

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

PUBLIC PORTION/PUBLIC SESSION

October 31, 2016

The Township Council held a Public Portion/Public Session in the Municipal Building, 350 Pascack Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:36 p.m. by Council President Michael Ullman with the Clerk leading a salute to the flag. Members present: Robert Bruno, Peter Calamari, Steve Cascio, Michael Ullman. Also present: Janet Sobkowicz, Mayor; Ken Poller, Attorney; Mary Anne Groh, Administrator. Absent: Councilman Sears.

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.

Mr. Ullman – Mr. Ullman welcomed Ms. Susan Witkowski as our new Township Clerk. He then turned the floor over to the Mayor for an announcement.

Mayor Sobkowicz – Mayor Sobkowicz reminded everyone that Tuesday, November 1st and Wednesday, November 2nd from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. a blood drive will be held for Baby Grace of the Township at the Knights of Columbus. Several months ago a blood drive was held for Baby Grace, with many donating and the family was very appreciative. She hopes that everyone will come out and donate.

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Calamari, Cascio, Ullman.

Nays: None.

Absent: Councilman Sears.

Tie Stutzer, 602 Chestnut Street – Mr. Stutzer spoke of damage to a turf field in case a helicopter/medivac was needed to land there in an emergency situation. Mr. Stutzer asked what exactly would be turf at the facility. Mr. Ullman explained the areas which would be turf. Mr. Ullman spoke of Town Day and a medivac landing on the hill at the school. Mr. Stutzer spoke of a medivac landing at both Memorial Field and the high school. Mr. Ullman spoke of the plan addressing egress for an ambulance at Memorial Field.

Sharon McDonough, 642 Jefferson Avenue – Ms. McDonough stated she is supporting the field. She stated she is a senior citizen, and her children have playing on the field, which has been a disaster since she moved in in 1992. She spoke of weighing the different proposals and what the town has tried so far, especially the netting. She spoke of what was done in the past with regard to drainage, resting of the field and Clark Field, which is used by baseball, along with Sherry Field. She spoke of the various activities that are held on Memorial Field. She stated all of the Township fields are in sorry shape and Memorial Field is the heart of the Township. She stated she personally feels artificial turf is the only way and the Township keeps on doing the same thing over and over again, and it fails. She spoke of the fields in the surrounding areas.

Lori Ann Roberts, 704 Amherst Drive – Ms. Roberts stated she is in favor of the field, the field is a mess. She spoke of the condition of her children when they come home after playing on the field. She spoke of an incident which she observed of a person coming in a motorized wheelchair and having to be lifted onto the field by coaches. She stated her mother-in-law is visiting and has not attended any homes games, but does attend away games. She stated the walking path and ADA compliance should also be talked about, along with the

turf field. She spoke of her health condition, being in wheelchair and walking with a walker. She stated it is unfair that she cannot go and watch her children play because there is no access for her to the field, bathroom or playground. She stated she is for the field since it is for the safety for our children, residents and visiting opponents. She spoke of the condition of the playground equipment. She stated it is not only about turf, it is about improving our Township and giving disabled, elderly and all people to be able to come to our Township.

Julie Lipnick, 184 Finnerty Place – Ms. Lipnick stated she is alumni of Cliffside Park High School and their turf field was put in with no impact to the residents, the residents only paid for the fencing. She stated Coca Cola sponsored that field. She spoke of a flyer distributed, the drainage and the well. She spoke of the initial proposal which stated it would not cost more than the average cup of coffee at Dunkin Donuts and now the flyer states it is no more than a dollar a month. She stated she would like to know how it dropped from \$3.00 to a \$1.00.

