

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

PUBLIC PORTION/PUBLIC SESSION

December 7, 2015

The Township Council held a Public Portion/Public Session in the Municipal Building, 350 Pascack Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:39 p.m. by Council President Peter Calamari with the Clerk leading a salute to the flag. Members present: Steve Cascio, Dave Frank, Thomas Sears and Peter Calamari. Also present: Janet Sobkowicz, Mayor; Ken Poller, Attorney. Glenn Beckmeyer arrived at 8:23 p.m.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act this meeting was listed in the Township Council Annual Meeting List which was published in The Bergen Record, forwarded to the local newspapers, posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

The Clerk read the total of various bills paid, a copy of which is attached and made part of these minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Frank seconded by Dr. Cascio, to approve the November 23, 2015 Public & Conference Minutes.

Ayes: Councilmen Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Absent: Councilman Beckmeyer.

Nays: None.

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Sobkowicz stated that the Veteran's Day Ceremony held on November 11th, which is done by the VFW Post 6192, was one of the highest turn outs we have had in the past few years, about 55 to 60 residents showed up. She was happy so many people turned out to pay tribute to the men and women who fought to preserve our freedom. The Police Department was very proactive in issuing a list of holiday safety tips for traveling, shopping, avoiding burglaries, which was posted in the paper. There are copies if anyone didn't see it in the paper and it is something to have handy around this season. She would like to congratulate five residents who graduated from the Bergen County CERT Class 15-02. It is a ten week curriculum, which includes disaster preparedness, fire suppression, medical operations, research, incident command, terrorism and so forth. The five residents are Emily Krauzer, John Murphy, Brendan O'Sullivan, Lenny Sabino, and Carla Williams. Corporal Rio Fasciano is the officer who is in charge of CERT. She stated since we have the generator that operates the complex, if we need to have shelter we have people who are certified, so people would not have to go to the County. The Fire Department are selling trees, wreaths, grave blankets and so forth so please support them because when we need them they are there for us. The Police Department for the month of November had 666 calls to service, ambulance had 44 calls and the Fire Department had 14 calls. The Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held on Friday, December 11th at 6:00 p.m. That same day the library is sponsoring Whoville from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. It will include special effects, interactive games, snacks and grinchy crafts. The tree lighting will take place afterwards on Finnerty Place and as always the Ambulance Corps, Scouts and singers will be there to ring in the Holiday Season. Last night first Hannukah candle and one candle will be lit every night until the 14th of December. The Planning Board had one case this month and that was the renovation and demolition of a home on Cosman Street. The only problem which arose is that Cosman Street was just paved and they want to break the road in order for a gas line. They are trying to put it behind the road, if not they

