

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

PUBLIC PORTION/PUBLIC MEETING

OCTOBER 15, 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: Glenn Beckmeyer, Steven Cascio, Joseph D'Urso, Fred Goetz, Richard Hrbek. Absent: None. Also present: Janet Sobkowicz, Mayor; Ken Poller, Attorney; Catherine Steinel, Administrator.

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.

REPORT OF MAYOR

Mayor Sobkowicz stated that she attended a DCA Mayor's meeting. The topics discussed were Shared Services and Best Practices. Shared Court is a venue that the Township will be looked into. Homestead Rebate applications have been extended until December 14, 2012. The Mayor spoke about the 9/11 ceremony held in front of Town Hall. The next memorial service is Veterans Day. The Ragamuffin Parade will be October 27, 2012. The Holiday Tree Lighting will be December 9, 2012. September 19, 2012 was Betty Frazza's charity 5K event, John's Run, which drew about 200 participants. September 29, 2012 was Township Shredding and E-waste Recycling Day. The Mayor said that she recently presented William and Marie Levoche a proclamation for their 70th wedding anniversary on September 30, 2012. October 6, 2012 was Town Day which was very popular, approximately 2,700 people attended. She thanked everyone who volunteered for their participation. The Township Girl Scouts decorated the front of Town Hall on October 8, 2012 for the autumn season; pumpkins were donated by Stone Mill Gardens. The Township Administration will find out soon if United Water is going to pay for the paving of Beech Street. Township Engineer, Paul Azzolina is finishing DOT grant applications for the repaving of Colonial Boulevard and Sussex Road. Planning Board has approved the demolition and construction of a new house at 570 Pascack Road. Azarian Realty received approval for temporary signage at the shopping center. October is Fire Prevention Month, during Town Day there was a demonstration of the use of fire extinguishers and information given out. September's Police overtime is higher for the month of September than the same time last year. This is the first time in 2012 that the overage from last year has occurred. The overtime is due to the training of crossing guards in three posts and quite a few warrants and arrests. Civilian Dispatching hours were higher this year. The Ambulance Corp needs more volunteers. The Mayor challenged the football players to win the division title. She complimented the Township cheerleaders for their support. Sign-ups for basketball, wrestling and roller hockey are underway. Leaf pick-up will begin October 29, 2012. A new bucket loader will arrive the third week in November. The Road Department is picking up grass and garden debris until October 26, 2012 as well as checking and cleaning catch basins. The Road Department mechanic is very busy working on trucks, equipment and police vehicles. Mayor Sobkowicz read the recycling rebates to date. She went over election deadlines and dates. Memorial Field's re-sodding project will begin on November 19, 2012. Work has been done by the Administrator and Attorney on the cell tower plans. The Administration and Council have been involved in reading various contracts as well as the cell tower lease agreement. Due to a lawsuit award, the Township has the funds to do repair work to the Municipal building roof. The Washington Township Center is hosting a Halloween contest and trick or treating on October 31, 2012.

REPORT OF COUNCIL

Mr. Beckmeyer – Mr. Beckmeyer said that he attended a special POW MIA Recognition Day sponsored by the County on September 21, 2012. Two World War II veterans were honored, Carlstadt resident Alfonse Zianousi, and the Township's own Vito Trause. Mr. Beckmeyer said that he was honored to attend the event.

Mr. Hrbek – Mr. Hrbek thanked all the volunteers that helped out at Town Day.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Dr. Cascio, seconded by Mr. D'Urso to approved the August 6, 2012 Conference and Closed minutes of the Township Council.

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

Nays: None

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

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

Nays: None

David Snyder, 91 Windsor Circle – Mr. Snyder thanked the Council for passing the shopping center sign ordinance. He said that he heard only one side of Washington Avenue from above the GSP to Pascack Road was going to be repaved. The Council will look into it, they have not been told anything about the project. Mr. Snyder asked if there is a target date for the construction of the cell tower. Mr. Poller said that they have to still appear before the Planning Board.

Raymond Bernroth, 838 Crest Place – Mr. Bernroth said that the road department has filled in some of the pot holes on Crest Place but there are still holes near the corner of Crest and Pascack Road. He said that he enjoyed Town Day. He stated that the Council meetings should be better attended by the public.