Michael Kazigian, 468 Beech Street – Mr. Kazigian stated he was an opponent to the project, until he learned the facts. He stated he was at the last meeting (October 17th) and he repeated what he stated at that meeting. He spoke of what he believes the bulk of the 2.4 million is to address, which are drainage, handicap access, lights and grading, and the Township will be paying for those repairs regardless of how residents vote. He spoke of packaging the project, instead of doing the repairs over years. He showed a photo of the field which is dirt. He spoke of grass not being a durable playing surface for playing team sports. He stated he understands opponents agree on 90% of the project but cannot agree on the turf, he urges those to put their differences aside. He spoke of the project being for those with mobility issues. He spoke of an incident in which the opposing coaches wife, who was in a wheelchair. He spoke of the reasons the project will be good for the Township and urged residents to vote yes for the field.

Scott Spezial, 785 Washington Avenue – Mr. Spezial discussed the three main categories of this project, those being the physical, environmental and fiscal. He stated this is not just playing on the field; it is also about the spectators and events that are held at field. He spoke of grass not being able to grow on the field, drainage, the benefit of having a turf surface and the maintenance that is currently needed with grass. He spoke of the facility being a gathering space for residents, environmental benefits of a turf surface, ADA compliance and the current watering that is occurring on the grass field. He stated this project makes this project drought free. He spoke of the cost of the project. He stated Westwood High School is in the Big North Division and 38 out of the 41 teams in that division have turf. He is encouraging residents to vote yes on this project.

Diane Grimaldi, 441 Van Emburgh Avenue – Ms. Grimaldi spoke of this being the last chance residents have to express their point of views with regard to the turfing of Memorial Field prior to voting on the referendum on November 8th. She spoke of the towns past capital budgets, consistent projects listed and what she believes are priorities. She spoke at length of the necessary repairs that are needed at those facilities. She stated the intersection is not on the budget, but that will also cost a lot of money once a solution is found for it. She spoke of bonds that would be needed for the projects and completing the Memorial Field project in phases. She stated the recreation program could have fundraised or found sponsors for the Memorial Field project to help finance the burden. She stated she hopes when voting on November 8th residents look proactively to fix the Township's larger and pending issues before bonding this field.

Toni Plantamura, 808 Robinwood Road – Ms. Plantamura read Municipal Question three as it appears on the ballot and also indicated where it appears on the ballot. She stated if you don't want the Township to appropriate that fund, vote no to question number 3 on the ballot on November 8th. She asked if there is a Recreation Director in the Township, if it is a paid position and who that person is. Mayor Sobkowicz replied yes, and it is a small stipend of \$1250

and the person is Eamonn Twomey. Ms. Plantamura spoke of her feelings of the mayor appointing the Recreation Board and the coaches that are asking for this field. She asked Mr. Poller when you have a project of this caliber, who is the person who is supposed to submit financials. Mr. Poller replied the Chief Financial Officer is the one who is responsible for the financial statements of the Township and the auditor puts out audit statements. Ms. Plantamura asked who arrived at the 2.45 million dollars. Mayor Sobkowicz the Township engineer. A conversation followed on if the Township engineer attended meetings. Ms. Plantamura read from her phone a posting on Friend of Memorial Field regarding New Milford and the use of coated crumb rubber fill, she stated this is devious since it is New Milford, Connecticut, not New Jersey. She spoke of her concerns of hidden costs and postings on Facebook Friends of Memorial Field with regard to suing the Township due to the field conditions. She spoke of people being down at the shopping plaza who were stating the field house is part of the project, which it is not along with engineering costs.

Jim Hanson, 11 Lindenwood Court – Mr. Hanson stated he was down at the shopping center, the field house is not part of the project and it has not been spoken about. He indicated to residents that information for Memorial Field is on the Township website since residents are interested. He spoke of residents wanting to know what the project is about. He spoke of setting the record straight and having residents know what the cost is. He spoke of the cost, what is included and the disagreement is over 20% of the project. He stated he is an engineer and did calculate the cost savings, which would be \$900,000 over 15 years. He spoke of the sports that would be included in this project. He asked that residents be educated so they can make educated votes. He stated ADA compliance and EPA requirements will have to be addressed if this does not go forward. He stated this allows everything to be completed at one time.

