2017 property taxes were received by Lereta, on behalf of Homebridge Financial, for Block 2502.01, Lot 17, 191 Linwood Avenue, Stagger Lee LLC, 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 in the amount of \$6172.00 to:

Homebridge Financial
112 Town Park Drive # 300
Kennesaw, GA 30144
Attn. Lisa Slaten

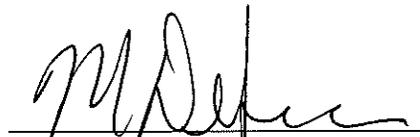
A motion was made by Councilman Cascio, seconded by Councilman Bruno to adjourn to Conference Agenda.

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

Nays: None.

Time Noted: 8:22 p.m.


Susan Witkowski
Township Clerk


Michael DeSena
Council President

Approved: July 16, 2018

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

March 19, 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 – Administrator Groh stated the Township is able to move with one quote; but have to detail efforts in getting multiple quotes for the doors at Town Hall. There are 3 doors to the Police Department those being the two main doors (main entrance) basement, and ground level side-entrance. Choices of doors were given to the Police Chief, and he did choose one. The main doors of the complex are a separate estimate. LKL Contracting is in the process of being set up as a vendor.

Quest – The suit was sent last week, awaiting word.

Intersection – Councilman Ullman questioned if a survey was completed yet? All documents were to have been sent to the County this past Friday. Mayor Calamari will reach out to Mr. Azzolina to make sure that was done.

Council

Memorial Field Update

Councilman Cumming stated he spent the afternoon with Mr. Lawlor and Daryll from the DMF out at Memorial Field. Soil samples were taken at nine locations, and a quote was also received from Dan at Perennial Lawn Care, which is a pretty full program based on trying to get a lot done in a such a short period of time. He also spoke to Paul Imbaratto, Let It Grow, who has donated services to Clarke Field in the past. He indicated that ten years ago the Township bid out care of the field to a company, he will look for those specs. Councilman Cumming stated movement of athletics programs to give the grass a chance to grow is not in his hands, but he has had tremendous cooperation from the DMF and the administration. The soil samples are on their way to Rutgers, after those are received quotes for treatment can be gathered.

Council President DeSena stated at the last meeting, members of the public wanted to discuss Memorial Field, and the Memorial Field. He would like them to come up and address.

A motion was made by Councilman Cascio, seconded by Councilman Bruno to suspend the rules and open a public discussion of Memorial Field.

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

Nays: None.

Mary Ann Ozment, 960 Adams Place – Mrs. Ozment stated she joined the committee on May 23rd, meetings had started in April, and there were 11 members plus Mayor Sobkowicz. She stated in the beginning the meetings didn't have any minutes and was very much stacked for artificial turf, until herself, Ms. Plantamura and Ms. Cannon joined. She stated there were not many open minds, questions were asked, no answers and no real discussions. She asked why the Township of Washington and Westwood Football could not be combined, and she was given answers which talked about the league, the size of the Township and weight restrictions. The Township has changed leagues over the course of the years, and this year the Township is in new league in which one of

the members is the head of and his brother is the treasurer/secretary. Westwood has fields we could use and the Mayor of Westwood did offer those fields last year. David Terwilliger asked many questions, and finally after everything was stated, this quote was stated: "There will be no merge of the program for football." Questions were asked, we were told no, it is not going to happen, we have done it before you are wrong and it is very difficult to work like that. The engineer was only present when Mayor Sobkowitz allowed it, and the engineer was needed since there were a lot of questions. There is a lot to do in the future with the other fields. Westwood took their dump and they capped it. They are now beautiful grass fields, which took them years to do. She would ask if this committee is going to continue, that Mr. Azzolina, the engineer who knows the Township better than anyone, be at every meeting, and additional monies may have to be put into the budget because of it. She stated it is important to ask questions, questions were asked of Mr. Statile, he didn't come back for four or five meetings, questions were forgotten and sometimes he didn't have the answers. The Mission Statement was done before she was a member, but it was not adhered to. Interim reports came and went, after a disagreement, it was sent in September with five against votes and five for votes for it, Councilman Bruno is not allowed to vote. A letter was given to the Council, by the Chairman, without a date, requesting an engineering study like MKW be completed, which was in 2011/2012. She would like to see a new engineering study, and it was discussed at the meetings. She stated it seems to her the committee doesn't need to discuss what didn't happen, but the committee needs to discuss what can happen. It took nine months of meetings to request this engineering report. In January/February there were discussions in great detail of grass experts. Mrs. Cannon will talk about this since she worked hours and hours on trying to get together information in reference to grass experts from Rutgers. She joined this committee so the children can have a safe place to play. Many good suggestions were made from the committee, she feels the residents spoke when they turned down the referendum by over 800 votes. The chairman suggested the committee be dismantled, and the Mayor probably does agree, since he made a sub-committee with all new members. Mayor Calamari requested Mrs. Ozment not put words in his mouth. Mrs. Ozment stated a sub-committee is made-up of members of the committee to search specific areas and to report back to the committee, that is what a true sub-committee is and what was done is not a true sub-committee. She would ask that the Council keep this committee or form a new committee.

