

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY

Regular Meeting
April 19, 2016

The regular meeting of the Township Committee was held on this date at the Washington Township Municipal Building, 211 Route 31 North, Washington, N.J. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Mayor Robert Klingel.

SUNSHINE LAW COMPLIANCE – Mayor Klingel noted that this meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Law of 1975 in as much as a notice had been published in the Star-Gazette and transmitted to the Express-Times, posted at the Municipal Building and a copy is on file in the Clerk's office. This agenda is subject to change by order of the Washington Township Committee before and/or during the scheduled meeting.

ROLL CALL

Fiore, present; Klingel, present; Kovacs, present; Rossi, present; Willan, present

STAFF PRESENT

Anna C. Godfrey, Township Clerk; Peter deBoer, Township Administrator; Attorney Michael Lavery; Chief Cicerelle; John Mooney, Municipal Auditor; Janice Congleton, CFO; and Jeff Cooper, Superintendent of Public Works

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Klingel welcomed Janice Congleton, the Township's new Chief Financial Officer, to the meeting.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Klingel stated a proclamation designating May 2016 as Older American Month can be found on the Township's website.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Rossi, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held March 15, 2016.

ROLL CALL: Fiore, yes; Rossi, yes; Kovacs, yes; Willan, yes; Klingel, yes

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Fiore, to approve the Executive Session minutes of the regular meeting held March 15, 2016.

ROLL CALL: Willan, yes; Fiore, yes; Kovacs, yes; Rossi, yes; Klingel, yes

ORDINANCE

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Rossi, to open to the public Ordinance 16-04, Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank on second reading. All were in favor. Seeing no one, a motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Rossi, to close the public portion of Ordinance 16-04. A motion was made by Rossi, seconded by Willan, to adopt Ordinance 16-04 on second reading.

ROLL CALL: Rossi, yes; Willan, yes; Fiore, yes; Kovacs, yes; Klingel, yes

A motion was made by Rossi, seconded by Kovacs, to open to the public Ordinance 16-05, Bond Ordinance Providing for the Acquisition of Vehicular Equipment by the Township of Washington, County of Warren, State of New Jersey Appropriating \$195,000 Therefore and Authorizing the Issuance of \$185,700 Bonds or Notes of the Township for Financing Such Appropriation on second reading. All were in favor. Seeing no one, a motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Rossi, to close the public portion of Ordinance 16-05. All were in favor. A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Willan, to adopt Ordinance 16-05 on second reading.

ROLL CALL: Kovacs, yes; Willan, yes; Fiore, yes; Rossi, yes; Klingel, yes

RESOLUTION

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Willan, to approve Resolutions 16-60, 16-61, 16-63 and 16-64.

16-60 Cancel Tax Sale Certificate #142 – Block 90, Lot 5

16-61 Chapter 159 Budget Amendment – NJDOT Grant Cemetery Hill Road Improvements - Section 1

16-63 Resolution of the Municipal Committee of the Township of Washington, County of Warren, NJ Authorizing the Land Use Board to Investigate Whether the Property Commonly Known on the Township Tax Maps as Block 65, Lots 1,2,2.02, 3.03, 8, 8.02, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 Block 65.02 Lots 1c0001 (Condo Unit 4) and 1c0002 (Condo Unit 3) and Block 65.02 Lots 1 and 4 Should Be Designated as an Area in Need of Redevelopment Pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, *et seq*

16-64 Resolution Authorizing the Advertising of Bids for the Purchase of Two (2) Mason Dump Trucks with Related Equipment

ROLL CALL: Kovacs, yes; Willan, yes; Fiore, yes; Rossi, yes; Klingel, yes

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Fiore, to approve Resolution 16-62, Reappointment of Municipal Clerk – Anna Godfrey.

ROLL CALL: Kovacs, yes; Fiore, yes; Rossi, yes; Willan, yes; Klingel, yes

John Mooney, Township Auditor, stated the State has reviewed and approved the 2016 budget as presented. The budget represents a yearly increase of \$26.00 on a house assessed at \$250,000. A motion was made by Rossi, seconded by Fiore, to open to the public Resolution 16-59, Adoption of the 2016 Annual Budget. All were in favor.

Jeff Duckworth, 28 Coleman Hill Road, asked the number of part-time employees and discussed with Mayor Klingel and Mr. deBoer. J. Duckworth asked how much money is spent on Meadow Breeze Park. Mr. deBoer will look into this for him.

Hearing no further comments from the public, a motion was made by Willan, seconded by Kovacs, to close the public portion of Resolution 16-59. All were in favor. A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Rossi, to adopt Resolution 16-59.

ROLL CALL: Kovacs, yes; Rossi, yes; Fiore, yes; Willan, yes; Klingel, yes
Mayor Klingel thanked J. Mooney for his assistance with the budget.

STAFF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Chief Cicerelle previously submitted a report and had nothing further to add.

J. Cooper previously submitted a report. An electrical upgrade in the pavilion has been completed and a new roof will be installed on the pavilion tomorrow. An upgrade to the emergency lighting is needed at the Parks & Recreation Building before it can be rented out.

Mr. deBoer previously submitted a report. He has been discussing the purchase of two new cars for the Code & Construction department with the Auditor and CFO. A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Rossi, to authorize Mr. deBoer to work with Attorney Lavery to create an ordinance to appoint J. Congleton as the Township's Qualified Purchasing Agent.