Ted Podest, 4 Katharina Place – Mr. Podest stated he is the Managing Director in Finance at JP Morgan Chase. A conversation followed on the term of 15 years. He stated he has played at that field and so have his four children. He spoke of his children being injured on that field, along with asthma issues. He stated he doesn't understand why this is not being taken care of.

Rich Skinner, 303 Mountain Avenue – Mr. Skinner stated he is here tonight as a friend of Memorial Field and has lived in the Township almost 45 years. He spoke of Mr. Spezial who has dedicated 35 years as a coach to the children of this community and Mr. Twomey who, when it comes to the field, is an expert. He stated he is voting yes to the field. He spoke of bringing the soccer program back. He spoke of the current field being a mess and what a turf field can bring. He spoke of the various sports he would like to see played on Memorial Field. He stated this project is full service solution. He spoke of people not being able to get onto the field due to being in a wheelchair. He spoke of landing a helicopter on artificial turf.

Michael Golden, 982 Ridgewood Boulevard East – Mr. Golden spoke of residents having a conversation rather than visceral responses. He stated he is an unpaid director, running the basketball program and he is in favor of the field. He spoke of the time that Mr. Spezial and Mr. Twomey put in. He asked if it is normal practice that a director be paid a stipend in other municipalities. Mayor Sobkowicz stated we do have a Superintendent of Recreation who gets around \$9,000 but the director oversees it, as person who is out there and brings the information back to us. She stated for \$1250 he does an incredible job. Mr. Golden spoke of the field being a sense of community and a place to gather. He stated this is us paying it forward for generations to come. He encourages everyone to vote yes on question three.

Julia DeVirgilio, 478 Jackson Avenue – Ms. DeVirgilio stated she is a cheerleader and during their halftime dance she fell, rolled in dirt and she was very embarrassed. She stated she was sad that everyone was watching me. Mr. Ullman stated it is commendable that she went out and performed and if the surface wasn't good it was not a reflection on her.

Eamonn Twomey, 186 Devon Road – Mr. Twomey poured cups of garbage that are from the field, such as rocks, screws, nuts and rocks, which has been

collected over the year. He stated he would take turf burn in a second over falling on this. Mr. Twomey spoke of being the voice of the project, ten years ago when it started and look what it has grown to, bigger than all of us. He spoke of first impressions to the youth of the community and he also spoke of landing a helicopter on a turf field at Memorial Field. He also spoke of alternate funding and why the field is being funded for 15 years. He spoke of the various projects that need to be done in this Township. He stated the problem is still here after ten years.

Cynthia Gannon, 804 Manhattan Avenue – Ms. Gannon stated she is against the turf and that is due to health reasons. She spoke of the EPA and what is being looked into. She spoke of burns due to the heat of the turf, ADA compliance, geese being on turf fields and drainage. She also spoke of what was recommended as per FieldTurf with regard to maintenance, along with soft costs. She also spoke of not being allowed to land a helicopter on a turf field, since it would disrupt the turf.

Danny Golden, 982 Ridgewood Boulevard East – Mr. Golden spoke of his grandfather, who recently lost his leg and is now in wheelchair. He stated his grandfather used to attend most of his games, but cannot anymore. He spoke of players getting cuts, those cuts getting infected by the dirt on the field and making it worse. He feels it is dangerous to play on the field.

Mary Ann Ozment, 960 Adams Place – Mrs. Ozment spoke of the 8 to 10 year guarantee time period for the turf field, and with the overuse of the field, the turf field may become worn out sooner than the 8 to 10 year guarantee. She also spoke of residents now coming to council meetings, and wishes residents would continue to come to meetings. She spoke of the debris that was collected from the field, and feels that debris can be there whether it is a turf or grass field. She stated when due diligence is performed, that is watering and drainage, the field doesn't look bad in the Spring. She stated over the past 10 years the Recreation Board has only come to meetings for this field, and not for anything else that is needed in this Township. She also spoke of the walking path not being flat/level.

