

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

PUBLIC BUDGET MEETING

March 28, 2017
Tuesday

The Township Council held a Budget Meeting in the Municipal Building, 350 Pascack Road. The meeting was called to order at 6:53 p.m. by Council President Robert Bruno, with the Council President leading a salute to the flag. Members present: Peter Calamari, Steve Cascio, Tom Sears, Michael Ullman and Robert Bruno. Also present: Janet Sobkowicz, Mayor; Mary Anne Groh, Business Administrator; and 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 24, 2017. 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.

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

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

Seeing none, a motion was made by Councilman Cascio, seconded by Councilman Sears to close the general public discussion.

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

INDIVIDUAL RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 17-173

Motion to Consent Chief Financial Officer/Tax Collector

A motion was made by Councilman Sears, seconded by Councilman Calamari to approve Resolution No. 17-173.

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

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, County of Bergen, New Jersey that the Mayor, having advanced for

appointment as the Chief Financial Officer/Tax Collector/Treasurer and the Township Council having consented thereto, Ashley Morrone is hereby appointed Chief Financial Officer/Tax Collector/*Treasurer* of the Township of Washington for a four (4) year term expiring December 31, 2020, effective April 1, 2017.

After a discussion, it was agreed upon that Resolution No. 17-173 be rescinded due to the language of Treasurer being in the body of the resolution.

A motion was made by Councilman Sears, seconded by Councilman Cascio to rescind Resolution No. 17-173.

Ayes: Councilman Calamari, Cascio, Sears, Ullman, Bruno.

Nays: None.

Resolution No. 17-175

Motion to Consent Chief Financial Officer/Tax Collector

A motion was made by Councilman Calamari, seconded by Councilman Cascio to approve Resolution No. 17-175.

Ayes: Councilman Calamari, Cascio, Sears, Ullman, Bruno.

Nays: None.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, County of Bergen, New Jersey that the Mayor, having advanced for appointment as the Chief Financial Officer/Tax Collector and the Township Council having consented thereto, Ashley Morrone is hereby appointed Chief Financial Officer/Tax Collector of the Township of Washington for a four (4) year term expiring December 31, 2020, effective April 1, 2017.

DISCUSSION

2017 Budget Review

A conversation followed on the keeping the position of treasurer in the budget, and the function of the treasurer and if the Township needs a treasurer as per the Charter. Councilman Cascio read from E-Code/Charter what the function and responsibilities are of the treasurer. Administrator Groh stated the draft she completed was based on the original agreement with Ms. Morrone. Ms. Morrone insisted in Treasury and Finance, and this is the expectation, that she would do the Treasurer as well. A discussion followed on the Letter of Agreement with Ms. Morrone, which stated she was Tax Collector, Assistant in the Treasurer/Finance Office and the expectation of the close of the letter states if during the trial period things work out, we would expect that CFO/Treasurer/Tax Collector, the money contemplates three titles. Councilman Cascio read the statute as per signatures which are required.

The position of CFO is a tenured position. A conversation followed on keeping the Treasurer line item. Administrator Groh was asked to provide a use analysis on the DMF Building based on conceptual drawings and approval of use. Councilman Ullman requested that the Chief of Police be asked what the front line officers need, guns, body armor, etc.

Page 10	7-01-20-130-100 Fin S&W Treasurer Amount Approved \$100.00 All Ayes; Councilman Ullman no.	\$+100.00
Page 11	7-01-20-130-130 Fin S&W Chief Fin Officer Amount Approved \$ 30,000.00	\$ +5,000.00
Page 11	7-01-20-130-140 Fin S&W Director Amount Approved \$625.00	\$-625.00
Page 11	7-01-20-130-160 Deputy Treasurer Amount Approved \$44,200.00	\$4,250.00
Page 13	7-01-20-132-200 Financial Service Fees Amount Approved \$15,000.00	\$-10,000.00
Page 13	7-01-20-145-110 Fin S&W Tax Collector Amount Approved \$5,250.00	\$ -7,750.00
Page 15	7-01-20-145-370 Fin Tax Coll O/E Training Amount Approved \$2,200.00	\$ +200.00
Page 15	7-01-20-145-460 Fin Tax Coll O/E Bill Amount Approved \$4,000.00	\$ +1,000.00
Page 16	7-01-20-150-210 Fin O/E Tax Ass Off Sup Amount Approved \$200.00	\$ +100.00

Line item 7-01-20-155-260 was discussed.