ROLL CALL: Kovacs, yes; Rossi, yes; Fiore, yes; Willan, yes; Klingel, yes

Mr. deBoer explained the need to apply for grant applications for the Friese Property and the Autogiro Building. The cost of approximately \$3,600 would be taken from the park bond. A motion was made by Rossi, seconded by Fiore, to authorize the preparation of grant applications for the Blacksmith Shop on the Friese Property and the Autogiro Building.

ROLL CALL: Rossi, yes; Fiore, yes; Kovacs, yes; Willan, yes; Klingel, yes

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Mayor Klingel opened the meeting to the public.

Frank Marascia, Environmental Commission Chairman, spoke to the Committee about the issues regarding the Washington Cemetery including unauthorized fires, excessive garbage, and water run-off. Mayor Klingel stated he will form a committee to deal with these on-going concerns and noted the Zoning Officer had suggested the owners install a fence to catch blowing debris, papers, etc.

Lydia Schmidt, 21 Cemetery Hill Road, spoke about the size of the fires and the items burned during funerals at the Washington Cemetery. Garbage is left on the cemetery's property after a ceremony and then blows into the neighbor's yards, over the bank and into the woods. There is an issue with not enough parking at the cemetery.

Gretchen and David Foley, 2 Ridge Drive, spoke about the problems at the Washington Cemetery including trees that cemetery employees had cleared, the detention basin filled with garbage and large fires. They provided the Committee with numerous pictures of the garbage, fires, etc.

Janet LaJeunesse, 8 Ridge Drive, spoke of the problems at the Washington Cemetery including trees on her property being cut down, the dumpster is overflowing, rats are found on the property, and stated smoke from the fires affects her family.

Joel Schnetzer, 240 Cemetery Hill Road, asked about the Economic Development Committee meetings and spoke with Mayor Klingel and J. Cooper about the decision to keep the second back hoe.

Hearing no further comments, a motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Rossi, to close the public portion of the meeting. All were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Klingel appointed Maureen O'Donnell to the vacant Class IV position on the Land Use Board, moving her from the Alternate 2 position.

The proposal from Eclectic Architecture to apply for two grant applications to continue work on the Friese property was discussed during Mr. deBoer's staff report.

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Willan, to authorize Chief Cicerelle to sign the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission's 2016 Memorandum of Understanding regarding security at the Motor Vehicle Agency.

ROLL CALL: Kovacs, yes; Willan, yes; Fiore, yes; Rossi, yes; Klingel, yes

Mayor Klingel stated he plans on attending, or having a representative attend, the National Women Build Week event sponsored by Lowe's on Saturday, April 30, 2016.

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Kovacs, to approve Eileen Parks to attend Affordable Housing Seminars on May 12, 19, and 21, 2016 at Rutgers in New Brunswick.

ROLL CALL: Willan, yes; Kovacs, yes; Fiore, yes; Rossi, yes; Klingel, yes

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Willan, to approve Evan Howell to attend the Tax Collectors/Treasurers Association Conference on May 17, 18, and 19, 2016 in Atlantic City, NJ.

ROLL CALL: Kovacs, yes; Willan, yes; Fiore, yes; Rossi, yes; Klingel, yes

REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS

Mr. Fiore stated he attended the Fireman's Installation Ceremony and updated the Committee on various meetings he attended.

Mayor Klingel stated the Township received a \$200,000 grant to repair a portion of Cemetery Hill Road. A tab has been added to the website to list business information for those who responded to a letter sent by the Economic Development Committee to all business owners.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Rossi, to approve the payment of the bills.

ROLL CALL: Fiore, yes; Rossi, yes; Kovacs, yes; Willan, yes; Klingel, yes

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Kovacs, to approve Resolution 16-65, Resolution Authorizing Executive Session for a Meeting Not Open to the Public in Accordance With the Provisions of the NJ Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 at 8:30 pm. All were in favor. Attorney Lavery stated the Committee will be discussing two contractual matters dealing with Police Shared Services Agreements, an attorney/client privilege matter dealing with the PILOT and redevelopment area, a pending litigation matter dealing with COAH, and a personnel matter.

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Rossi, to come out of Executive Session at 9:53 pm. All were in favor. Attorney Lavery stated the Committee discussed two contractual matters dealing with Police Shared Services Agreements, an attorney/client privilege matter dealing with the PILOT and redevelopment area, a pending litigation matter dealing with COAH, and a personnel matter. No official action was taken. Copies of these minutes will be available at such time the Committee determines there is no harm to the public interest.

Mayor Klingel appointed Karen Lesniewski, currently a member of the Land Use Board, to the Environmental Commission.

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Kovacs, to authorize Mayor Klingel to sign the Police Shared Service Agreement with Oxford Township upon approval of the Oxford Township Committee.

ROLL CALL: Willan, yes; Kovacs, yes; Fiore, yes; Rossi, yes; Klingel, yes

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Willan, to authorize the Township Administrator to contact the PIS Title Company to find out the 2016 rate for work as discussed in Executive Session.

ROLL CALL: Fiore, yes; Willan, yes; Kovacs, yes; Rossi, yes; Klingel, yes

ADJORNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before the Committee, a motion was made by Willan, seconded by Fiore, to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna C. Godfrey, RMC
Township Clerk