Dave Mayo, 725 Pine Lake Drive – Mr. Mayo addressed the walking path, which is flat for walking purposes, and the guarantee, which is based on 3000 hours of use a year. He stated similar fields in surrounding towns are replacing fields in about 15 to 16 years. He stated he will be voting yes and believes it is the best for the Township. He expressed his belief that the voters in the Township are smart enough to believe the facts and not to believe in the contradictions, misinformation and lies of the opponents of the referendum. He spoke of ADA compliance being a vital part of the plan, along with the drainage. He spoke of video showing what occurs when it rains. He stated the lighting and playing surface are vital issues and must be done. He spoke of artificial turf being the only viable option, and the field is all crabgrass and weeds. He stated the project is all about making the field family friendly, something everyone can use. He is voting yes to municipal question number three, it is economically sound and would solve the long terms to the problems we have seen every year in this Township. He also spoke of the blue line, and hopes it continues up the street.

Bea Napier, 324 Hudson Avenue – Ms. Napier stated she is fed up with people calling each other names. She attends the meetings to find out what is right or not right, not say this one is lying or that one is lying. She spoke of the nastiness between the groups, which she does not like. She stated she has lived in this town for over 50 years and feels this is disgraceful. She stated we should be working together, and we are not, we are going against each other.

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

Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Calamari, Cascio, Ullman.

Nays: None.

Absent: Councilman Sears.

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.

Mr. Ullman asked with regard to Resolution No. 16-293, where is it planned to have that work done. Administrator Groh stated it is a non-matching grant; it is for removal of existing stairs and construction of an ADA compliant ramp at Memorial Field that will help serve the restrooms and field house concession stand. She stated this, like the basketball grant, can be used towards the project that is being discussed tonight.

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

Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Calamari, Cascio, Ullman.

Nays: None.

Absent: Councilman Sears.

Resolution No. 16-293

Authorizing Execution of Grant Agreement for Handicapped Accessible Ramp at Memorial Park

WHEREAS, the Township of Washington wishes to enter into a grant agreement with the County of Bergen for the purpose of using \$50,000.00 in 2016-2017 Community Development Block Grant funds for Handicapped Accessible Ramp at Memorial Park in the Township.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council hereby authorizes Administrator Mary Anne Groh to execute the aforesaid grant agreement on behalf of the Township;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council hereby authorizes 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. 16-294

Building Department Refund

WHEREAS, K. Hanrahan Ent.-John Patrick, paid for a permit for the installation of light poles in the Nicholas Markets/Food town parking lot, on premises known as Block 3402, Lots 18-20, 315 Pascack Road; and

WHEREAS, according to the attached email correspondence from the Building Department, the Contractor discovered after the fact that PSE&G is responsible for installation of the light poles. Therefore, the Construction Official has requested that portion of the Permit Fee be refunded; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the over-payment in the amount of \$50.00

Resolution No. 16-295

Escrow Refund

WHEREAS, Etienne & Louisa Emirzian/H & I Developers, posted engineering escrow money on premises known as Block 3106.01, Lot 18, 595 Concord Lane; and

WHEREAS, the Construction Code Official has issued approval dated September 1, 2016, C.O. No.15-440; and

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated August 24, 2016; 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 in the amount of \$412.00 to the above.

Resolution No. 16-296

Escrow Refund

WHEREAS, Dr. David Deoliveira posted engineering escrow money on premises known as Block 3502, Lot 1, 145 Pascack Road; and

WHEREAS, the project falls within the guideline where neither a Certificate of Occupancy nor a Certificate of Acceptance is needed; and

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated August 29, 2016; 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 in the amount of \$559.00 to the above.