Toni Plantamura, 808 Robinwood Road – Ms. Plantamura stated she will touch on what occurred at the meetings, so the public watching at home know that there are certain things that happened at the meetings, that she personally finds them questionable. She wasn't placed on the committee until the end of May/beginning of June. Mr. Statile, and Mr. Dugan a few times, in early to mid-2017, both stated they had turf friends who are experts, and they were going to ask them to attend the committee meetings, but that never happened. She stated Dave Terwilliger could not attend this meeting, but she did tell him she would be speaking. At a meeting on June 12th, a representative from the Westwood Regional School District, as well as the Washington Township Recreation Department, met to discuss a field request form from the Township, certain fields that were suggested that the Recreation Department could use. One field was the high school field, which was limited to one night a week. The reason why the high school does not grant permission to football to be played on this field more than once a week, in their own words is "to preserve the safety and integrity of our playing fields, we rest our sod and middle fields in the Spring, and we do not overuse the field. While the Spring growing season replenishes the grass, we need to be flexible with the scheduling. We may be able to schedule one night a week on this grass, those being Thursday or Friday, depending on the high school schedule." Ms. Plantamura stated the fact that the high school has certain guidelines, she does not understand why the Recreation Department doesn't have certain guidelines to rest Memorial Field, since it is a grass field

and it is a no brainer that the field has to rest. Also, at this meeting, Brookside indicated they were available for use via a memorandum which stated "Brookside is available for use, the only thing that is asked is that safety nets be put up in order to ensure nothing goes out into the street, for safety reasons." Middle School A also offered their fields, two nights each week beginning in April, and they also require the netting for safety reasons. At this June meeting, Mr. Twomey, Recreation Director, was asked if there were any fields available, and he stated no. She feels this representative of the Township of Washington did not tell the truth at this meeting, since as per these memos, there are fields available. The memo also states "The Westwood School District is in favor of supporting the recreation programs, and do all they can to accomplish this, such as giving permits for the Dragon Youth Soccer." She stated overuse of the field will destroy the fields, no matter how much is spent on Memorial Fields, including putting a band aid on the sod at tax-payers expense, without a long-term plan. Also, during the committee meetings, Madam Mayor was asked for an actual cost of the breakdown of Memorial Field, and after a year of asking, it still was not provided. A statement was made that the committee never received the figures and Madam Mayor alluded to the fact that the figures were "padded." The figures may have been "padded" to make it look as if Memorial Field was maintained. She stated she believes the field has been neglected and not properly maintained. Madam Mayor also alluded to the fact that the pad-lock on the sprinkler system was tampered with to water the fields. She stated that there was something wrong since she has never observed the sprinkler system operating on the field, and there is always a dust bowl. Members of the Memorial Field Committee and herself, really questioned the agenda, alternatives are supposed to be addressed, since the voters did vote down the referendum on artificial turf. It was also stated that the lacrosse players could not play on the field, since they needed lights, and needed to practice later in the day. She stated currently they are renting The Arena in Paramus, and practices are being held prior to 5:30. She stated she doesn't understand that since they indicated they needed a late time for practices. The hiring of a turf expert was asked, never done. It is her understanding that Mr. Dugan, Chairperson, that his appointment was not voted on, he just offered to be the Chairperson. She stated we are always trying to get alternatives, have information brought in, but it never happened. She stated in Mr. Dugan's interim reports, words would be changed and he would give his opinion to Council. She feels an ethical chairperson is not supposed to submit their opinions in a report. She spoke at length of the Township being lucky they don't have a Women's League, since it is men first, kids second and women last. She stated if a Women's League is started up again, where will they play? She would like to ask Mr. Calamari, what qualifies the sub-committee as impartial, is he making an inference that the people in the committee, under Mayor Sobkowicz, that were appointed are not impartial? Council President DeSena stated the Mayor and himself did not know that Ms. Plantamura was going to be asking direct questions. She stated she questions the impartiality, because she doesn't understand why we are not impartial when we are trying to get some kind of new direction to Memorial Field and felt resistance all the way. She doesn't understand what qualifies Mr. Cumming and the DMF personnel, all of a sudden, they are qualified to be experts on this field. She stated she would like to understand why we are not considered as impartial, and a new sub-committee had to be formed. She stated she would like Dave Terwilliger to be considered for the next Recreation Director in light of all of the information and questionable things that has occurred at these meetings by people that represent themselves in the Township, as well as people on the recreation board and coaches in this Township. She stated she would like to see a new director, new coaches, new blood and new people, people that are impartial and do not represent just one side and seem to always think they should get what they want.