Bea Napier, 324 Hudson Avenue – Mrs. Napier asked if the Township has any plans to repair or replace the Salt Shed. Mayor Sobkowicz said that she will speak to the Director of the DMF to see if there are any plans. Mrs. Napier asked where the new bucket loader is going to be stored and was told outside.

Michael Ullman 2 Clark Avenue – Mr. Ullman asked if there has been any research done into finding indoor storage for the DMF road equipment and was told that it is being explored but there is no plan in place at this time. He asked if the VFW is being used for any activities and what plans have been pursued. Mr. Hrbek said that the topic of the VFW is on the conference agenda as an update. The Mayor is working with the Planner to come up with some options for the building. There is no time line at this point but the plan may include eligibility for affordable housing. He asked if the Administration has given Council information regarding the shared dispatching service. Mr. Hrbek stated that no information has been given at this time but dispatching is on the conference agenda. He asked if Dr. Cascio has presented any new information to Westwood and was told no. Mr. Ullman asked how much money is in the trust fund for the municipal building. The Mayor stated there are a few hundred thousand dollars in the fund at this time. He was told to request more exact information through an OPRA request. Mr. Ullman asked if the IRS has responded to the question of the attorney's eligibility for pension and was told not yet. He asked if the generator has gone out to bid again yet and was told no. He asked when the generator has been last tested and was told that the generator is tested each time there is a threat of a storm. The transfer switch may need to be tested. Mr. Ullman stated that some answers in the Best Practices document contradict the Report of Audit. He was told that the Township bank accounts are reconciled but the General Ledger is not up to

date. Annual Financial Statement is prepared by the auditor. Mr. Ullman said that the CFO should be responsible for preparing the financial statements and fiscal accounts. The Corrective Action Plan is on the conference agenda. There are some items that needed to be clarified and questions answered. The Corrective Acton plan was discussed in Closed recently due to personnel issues surrounding it. In a department of one, a question on the involving the work done in that department becomes an evaluation of the employee. The answers on the Corrective Action plan will become public record when approved.

ORDINANCES

The Clerk read Ordinance #12-17 entitled: AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE PARKING ON A SECTION OF RIDGEWOOD ROAD.

A motion was made by Mr. Goetz, seconded by Mr. D'Urso to introduce and pass Ordinance 12-17 at second reading by title.

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

Nays: None

The following resolution was presented and adopted on a motion by Mr. Goetz, seconded by Dr. Cascio.

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

Nays: None

BE AND IT IS RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington that Ordinance No. 12-17 entitled: AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE PARKING ON A SECTION OF RIDGEWOOD ROAD be read on second reading and the public hearing be held thereon pursuant to law.

A motion was made by Mr. Goetz, seconded by Dr. Cascio to open the public hearing and there being no comments or questions was closed on a motion by Mr. D'Urso, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer.

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

Nays: Nays

A motion was made by Mr. D'Urso, seconded by Mr. Goetz to pass Ordinance 12-17 at second and final reading, submit same to the Mayor for her approval and thereafter be published according to law.

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

Nays: None

The Clerk read Ordinance #12-18 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FEES FOR HEALTH DEPARTMENT ANNUAL LICENSES, PERMITS OR CERTIFICATES.

A motion was made by Mr. D'Urso, seconded by Dr. Cascio to introduce and pass Ordinance #12-18 at first reading by title.

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

Nays: Councilpersons Goetz

The following resolution was presented and adopted on a motion by Mr. D'Urso, seconded by Mr. Beckmeyer.

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

Nays: None

WHEREAS, Ordinance 12-18 entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FEES FOR HEALTH DEPARTMENT ANNUAL LICENSES, PERMITS OR CERTIFICATES was introduced and passed at first reading by title at a meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Washington on the 15th day of October, 2012.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that further consideration for final passage and public hearing of said ordinance shall be held on the 29th day of October, 2012 at 7:30 o'clock in the evening, prevailing time, or as soon thereafter as said matter can be reached in the Municipal Building, Pascack Road, Township of Washington, NJ 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 Township Clerk is authorized to advertise in the Ridgewood News 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.

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 Mr. Beckmeyer.

Ayes: Councilmen Beckmeyer, Cascio, D'Urso, Goetz, Hrbek.

Nays: None.

WHEREAS, Rose Carpinelli posted a road opening performance bond at 155 Walnut Street;

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated August 23, 2012.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the performance bond in the amount of \$1000.00 to the above.