Resolution No. 16-297

Escrow Refund

WHEREAS, Mr. Richard DeSimone posted engineering escrow money on premises known as Block 2322, Lot 17, 400 Jackson Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the project falls within the guideline where neither a Certificate of Occupancy nor a Certificate of Acceptance is needed; and

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated August 22, 2016; 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 in the amount of \$657.00 to the above.

Resolution No. 16-298

Escrow Refund

WHEREAS, Mr. Vincent Santaite posted engineering escrow monies on premises known as Block 2209, Lot 5, 570 Pascack Road; and

WHEREAS, the Construction Code Official has issued approval dated October 17, 2016, C.O. No. 13-080; and

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated July 7, 2016; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the balances of the escrow monies in the amount of \$7872.31 to the above.

Resolution No. 16-299

Escrow Refund

WHEREAS, Carol Cassetta and Bruce & Lorianne Roberts posted engineering and soil escrow monies on premises known as Block 2202.02, Lot 1, 704 Amherst Drive; and

WHEREAS, the project falls within the guideline where neither a Certificate of Occupancy nor a Certificate of Acceptance is needed; and

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated August 23, 2016; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the balance of the escrow monies in the amount of \$762.00 to the above.

Tax Refund

WHEREAS, an overpayment for the 4th Quarter property taxes was received from two parties, Wells Fargo and Donald F. & Barbara M. DeRosa, occupants of Block 2408, Lot 1, Qualifier C633B, 33 Reagan Way, and;

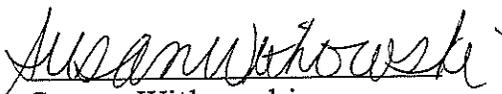
WHEREAS, under the N.J.S.A. 54:3-27.2, tax overpayments shall be refunded to the payer, and;

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

Wells Fargo Home Mortgage
Attn: Financial Support
1 Home Campus
MAC X2303-04D
Des Moines, IA 50328

Amount of Refund: \$2332.66

Time noted: 9:01 p.m.


Susan Witkowski
Township Clerk


Michael Ullman
Council President

Approved: January 23, 2017

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

October 31, 2016

Members present: Robert Bruno, Steve Cascio, Peter Calamari, Michael Ullman. Also present: Janet Sobkowicz, Mayor; Mary Anne Groh, Administrator; Ken Poller, Attorney. Absent: Tom Sears.

Time Noted: 9: 01 p.m.