have agreed to repave the whole road at our insistence. Vic Fadini, our JIF Consultant, held his monthly meeting on November 15th and as usual reviewed with members changes in the workplace. Shop Small Businesses is a national event sponsored by American Express in conjunction with local chambers and centers to encourage people to shop locally to support our businesses and restaurants. She urges everyone to support our local vendors. Foodtown has recently opened and she hopes that everyone has had a chance to go there. One of the men in the Produce Department told her that the Foodtown has really revitalized things and people are coming in. We have hired a firm The Claim Inventory, which will update our asset inventory system. This firm is used by many of our surrounding towns, such as Emerson, Park Ridge, Hillsdale and so on. This firm will conduct an on-site physical inventory and they specialize in Capital Fixed Assets. With regard to the Curbside Recycling Program, she hopes that December will be a catch up month so we can come closer to last year's total tons recycled. She stated this November we recycled 109 tons which is 19 tons more than November of 2014, she thanks everyone for that. Starting this past October 1 we had a 4.2% increase in a monthly pick-up, hopefully in December we can recycle more. Woodfield Road paving is finally complete, the barriers are down and the port-o-john has been removed. We paved Standish Road with Ridgewood and that also is complete. She stated herself and Mr. Cavallo may be asking the council to adopt a Temporary Capital Budget for the 2016 road program so we can adopt an ordinance in February or March. The consortium we belonged to last year delayed the bidding, they are finishing up their paving now and we finished ours in September so that is something we will be discussing. The two new police cars that were allocated in the 2015 budget have been delivered and are currently being outfitted with the necessary equipment. Once that is complete, one vehicle will be transferred and the two old Crown Victoria cars will be auctioned off. The Road Department yard will be closed tomorrow, Tuesday, so we can have everyone go out to clean up the leaves to make sure we get to some of the piles which are pretty high. Zone 1 completed the first pass on November 6th, Zone 2 on November 18th and Zone 3 on November 30th. They are now in the second pass in Zone 1, should be completed with that tomorrow. She thanks the Road Department for being so proactive, they have been very good about getting everything picked up as much as they can. The garbage trucks and loaders have all their necessary services done. We used 3 tons of black top to fill pot holes on Fern Street, Lincoln, Palm, Mountain Avenue and so on. With regard to the petition for Exit 171, up to yesterday we had more than 1747 electronic petitions, plus 100 something that were received by regular mail. She stated she is very happy about this. The council meeting will be changed to December 22nd so we can attend the meeting at Woodcliff Lake which is on December 21st. She stated she has interviewed seven candidates for the administrator's position, also Council President Calamari has interviewed several of them along with me. We have several more scheduled. We do have some very qualified candidates, but we still have Mr. Cavallo here as an interim in the meantime. She stated herself and Mr. Cavallo have been working on the budget since November. The Departments have submitted their requests and to spite some bleak forecasts that we have been getting with regard to certain things, our municipal portion of the budget looks pretty good. However, we are still waiting for 2016 numbers for PERS, PFRS, BCUA and the State Aid. Everyone is stating that the State Aid is probably going to remain the same, but we will not know that until we receive the bill. Our medical coverage will be increasing this year, not as bad as last year, but it is increasing 3.8% for a single and a member/spouse and 7.71% for a family coverage. The DLGS (Division of Local Government Services) has advised that the statutory deadlines will be moved back one month to allow for the numbers to be calculated. This would mean that the budget process will be going later. There are some things on the horizon that we are looking at, such as Obamacare in 2018, where we have to pay 40% of the difference from the Cadillac Plan, which they consider our plan to be, that would be very costly for the town. She stated we are working on it so when we get there we will have

money to pay for it. She has heard that the State is trying to change the plan so that is not a Cadillac Plan, so there would be an increase in the out of pocket payment. She doesn't know what will happen but these are all things that are coming up that we need to look at when we work on the budget. She stated the Dental Plan has also increased 3.7%. She stated all of these items are increasing and we need to stay under the 2%, but she thinks there might not be an increase on the municipal portion, but she doesn't want to promise that as of yet. She stated we do have a lot of capital projects on our plate, including the intersection, a fire truck, DMF construction/renovation, the road program and there is other issues such as the YJCC that is up for sale and other vehicles. She stated we have to be very proactive with the budget this year.

REPORT OF COUNCIL

Dr. Cascio – Thanked everyone for coming out tonight. He also sent out his heartfelt condolences to the people of San Bernardino in the wake of the shooting incident the other day. He also would like to everyone to remember December 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor Day.

Mr. Sears – Stated he OPRA'd documents with regard to PO's and the Road Department has 22 open PO's, some of them dating back to June and August, he doesn't understand why they have not been approved. He is concerned since the winter is coming, and the new trucks might not be here until January. He hopes that these PO's are approved as soon as possible for the trucks that we do have on the road. He stated the Police Department has 7 open PO's. He is very concerned about this since the Police Chief is bound by law to make sure the department is up and running. He stated the new generator, which is two years old, still doesn't have a maintenance contract. He stated there should be quarterly maintenance performed on the generator. He also sends his condolences to the victims of the San Bernardino attacks and hopes we are diligent in our Township.

Mr. Frank – Stated he has no report this evening.

Mr. Calamari – Stated he also has no report this evening. He also extends his condolences to the victims of the San Bernardino attacks.

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

Ayes: Councilmen Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Absent: Councilman Beckmeyer.

Nays: None.

Pablo Forray, 119 Ridgewood Road – Mr. Forray stated he moved to the Township in 2011. He graduated law school, passed the bars in New York and New Jersey and is currently working with an attorney doing land use work in Fair Law who represents the borough. He stated if there is a need for an alternate for the Planning board he would be glad to help out.