Cynthia Cannon, 804 Manhattan Avenue – Ms. Cannon stated she went to her first meeting on July 11th but did miss the next meeting. She did sit back and

listen, since she was new to the committee, and her first question was does the committee have a grass expert. She is a physical therapist by trade and knew nothing about grass. She questioned the committee chairperson via email about hiring an expert, and nothing was done. After the next meeting, she did reach out to the Rutgers Cooperative services, because as she understood, soil testing had not been done in six years, and in order to know how to take care of the grass, you need to understand what is in the earth. She brought back all of the information regarding Rutgers to the next meeting. Mr. Dugan, stated he would ask Oscar, the heads ground keeper of the County course in River Vale, and Mr. Statile was also supposed to be looking into something, two months after the fact. At the September meeting, Mr. Dugan came back and stated the grounds keeper, Oscar, will not come and talk to the committee, but recommended speaking to an agronomist, which is the science of soil management and crop reduction. There was no answer in pursuing this. At the September 20th meeting, she provided literature for soil testing through the cooperative services, which included all different testing. Mr. Twomey indicated the last time soil testing was done was about six years prior. She did ask cooperative services if they had those records, but five years max is all they have. In October she provided from Rutgers information concerning grass seed, compaction of the earth, nutrients, any information from the internet site, again nothing happened. At the October 17th meeting, she provided them information regarding a grass expert program that is offered at Rutgers. The levels are bachelors, associates as well as a six-month program. She offered that information to Mr. Dugan and thought it would be a good idea to see if someone from DMF would be interested in taking the six-month course, and that idea was tabled. She also spoke to turf farms, all the contacts from the cooperative extensions down at Rutgers, as well as Let it Grow, emails back and forth. Rutgers had two fields donated, and in March Tuckahoe Turf Farms put down sod on the fields, and they said from March until August 3, you cannot step on the sod. She asked Mr. Twomey about the sod, and he indicate he didn't want short rolls since there would be seems all over. Tuckahoe Turf charges 55 cents per short roll. The gentleman from turf farm stated the town must have a lot of money, because towns cannot pay for the longer rolls. At the November meetings, they spoke about engineering reports, and redoing the field, and the DMF hours for the report in 2015 being overstated as per Mayor Sobkowicz. Ms. Cannon stated she is in the health field, and does not like turf, but she went into the committee with an open mind, thinking perhaps talking back and forth, another solution could be found to help fix the field, but the committee was butting heads constantly. She stated at the last meeting, the new Mayor stated he was going to have an impartial sub-committee. She is happy that Mr. Cumming is part of the sub-committee since he is a horticulturist, and Mr. Lawlor and the DMF do take care of the fields. She felt Mr. Twomey did not seem to be open minded enough about different places to put the fields, and take people off the fields, and for that reason it was difficult to work with the football coach and Mr. Twomey. She stated her personal opinion putting sod on the field at this point in time, and not preparing the soil doesn't help the field. She did ask Mr. Statile about the drainage, and she was told by Mr. Statile that drainage was not a problem at the field. She also spoke to Mr. Azzolina he stated the step system, that comes down the hill, are probably all clogged up and everything spills out to the field, and across the field, take a dirt onto the field and off it goes. She spoke of setting up the field properly and managed correctly to make sure we are not set up for failure again. She stated the period of time between putting the sod down and allowing them to play on the field needs to be considered, and deep rooting does begin at six weeks. She stated after speaking to Turf Farm, they stop cutting in December, and they do need to have a contract to be ready to go to lay sod, and they cannot guarantee the sod/grass if it is put on solid rock and not prepared.

Ms. Plantamura stated she does have some additional comments. Council President DeSena replied we will stop at this time.