CURRENT BUSINESS

Memorial Field – Mr. Ullman asked if the administration has any updates or comments. Administrator Groh stated she is not taking a position on the Township's referendum. She spoke of information relayed from Mr. Statile with regard to turf field in Gloucester County, in which there were five bidders. She stated based on the pricing, our engineer, is sufficient in pricing the project. She spoke of Mr. Statile's estimation with regard to the road program and curb cuts, and the costs that came in. Mayor Sobkowicz spoke of Mr. Statile being instrumental in having SUEZ water come in and repave roads where they have dug, saving the taxpayer money. Administrator Groh stated there has been a lot of commentary that people think the estimates are low. She stated Mr. Statile estimated a turf project in River Vale to be 1.5 and the bids came in at one million ninety thousand. She spoke of the importance of having an estimate on hand. She stated she spoke to him today and there was no qualification that the estimate being any different for River Vale purposes than this town's purposes. Mr. Ullman spoke of the Friends of Memorial Field (Facebook page), which he feels has a lot of good information. He stated they are strong proponent of registering to vote and getting absentee ballots. He spoke of the issue of Assemblyman Auth and Senator Cardinale "Encourage Township Residents to Vote Yes", which he believes is not truthful since both Assemblyman Auth and Senator Cardinale did not wish to be involved in local politics and discussion. He also saw a photo of a scoreboard, and there is an estimate to move the scoreboard, but there is no scoreboard proposed and that is an expense. He spoke of parking, which is currently dirt, which is not included. He spoke at length of studies by the University of Arkansas, Division of Agriculture which document crumb rubber temperature reaching as high as 199 degrees. He also spoke of what researchers at Brigham Young University have found when comparing temperatures of an artificial turf field and those of a grass field. He spoke of what he read on the New Milford website, which approved Cool Fill, which is the brand name for a coated crumb rubber, which will keep the field 20 to 30 degrees cooler. He spoke of the recommendations of the Penn State Center for Sports Surface Research, which is to irrigate an artificial turf for surface temperature reduction. He spoke of the study at length, and stated walking on that surface and having children play on the surface borders on cruel. He stated if the project goes through, he would recommend using a cool fill, and there is an expense to that. He does not agree that crumb rubber is carcinogenic, but does believe it to be a serious heat risk. He stated what has been approved is 2.6; the referendum is 2.45, with the cost being up to 2.6. He spoke of the replacement and life cycle of turf fields. He referred to East Rutherford, which is going on 17 years, Waldwick which is going on 12 years and Chatham Township which has been replaced after 9 years. He stated the dollar amount does not include the replacement at the end of 15 years. He stated with regard to infections, MERSA does not reside in the turf but staph does. He quoted an article entitled "Texas Football Succumbs to Viral Staph Infection from Turf." He stated in having a fact-based discussion, those who are for the field have their facts and they rely on them, and he did some research based on their suggestions that state there are issues. He does believe that the field needs to be redeveloped, anyone who he

met during his campaign and asked him that question would have been told that. He stated he believes there are other more important issues that are facing the town, the Fire House, a ladder truck, the DMF, road program and he believes the limited resources that are limited to the Township should be focused on those. He stated we should continue to try to maintain the field as best we can and that is his comment. Mayor Sobkowicz asked if she could make a comment. Mr. Ullman replied no. Mr. Calamari asked if he may make a comment. Mr. Ullman replied no, you had your opportunities. Mr. Calamari stated Mr. Ullman took 10 to 15 minutes and you will not let anyone respond to any of that. Mr. Ullman replied he gave everyone an opportunity to say what they wanted to say.

Intersection of Pascack and Washington Avenue – Mr. Ullman asked if there are any updates. Mayor Sobkowicz replied the studies have been confirmed at a traffic meeting at the County. A conversation followed with regard to the DuraBlend, which has not yet been completed due to weather issues. It is slated to be completed in the Spring. Mr. Calamari stated the intersection is certainly a priority, but he feels the Memorial Field will save maintenance costs. He stated all of other projects in the Township, as far as he knows off hand, will not benefit from any savings in maintenance. He spoke of an incident in Connecticut regarding a turf field. Mayor Sobkowicz spoke of the cost intersection of Pascack and Washington and the support that is needed from surrounding communities. Mr. Bruno asked if the cost of the surrounding property that the Township would have to purchase known. Administrator Groh stated she did give that value a few months ago. She stated the assessed value is close to market since the Township went through a town-wide assessment. A conversation followed regarding negotiating the price/value of the properties.

Civil Rights Resolution – Mr. Ullman spoke of Resolution No. 16-301, which was put before council two meetings ago and the concerns. Mr. Ullman stated the training has taken place, which was provided by Mr. Poller and Administrator Groh. Administrator Groh stated it has also been made available to representatives in charge via email. A conversation followed if a vote should be taken now or to wait for Mr. Sears since he did have some concerns. Administrator Groh spoke of the penalty, deadline and having this resolution presented at the reorganization meeting. Mr. Ullman stated it will not be voted on this evening.

Fire Department By-Laws – Mr. Ullman stated this has been circulated and he has not yet received any feedback from council. He stated if anyone has any questions or concerns, please forward them and if they do not, please respond that you have reviewed the by-laws and do not have any concerns. He asked that council members reply to him one way or another by the end of this week.