Mary Ann Ozment, 960 Adams Place – Mrs. Ozment thanked Mr. Sears for looking into the PO's. Stated she is also glad to see that council was invited to attend the meeting in Woodcliff Lake. She asked with regard to the petition, who is it going to. Mayor Sobkowicz replied quite a few people. She asked with regard to the petition, if an analysis was done to see how many people from different towns signed the petition. Mr. Calamari replied yes, he doesn't have the latest one. She asked that Mr. Calamari email that analysis to her. She spoke at length with regard to the frequency of the leaf pick-up. A lengthy conversation followed with regard to the amount of workers in the DMF Department and the seasonal employees. She spoke of the deteriorating condition of the Municipal Building and landscape in front of the building.

David Snyder, 91 Windsor Circle – Mr. Snyder spoke at length with regard to curb appeal and new signs in the Township. A discussion followed with

regard to the samples of signs that are in the Administrators office. He spoke at length with regard to plantings. He also spoke of the need for the permanent pedestrian crossing signs and the areas where they are needed. He also spoke with regard to issuing citations to residents whose sidewalks are in disrepair. He spoke of the need of the televising of the meetings and what was said in the past. He asked that the televising of the meeting start after the 1st of the year so the residents can see what goes on at the meetings. He asked if all the police cars now have the video cameras. Mayor Sobkowicz replied all the main patrol cars have them. Mr. Cavallo stated they are in six units, not the detail cars.

Diane Grimaldi, 441 Van Emburgh Avenue – Ms. Grimaldi asked what is the status of the DMF study. Mayor Sobkowicz replied Mr. Cavallo and she did meet and go over the one proposal and neither was impressed with the study. Mayor Sobkowicz stated she doesn't know if Mr. Cavallo sent it over to the council. Mr. Cavallo replied no, he did not. Mrs. Grimaldi spoke of what was in the minutes with regard to the DMF Needs Study and then the subject was just dropped off the agenda. Mr. Calamari asked Mr. Cavallo to send council a copy of the study.

William Ferrara, 2556 Cleveland Avenue – Mr. Ferrara spoke at length with regard to approaching the high school and coming to a compromise with regard to the use of the field. He stated the Township can also try Park Ridge since their out of town fees are only \$400. Mayor Sobkowicz spoke at length with regard to the basketball program and the change that is occurring this year with regard to fees. He spoke at length with regard to what was done in the past with regard to the high school. He also asked for a clarification on cap, that being the number of children that can participate in the programs. A lengthy discussion followed with regard to the part time CFO position and if the auditor should meet with a CFO candidate. He commented on the Fixed Asset Audit report. Mr. Cavallo stated the Fixed Asset Report was last done in 2011. A lengthy conversation followed with regard to Local Bond Law.

Jim Hanson, 11 Lindenwood Court – Mr. Hanson would like to know what Plan B will be since the field vote will take place in November. He stated with regard to the High School field, it is his understanding that the field is fully booked and unavailable. He spoke at length with regard to what needs to be done as an alternative to get the field ready for the Spring. He asked that the MKW Study that was done in 2012 be put posted on the website so the public can see what they are voting for or against. He spoke of the parking situation on School Street, the grating not being compliant with the ADA and the current condition of the field. He commented on the run off, the lake which is low, and the drainage swale near the JYCC. He stated that a Plan B should continue to be on the agenda. He spoke at length of the condition of the lake. With regard to the lake he asked that the engineer be contacted to see where the sediment is coming from. He agrees with the crossing signs for pedestrians. He also commented on the televising of meetings and putting audio on the website.

Michael Ullman, 2 Clark Avenue – Mr. Ullman asked what is the status of the Salary Ordinance. Mr. Calamari replied it has been withdrawn for the balance of the year. A discussion followed with regard to the well, when it stopped working and the need to scope the well with a camera. Mr. Ullman spoke at length with regard to what was done with regard to the maintenance of the field and what should be done to maintain the field for the future. He asked what was the process of the evaluation of the field conducted by JIF, since they deemed the field unsafe and did JIF then reevaluate the field. Mr. Calamari replied he doesn't know the process, but he will reach out to JIF.

Bea Napier, 324 Hudson Avenue – Mrs. Napier thanked Mr. Sears, the Council and the Mayor for the LUCAS (heart machines) that were donated to the Ambulance Corps. She stated it will save lives and thanked everyone for all their efforts to get them. A conversation followed with regard to the condition of the American Flag.

