

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

PUBLIC PORTION/PUBLIC MEETING

OCTOBER 1, 2012

The Township Council held a Public Portion/Public Meeting in the Municipal Building, Pascack Road. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President, Richard Hrbek. Members present: Steven Cascio, Joseph D'Urso, Fred Goetz, Richard Hrbek. Absent: Mr. Beckmeyer. Also present: Janet Sobkowicz, Mayor; Ken Poller, Attorney; Absent: Catherine Steinel

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 Ridgewood News, forwarded to the local newspapers, posted on Municipal Bulletin Board and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

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

REPORT OF MAYOR

No report this meeting.

REPORT OF COUNCIL

No report from any Councilman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. D'Urso, seconded by Dr. Cascio to approve the July 23, 2012 Public, Conference and Closed minutes of the Township Council of the Township of Washington.

Ayes: Councilpersons Cascio, D'Urso, Goetz, Hrbek

Nays: None

A motion was made by Mr. D'Urso, seconded by Dr. Cascio to approve the August 6, 2012 Public minutes of the Township Council of the Township of Washington.

Ayes: Councilpersons Cascio, D'Urso, Hrbek.

Nays: None

Abstain: Councilperson Goetz

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

A motion was made by Mr. D'Urso, seconded by Dr. Cascio to open the Public Discussion.

Ayes: Councilpersons Cascio, D'Urso, Goetz, Hrbek

Nays: None

Rose D'Ambra, 423 Colonial Boulevard – Attended Planning Board meeting on September 19 and asked the board if they could put up street signs dedicated to veterans who died in service. She said that in a lot of towns there are stone monuments veterans who died in war. She asked if there were any veterans who died during the different wars. Mr. Hrbek said that he had no idea if there were any residents who died during wartime from Township of Washington. Mayor Sobkowicz said that there is a board at Veterans Square, which have names of the veterans from Township of Washington which was redone a few years ago. She did not know if any of the names were for residents who died during wartime. Mr. D'Urso said that he was at the Planning Board meeting and said that he thought it was a nice idea about naming new streets after veterans, but that existing streets could not be renamed as it was a costly thing to do. Mayor Sobkowicz said that the street that was discussed at the Planning Board was not a street but a private driveway and the Board could not require the applicant to name the street. It would be up to the applicant. Mrs. D'Ambra also asked about an ad in the

Sunday Record of July 22, 2012 concerning a bid for gas and diesel fuel and asked where it would be stored. She was told that the bid was for where the town would purchase fuel for the Township vehicles.

Raymond Bernroth, 838 Crest Place – Said that he comes to most of the meetings and would like to say that “unless someone has a subject that they are interested in, they don’t come to meetings”. He said he was disappointed that no one comes unless they want something.

Mike Ullman, 2 Clark Avenue – Asked if Mr. Poller’s status has been resolved and was told no. Asked who the town wrote to concerning his status and was told IRS by Mayor Sobkowicz. He asked why the audit report was discussed in Closed Session last week and it was explained that because there were problems with the corrective action plan for the audit report and that it was all intertwined with a personnel issue, the discussion was in closed. Mr. Hrbek stated that the Administrator was not at this meeting to further clarify the problem. Mayor Sobkowicz stated that the administrator was working on the correction action plan. Mr. Ullman asked who did the corrective action plan and was told the CFO. The CFO is out sick so the Administrator is working on the corrective action plan. Mr. Ullman then asked if we have gone out to bid for the generator and was told no. Mayor Sobkowicz said that T&M is working on the specs. Mr. Ullman asked if the specs that town was working with were no good and Mayor Sobkowicz stated that it was decided that it would be better to have T&M do the specs. Mr. Ullman asked how outside billing worked and was told that when a project needs police officers on duty, the project contacts the police chief and explains the project and the chief tells them how many police officers are needed for the protection of the project and for how long. Mr. Ullman asked if the police officers are still representing Township of Washington during a special project and was told yes.

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. D’Urso, seconded by Dr. Cascio.

Ayes: Councilmen Cascio, D’Urso, Goetz, Hrbek.

Nays: None.

WHEREAS, Edith Max posted engineering escrow on premises known as Block 4409, Lot 13, 327 Beech Street; and

WHEREAS, the project falls within the guidelines where a Certificate of Occupancy is not required; and

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated April 19, 2004.

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 \$435.00 to the above.

WHEREAS, across the nation, traffic crashes caused 32,310 fatalities in 2011, and are the leading cause of death for young people ages 15 to 34; and,

WHEREAS, in New Jersey, 627 individuals lost their lives in traffic crashes in 2011; and,

WHEREAS, alcohol-related crashes accounted for 24 percent of the State’s traffic fatalities, while speed related fatalities for 2011 climbed to 174 from 61 recorded in 2007; and,

WHEREAS, motorcycles bicycle riders and pedestrians face increased risks on New Jersey’s roadways, as people opt for alternative modes of transportation; and

WHEREAS, 92 motorcyclists, 17 bicyclists and 143 pedestrians were killed in New Jersey in traffic-related crashes in 2011; and,

WHEREAS, safer driving behaviors such as buckling up, every ride; obeying posted speed limits; stopping for pedestrians in crosswalks and using crosswalks when walking; avoiding aggressive driving behaviors; never driving impaired; wearing proper safety gear when riding a motorcycle or bicycle; and focusing solely on driving by avoiding distractions, can drastically reduce the number of traffic-related injuries and death;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Township of Washington do hereby proclaim October 10, 2012, Put the Brakes On fatalities Day, and call upon everyone to put these lifesaving behaviors into practice to improve safety on the roadways in our community and throughout the State.

Mary Ann Ozment, Township Clerk

Richard Hrbek, Council President