Salary Ordinance – Mr. Ullman stated he was provided with a salary ordinance that was updated with some changes, as it relates to the new Clerk and other changes in individual departments, with names and functions. He stated he would like to send it to each member of council and then move forward. Administrator Groh stated she does have hard copies that she can distribute. A conversation followed with regard to the changes made that is the Office of the Clerk, Finance Department, Acting DMF Superintendent hourly wage, and Zoning & Planning Board Secretary. Administrator Groh distributed two versions.

Recycling Contract – A discussion followed on increasing it to 26 pick-ups a year or go to 24 pick-ups per year. Mr. Poller explained the bids received and what was contained in those bids. Dr. Cascio stated he would like to stay with the 24 times a year to avoid confusion. Mr. Calamari stated he disagrees, he doesn't believe it will be confusing after the first cycle and he would like it to remain at 26. Mayor Sobkowicz believes the 26 per year is a losing situation and we will not get more recycling. Mr. Ullman stated the idea is the 5th week; people do not want refuse in their garage for 3 weeks. Mr. Calamari also spoke of vacations and the storage of recycling. A conversation followed on rinsing out recyclables and the non-conforming bid received.

CFO Update – Administrator Groh stated she put together a proposal and forwarded it to the Mayor. Mayor Sobkowicz replied she will not act on it at this point. She stated we have Denise Marabello until December and there is a person that will do the tax sale. She stated she will look at the proposal. Mr. Bruno asked will she act on the CFO since Ms. Marabello leaves in December. Mayor Sobkowicz replied she will.

2017 Council Meeting Calendar – Mr. Ullman stated he has compiled one and will email it to council, the administration and the Clerk.

Garbage Bags – Mr. Bruno asked if the collectors came back with quotes/proposals. Administrator Groh stated she did send a letter on September 19th to Mr. Buldo and Mr. Allen of Waste Management thanking them for their attendance. She read from the letter which asks that council requests them to provide a tentative price list for disposal services in the Township if the bag method is no longer mandated although still optional. She stated she has not received a response. She stated on October 12th her secretary followed-up asking them for a response. She stated Waste Management replied on October 14th that he turned the matter over to someone else and Mr. Buldo contacted her to find out if Waste Management had submitted anything. She stated she believes they are both very hesitant. A conversation followed on the choice the council has with regard to listing vendors on the website, concerns of having multiple vendors in the Township and advising the residents of their options. Mr. Poller stated another attempt should be made since these are the vendors the residents are used to. Mr. Calamari stated the ordinance should be changed that residents no longer have to use the plastic bags and let the residents do what they want to do. A conversation followed on what the ordinance states, per bag system and colored bags. Mr. Calamari stated we should let the resident's contract with the haulers. Mr. Ullman asked if the Clerk can send council the applicable ordinance this applies to.

Budget – Mr. Bruno asked if the budgets from the department heads will be given on time to council. Mayor Sobkowicz replied yes, it will be given on time, as it always has been. Administrator Groh replied the date is November 9th for all departments to return their budgets.

Resolution No. 16 – 301

Closed Session, October 31, 2016

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. **ANY PENDING OR ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

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

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

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

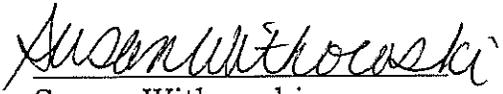
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that notice is hereby given that the Township Council may find it necessary to take action at the conclusion of the executive/closed session; that such action if taken, will occur in open session; that you are invited to stay in the Municipal Building during the executive/closed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

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

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

Motion		Seconded		Ayes	Nays	Abst.	Absent
Bruno	X	Bruno		X			
Calamari		Calamari	X	X			
Cascio		Cascio		X			
Sears		Sears		X			X
Ullman		Ullman					

Time noted: 9:58 p.m.



Susan Witkowski
Township Clerk



Michael Ullman
Council President

Approved: January 23, 2017