A motion was made by Councilman Ullman, seconded by Council President Bruno to separate the line items as follows with retainers and contracts to follow:

Court Master	\$25,000.00	
T&M Associates	\$25,000.00	
Ken Poller, Esq.	\$25,000.00	
Outside Tax Appraisers	\$15,000.00	7-01-20-160-210
Ken Poller, Esq. Tax Appraisers	\$ 5,000.00	7-01-20-160-200

Ken Poller Esq. Codification \$ 5,000.00 7-01-20-156-600

Ayes: Councilman Cascio, Sears, Ullman, Bruno.
Nays: Councilman Calamari.

Page 20	7-01-20-165-202 Dept of Eng Stormwater Amount Approved \$5,000.00	\$ +2,000.00
Page 21	7-01-20-406-320 Pub Affairs/Info Web Master Amount Approved \$6,000.00	\$ +500.00
Page 21	7-01-20-406-470 Pub Affairs Info O/E Printing Amount Approved \$2,100.00	\$ -2,100.00
Page 21	7-01-20-406-510 Pub Affairs & Infor O/E Cal Amount Approved \$800.00	\$ -4,000.00
Page 21	7-01-20-406-520 Public Affairs Videographer Amount Approved \$9,999.00	\$+2,799.00
Page 23	7-01-21-180-260 Pl Board O/E Prof Ser Legal Amount Approved \$30,000.00	\$+8,000.00
Page 23	7-01-21-180-320 Pl Board O/E Con & Non Legal Amount Approved \$6,000.00	\$-3,000.00
Page 23	7-01-21-180-370 Pl Board O/E Training Exp Zero Out	\$ -200.00
Page 28	7-01-22-195-300 St Un Constr O/E off furn Amount Approved \$885.60	\$ +130.59
Page 33	7-01-25-240-310 Police O/E legal Ad Amount Approved \$800.00	\$+300.00
Page 41	7-01-25-265-490 Fire O/E equip purch Amount Approved \$5,500.00	\$-2,000.00
Page 41	7-01-25-265-560 Fire Insp & Chf Amount Approved \$3,000.00	\$-2,000.00
Page 43	7-01-25-272-000 LOSAP Amount Approved \$92,000.00	

Page 46	7-01-26-290-220 DMF O/E Postage Amount Approved \$1,300.00	\$ +100.00
Page 52	7-01-26-315-003 DMF O/E Tire Exp. Amount Approved \$10,000.00	\$-2,000.00
Page 55	7-01-27-330-320 Contract with NWBRHC (Health) Amount of Contract: \$34,522.69	
Page 56	7-01-27-330-820 Health O/E comp sup Amount Approved \$610.00	\$ +10.00
Page 61	7-01-28-370-785 Break out the Line item \$1,300.00 Fees/ \$8,700.00 Refs	
Page 73	7-01-36-471-001 DCRP Pension Amount requested: \$6,721.96	\$ +1,321.26
Page 87	7-01-43-490-260 Mun Ct O/E Inter Amount Approved \$1, 080.00	\$+ 1,080.00

RESOLUTION No. 17-174

Closed Session, March 28, 2017

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 – **Property Aquisition**

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 by 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 FUTHER RESOVED, 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			
Calamari	X	Calamari		Calamari	X			
Cascio		Cascio		Cascio	X			
Sears		Sears		Sears	X			
Ullman		Ullman	X	Ullman	X			

Time: 9:55 p.m.

A motion was made by Council President Bruno, seconded by Councilman Calamari to go into Closed Session.

Ayes: Councilmen Calamari, Cascio, Sears, Ullman, Bruno.

Nays: None.



Susan Witkowski
Township Clerk



Robert Bruno
Council President

Approved: June 26, 2017

