

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY

Regular Meeting
September 19, 2017

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; Willan, present
Rossi, absent

STAFF PRESENT

Anna C. Godfrey, Township Clerk; Attorney Katrina Campbell; Peter deBoer, Township Administrator; Chief Cicerelle; Janice Congleton, Chief Financial Officer; and Andy Hart, Assistant Superintendent of Public Works

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Klingel read a proclamation designating October 2017 as “National Domestic Violence Awareness Month”.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Willan, to approve the Executive Session minutes of the special meeting of July 31, 2017.

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

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Fiore, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 15, 2017 as amended by Mayor Klingel.

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

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Willan, to approve the Executive Session minutes of the regular meeting of August 15, 2017.

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

RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Willan, to approve Resolutions 17-123 through and including 17-137.

17-123 Statewide Insurance Fund Resolution to Join (Renew) The Fund

17-124 Resolution Setting Forth a Policy Requiring the Tax Assessor to Notify the Chief Financial Officer and Governing Body of all Tax Appeals Filed by June 1st of Each Year

17-125 Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement with the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council to Renew Membership Therein for the Period of October 1, 2016 Through September 30, 2021

17-126 Resolution Imposing a Halloween Curfew and Establishing Observance of Trick-Or-Treat Within the Township of Washington

17-127 Refund Resolution

17-128 Resolution Authorizing and Approving Salaries and Wages for Certain Employees (C. Prell / PT Police Secretary)

17-129 Resolution Authorizing and Approving Salaries and Wages for Certain Employees (P. Nunn; H. Mikaliunas; N. Sawyer; A. Barger / Crossing Guards)

17-130 Resolution Authorizing the Release of the Remaining Balance in the Developer’s Escrow Account for Washington Storage, LLC Held in Trust by the Township of Washington

17-131 Resolution of Award – Cemetery Hill Road Resurfacing (Section 1)

17-132 Resolution to Authorize a Provider of a Deferred Compensation Plan for the Employees of the Township of Washington (Lincoln Financial)

17-133 Resolution Authorizing the Release of the Remaining Balance in the Developer’s Escrow Account for Pear Tree Realty Held in Trust by the Township of Washington

17-134 Resolution Authorizing the Release of the Remaining Balance in the Developer’s Escrow Account for Max Spann, Held in Trust by the Township of Washington

17-135 Redemption Resolution – Block 38, Lot 22 C0073

17-136 Resolution to Change the Township’s Payroll Company

17-137 Resolution of the Township of Washington, County of Warren, State of New Jersey Confirming the Merger by the Assessor of Block 40 Lot 98 and Lot 96.01 and Fixing an Amount to Satisfy Tax Sale Certificate 206

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

STAFF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

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

Mr. deBoer previously submitted a report and had nothing further to add.

A. Hart previously submitted a report and updated the Committee on the road improvement projects on Partridge Run, Mill Pond Road and Cemetery Hill Road.

REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS

Mr. Fiore stated he met with Anthony Pasquini and two Rutgers University professors at the Pohatcong Native Arboretum and discussed students who are working towards their Forestry Management degree possibly helping to maintain the arboretum. Frank Marascia and the New Jersey American Water Company will help with trail maintenance after the hurricane season. The New Jersey American Water Company donated two telephone poles to the Township for the building of a bridge at Lake Marguerite. Mr. Fiore provided the Committee with a draft ordinance regarding the foreclosure process.

Mayor Klingel spoke of issues at 176 Little Philadelphia Road and the foreclosure process.

Mr. Kovacs stated the Township hosted a New Jersey Transportation Planning Authority meeting regarding a study on the Morris Canal Greenway Corridor. Mr. Kovacs gave a brief history of the Morris Canal.

Mr. Willan spoke of the poor condition of the old Wayfarer Restaurant and the Committee discussed with Mr. deBoer.

OLD BUSINESS

The concerns regarding the tax sale certificate for Paul Creager, 348 Route 57 West, were addressed in Resolution 17-137.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Fiore, to acknowledge the CY2017 Best Practices Inventory Worksheet as certified by the Township Clerk, Township Administrator, and Chief Financial Officer. Mr. deBoer explained a discussion regarding the Fire District will become an annual agenda item beginning next year.

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

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Willan, to approve the Service Order Requests for 176 Little Philadelphia Road and 41 Lock Street.

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

Mayor Klingel acknowledged receipt of a letter from the Warren County Department of Land Preservation regarding an update to the Comprehensive Farmland Preservation Plan.

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Fiore, to approve the requests from Nancy Godfrey and Ann Kilduff to attend a seminar entitled "An OPRA Survival Guide" on October 13, 2017 and a seminar entitled "Quest for Fiscal Sustainability" on November 17, 2017. Both seminars will be held in Budd Lake, NJ.

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

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Fiore, to approve the request from Eileen Parks to attend a seminar entitled "An OPRA Survival Guide" on October 13, 2017 in Budd Lake, NJ.

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

The Committee discussed several complaints from residents regarding a go-cart track in the backyard of 183 Washburn Avenue. Mr. deBoer will follow-up with the Zoning Officer who has been dealing with the situation.

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Willan, to schedule the annual Tree Lighting for December 16, 2017 at 6:30 pm.

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Kovacs, to approve the payment of the bills.

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

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Mayor Klingel opened the meeting to the public. Seeing no one, Mayor Klingel closed the public portion of the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Willan, to approve Resolution 17-138, 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 8:00 pm. All were in favor. Attorney Campbell stated the Committee will be discussing three personnel matters, a security matter dealing with the Township's Cyber Security Report, and a contractual matter dealing with Hawk Pointe.

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Kovacs, to come out of Executive Session at 9:16 pm. All were in favor. Attorney Campbell stated the Committee discussed three personnel matters, a security matter dealing with the Township's Cyber Security Report, and a contractual matter dealing with Hawk Pointe. 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.

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Fiore, to approve Resolution 17-139, Authorize and Approve Salaries and Wages for Certain Employees (A. Kimble / DPW). Mayor Klingel explained this is moving Adam Kimble from a probationary to permanent position as Department of Public Works Laborer.

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

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Fiore, to approve Resolution 17-140, Authorize and Approve Salaries and Wages for Certain Employees (Louis Risko / DPW). Mayor Klingel explained this is moving Louis Risko from a probationary to permanent position as Department of Public Works Laborer.

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

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Kovacs, to approve Resolution 17-141, Authorize and Approve Salaries and Wages for Certain Employees (Ann Kilduff / Recreation Secretary) from October 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before the Committee, a motion was made by Willan, seconded by Fiore, to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna C. Godfrey, RMC
Township Clerk