WHEREAS, Victoria Faustini posted engineering, soil movement escrow along with a performance bond on premises known as Block 2501, Lot 4.06, 2003 East Glen Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the Construction Code Official has issued approval dated September 27, 2012, C.O. No. 10-253;

WHEREAS, there are no outstanding invoices due the Township Engineer as per his letter dated August 9, 2012.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Treasurer of the Township of Washington is authorized to refund the balance of the esc row money along with the balance of the performance bond in the amount of \$6884.73 to the above.

WHEREAS, at the Tax Sale held on October 28, 2010, the Township of Washington sold a tax lien on Block 3109, Lot 3, also known as 4 Colonial Blvd., for delinquent 2009 taxes, owned by Kathleen T. O'Neill and;

WHEREAS, this Tax Lien Certificate #09-00003 was sold to 72 Oak Street Holdings, LLC at 0% interest rate and:

WHEREAS, Signature Information Solutions, records research firm for new homeowners will redeem of Certificate#09-00003 in the amount of \$33,986.81, 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 \$33,986.81 payable to 72 Oak Street Holdings, LLC, P.O. Box 653, Montvale, NJ 07645

Tax Lien	\$ 7,336.66	
2% Redemption Penalty	293.47	1099:
Subsequent Taxes	21,521.00	Sub. Interest: \$ 4,780.68
Subsequent Interest	4,780.68	2%Penalty 293.47
Recording Fee	43.00	Total 1099: \$ 5,074.15
Search Fee	12.00	
Total:	\$ 33,986.81	

WHEREAS, the Tax Court of New Jersey granted an adjustment in taxes for Block 2502.02, Lot 20, owner, Giselle Brown Realty (Charlie Brown, Tenant, payer of property taxes), 95 Linwood Avenue for the years 2009, 2010 and 2011. Due to the Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing of Charlie Brown in November 2010, the 4TH quarter 2010 installment was placed temporarily in an arrears account.

WHEREAS, under the New Jersey Statute 54:3-27.2, refund of excess taxes may be applied against delinquencies. Skoloff & Whole, PC attorney for plaintiff.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington, New Jersey that the Chief Financial Officer, Jacqueline Do, be authorized to issue a refund to:

Charlie Brown's and Skoloff & Wolfe, P.C.
293 Eisenhower Parkway
Livingston, NJ 07039

(2009)	\$ 1,513.73
(2010)	\$ 2,470.20
(2011)	\$ 3,463.31
Total Credit	<u>\$10,923.60</u>
Less delinquency	\$ 8,299.54
Refund Due	\$ 2,624.06

WHEREAS, on October 2, 2012, the Borough of Westwood awarded a contract as the lead agency for the Pascack Valley Cooperative system (#107-PVCPS) To Neczus/Madison Cost Recovery located at P.O. Box 3, Chappaqua, NJ 10514; and

WHEREAS, the bid proposal was predicated upon the number of participating municipalities within the contract to determine the percentage of savings to be returned to the individual municipality; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the PVCPS to know the number of municipalities participating in the program in order for the municipalities to enter into separate agreements with the vendor and properly identify within these agreements the percentage to be compensated back to the municipality for certain bid items.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Township of Washington that the Township of Washington hereby commits to participate in the program for Utility Bill and Insurance Invoice Verification Audit and Potential Cost Recovery Contract.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council hereby authorizes the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute an agreement with Neczus/Madison Cost Recovery upon preparation by the Township Attorney identifying the anticipated percentage of cost recovery to the municipality.

Raffle License #875, #876, #877 for IHA was approved by the Township Council of the Township of Washington.

After an explanation by Ms. Steinel, a motion was made by Mr. D'Urso, seconded by Mr. Goetz to pass the following resolution with recommendations as corrected.

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

Nays: None

WHEREAS, the federal government in 1996 signed into law the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 requiring submission of a corrective action plan for findings and recommendations in the annual audit report; and

WHEREAS, the corrective action plan for 2011 has been submitted to the Mayor and the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Council have received and accepted the plans and they are on file in the Township Clerk's office.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Washington that the plans along with a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Division of Local Government Services of the Department of Community Affairs.

Mary Ann Ozment, Township Clerk

Richard Hrbek, Council President