Robert Bruno, 697 Hillcrest Road – Mr. Bruno stated it is great that we are putting pressure on Woodcliff Lake. Mayor Sobkowicz spoke of the change in the attitude by the Mayor of Woodcliff Lake after the letters in the paper and the petition. A conversation followed with regard to Captain Hackbarth performing special detailing by the Season's location. Mr. Bruno spoke of the intersection of Pascack and Washington, and Garden State Parkway Exit 168. He also spoke of having a Plan B and C for the field and the housekeeping of the Municipal Building. Mayor Sobkowicz gave a history of what occurred while the Municipal Building was being built. She stated the building was not built properly and insurance funds were received to fix it. She stated a lot of things were fixed but there are still some things that are not right such as the heating and cooling system of the building.

A motion was made by Mr. Beckmeyer, seconded by Dr. Cascio, to close the general public discussion.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following resolutions were part of the Consent Agenda and were made available to the Governing Body and the Public prior to the meeting.

The Consent Agenda was presented and adopted on a motion by Mr. Beckmeyer, seconded by Dr. Cascio.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

Mr. Cavallo explained Resolution No. 15-321 Delta Dental Amendment to the Contract.

Mr. Sears – Stated he recuses himself from voting on Resolution No. 15-317.

A motion was made by Mr. Beckmeyer, seconded by Dr. Cascio, to approved Resolutions 15-318 through 15-321.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Sears, Calamari.

Nays: None.

Resolution No. 15-318

Tax Appeal

WHEREAS, the Bergen County Board of Taxation granted judgments with respect to three parcels for tax year 2015 as part of Assessment Correction for decrease. Said properties were awarded tax reductions due to resolution of applicable tax appeals; and

WHEREAS, under N.J.S.A. 54:3-27.2, in the event a taxpayer is entitled to a reduced assessment as reflected in a Tax Court Judgment, the taxing district shall refund any excess taxes paid within 60 days of said judgment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, County of Bergen, New Jersey that the Tax Collector, Elaine Erlewein, be and is hereby authorized to issue the below refunds to the following representatives of the taxpayers:

Oritani Bank 370 Pascack Rd Township of Washington, NJ 07676	Block 2108, Lot 15 Hamzeh, 662 Burke Street \$ 2,636.61
Opalka, Justin & Choewinska, Anna 411 Hoover Ave Township of Washington, NJ 07676	Block 2322, Lot 5 \$ 6.63
Wells Fargo Home Mtg.	Block 4403, Lot 1

1 Home Campus MACX 2302-04D
Des Moines, IA 50328

Pinocchio, 342 Colonial Blvd
\$ 125.60

Resolution No. 15-319

Tax Lien Redemption

WHEREAS, at the Tax Sale held on November 17, 2015, the Township of Washington sold a tax lien on Block 3101, Lot 1, also known as 784 Clinton Avenue, for delinquent 2014 taxes, owned by Jeffrey Van Horn and Douglas Van Horn and;

WHEREAS, this Tax Lien Certificate #15-00008 was sold to US Bank Custodian BV001 Trust and Creditors at 0% interest rate and a premium of \$27,900.00:

WHEREAS, Jeffrey Van Horn, owner of said property will redeem of Certificate#15-00008 in the amount of \$11,160.74, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, New Jersey that Elaine Erlewein, Tax Collector be authorized to refund a total of \$11,160.74 plus a premium refund in the amount of \$27,900 payable to US Bank Custodian BV001.

Tax Lien	\$	10,477.11		
6% Redemption Penalty		628.63	1099:	
Subsequent Taxes		0	Sub. Interest:	\$ 0
Subsequent Interest		0	6%Penalty	628.63
Recording Fee		43.00	Total 1099:	\$ 628.63
Search Fee		12.00		
Total:	\$	11,160.74		

Resolution No. 15-320

Tax Lien Redemption

WHEREAS, at the Tax Sale held on November 17, 2015, the Township of Washington sold a tax lien on Block 1207, Lot 3.05, also known as 9 Carriage Ct, for delinquent 2014 taxes, owned by Inez E. Shulman and;

WHEREAS, this Tax Lien Certificate #15-00004 was sold to Onnik Kazanjian at 0% interest rate and a premium of \$85,500.00:

WHEREAS, Inez Shulman, owner of said property will redeem of Certificate#15-00004 in the amount of \$34,465.33, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, New Jersey that Elaine Erlewein, Tax Collector be authorized to refund a total of \$34,465.33 plus a premium refund in the amount of \$85,500.00 payable to Onnik Kazanjian.