Cash Reserves and Update – Mayor Calamari stated there has been some progress, he has asked Ms. Morrone to please accelerate it. He requested she have it for Saturday, if not sooner for Council to review.

Finance Director – Mayor Calamari stated the first person that he interviewed about a month ago decided he no longer wanted the position. He spoke to someone late last week, who stated she might be interested, and we are supposed to get together Wednesday or Thursday of this week.

Employee Performance Process – A conversation followed on if there is a performance review process in place, and the former Mayor not completing those evaluations for various positions. Councilman Bruno asked if a merit increase based upon performance can be done. Mayor Calamari replied he is learning new things every day, and one thing he has learned is government does not act like a private business in many areas. He will speak to Mr. Poller and hopefully have an answer. Councilman Ullman stated he would like to understand if Council has the ability to provide a merit-based increase that would result in some employees receiving less, receiving more, receiving the average 1.5% increase, or is everyone provided the 1.5% increase without consideration of performance. A conversation followed on tenured positions, and guidance on those positions in terms of merit-based performance increases or what options are there for those protected positions. Attorney Poller replied he will look into this and have an answer in April. Council President DeSena stated himself and Councilman Cascio discussed adding a Director of Senior and Veteran's Affairs in the Township and would like to know if Councilman Cumming would be interested. Councilman Cumming replied he is looking forward to hearing some more. Council President DeSena requested Attorney Poller to look into creating a Director of Senior and Veteran's Affairs for the next meeting.

Ordinances and Legislation

PSE&G 2018 Rate Increases – A sample resolution was in the packet. A resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

CDBG Funding – Clerk Witkowski explained the sample resolution and the funding that is in jeopardy for the Bergen County towns, passing the resolution will be another voice in supporting the CDBG fund. A resolution will be prepared for the next meeting.

Green Team – The current members of the Green Team are Rick Sonntag, Dan Scudieri, Gloria Ann Roberts, Art Cumming and Tom Sears. A "No Idling" Ordinance was included in Council's packets. The Clerk will check to see if such an ordinance was already passed by the former Green Team. Administrator Groh stated she will like additional time to look over the ordinance for Green Purchasing. A conversation followed on the difference of a "Green Team" versus a Beautification Committee. A Green Team is environmentally responsible, gravitates towards recycling and Sustainable Jersey, not really towards beautification. Currently, the Green Team is trying to get energy audits, copies of bills for various building. Councilman Bruno spoke at length of hiring a professional to do some plantings in the Township, such as Town Hall (Pascack Road.) Mayor Calamari stated the Green Team is interested in pursuing both roles, Green Team and Beautification Committee, perhaps with two separate budgets.

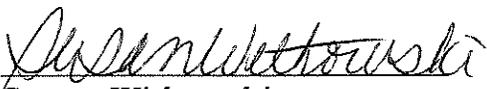
He stated he has had requests from the Girl Scouts and Boys Scouts to be involved in beautification efforts in the Township. Councilman Cumming spoke about creating a design in front of Town Hall (Pascack Road.) He stated today he, along with Mr. Scudieri and Mr. Sears met with Brian McDonald of the New Jersey Forestry Service. During their visit, which lasted for about two hours, they visited Gardner Field, Sherry Field, Memorial Field and Lincoln, talking about tree preservation, tree maintenance and safer trees/forest. Grant papers

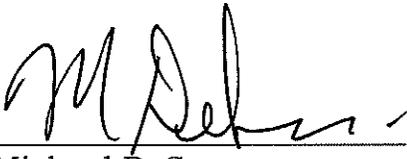
were provided to be filled out, which would be a \$3,000 non-matching grant, with perhaps labor being donated. Councilman Cumming stated he did provide an info packet to Mayor Calamari. Councilman Ullman asked if any dangerous or potentially dangerous situations were identified with the trees. Councilman Cumming replied, yes, some were identified today, and tomorrow, he will along with Mr. Sears and Mr. Lawlor will get more soil sampling. He stated there was also a discussion for funding to plant rows barrier trees up by Gardner, and there is also a lot of clean-up to be done. He stated the area behind the shopping center by the library is on the agenda for clean-up on April 28th. Council President DeSena stated a Tree Ordinance was included in Council's packets, many residents are under the impression that Township trees are in the right of way. He requested Attorney Poller to render some legal advice to advise the residents correctly.

Financials

2018 Budget Discussion followed Conference Meeting.

Time noted: 9:20 p.m.


Susan Witkowski
Township Clerk


Michael DeSena
Council President

Approved: July 16, 2018