Tax Lien	\$	15,671.72		
6% Redemption Penalty		940.30	1099:	
Subsequent Taxes		17,630.82	Sub. Interest:	\$ 167.49
Subsequent Interest		167.49	6%Penalty	940.30
Recording Fee		43.00	Total 1099:	\$ 1,107.79
Search Fee		12.00		
Total:	\$	34,465.33		

Resolution No. 15-321

Delta Dental Amendment to Contract

WHEREAS, the Township of Washington (the "Township") currently has an existing contract with Delta Dental of New Jersey, Inc. which provides dental services for current employees and retirees of the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township, Group No.: 1752-01, has received an amendment to the Agreement (the "Amendment") which outlines new

subscription charges for coverage effective January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2017;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, County of Bergen, New Jersey that the Township Council hereby approves the Amendment and hereby authorizes the Mayor to execute the Amendment between the Township of Washington and Delta Dental of New Jersey, Inc. for the above stated purpose.

A motion was made by Mr. Beckmeyer, seconded by Dr. Cascio, to approve Resolution No. 15-317.

Ayes: Councilman Beckmeyer, Cascio, Frank, Calamari.

Nays: None.

Recused: Councilman Sears.

Resolution No. 15-317

Veteran's Exemption

WHEREAS, Mr. Thomas J. Sears, who resides at 600 Beech Street, Block 3215, Lot 46, and;

WHEREAS, Mr. Sears was granted a permanent disability resulting from service-connected injuries as declared by the United States Veteran's Administration pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:04-03.30, which grants total exemption from local property taxes and;

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Washington, New Jersey, authorized, the Tax Collector, Elaine Erlewein, by this resolution allows the Tax Collector to cancel the pro-rated balance of \$764.70 from 4th quarter 2015 and all future tax bills to be cancelled through this resolution.

Time Noted: 8:42 p.m.



Elaine Erlewein
Township Clerk



Peter Calamari
Council President

Approved: December 22, 2015

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

CONFERENCE PORTION/PUBLIC SESSION

December 7, 2015

Members present: Glenn Beckmeyer, Steve Cascio, Dave Frank, Thomas Sears, Peter Calamari. Also present: Janet Sobkowicz, Mayor; Ken Poller, Attorney.

Time Noted: 8:50 p.m

CURRENT BUSINESS

Intersection of Pascack Road and Washington Avenue – Mayor Sobkowicz stated the revised plans have not been received as of yet.

Update on Administrator and CFO Positions – Mayor Sobkowicz spoke of the upcoming interviews she has. She also stated we do have a company on hand just in case we need to get someone part time. Mr. Cavallo stated he reached out to both Jersey Professional Managers and The Canning Group.

Expiring Zoning Board Members – Mr. Calamari stated at this point we have two candidates, Dina Burke and Julie Remiszewski who will be full voting members. Mr. Poller will look into see if Dina Burke can be a Director and on the Zoning Board. Mr. Calamari stated we will hold the vote until the next meeting.

Exit 171 – Mr. Calamari stated himself and Mr. Sears have been invited to the council meeting of Woodcliff Lake which is December 21st. He stated he is happy for the invite and will present the Township's case and listen to what they have to say. He stated he would like a limited number of people to attend the meeting, as not to have a mob mentality, but everyone can do what they wish to do. A discussion followed with regard to the change of Mayors and council in Woodcliff Lake for the upcoming year.

Change of Council Meeting Date – Mr. Calamari stated he reach out to everyone via email with regard to the changing of council meeting dates, that is from December 21st to December 22nd, and everyone seemed to be okay with the change. The change will be posted in the newspaper as required by law.

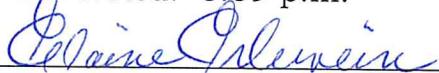
A discussion followed whether topics that are not on the agenda can be discussed.

Mr. Sears stated he would like to know the status of the security cameras in the Municipal Building. Mr. Cavallo replied he did speak with the Chief this morning and we will be receiving a third quote.

Mr. Sears asked what is the status with regard to Habitat for Humanity. Mr. Poller stated he did speak with Jacey Raimondo and hopefully she will get back to him this week. He stated the agreement is with Habitat and we are still waiting.

A motion was made by Mr. Sears, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer to adjourn.

Time Noted: 8:59 p.m.


Elaine Erlewein
Township Clerk


Peter Calamari
Council President

Approved: December 22, 2015