

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY

Regular Meeting  
April 17, 2018

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

Ann Kilduff, Deputy Township Clerk; Attorney Michael Lavery; Peter deBoer, Township Administrator; Lieutenant Teter; John Mooney, Township Auditor; Joseph Rossi, Construction Official; and Andy Hart, Assistant Superintendent of Public Works

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Klingel stated a proclamation designating May 2018 as Older American Month will be posted on the website.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Willan, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 20, 2018.

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

A motion was made by Rossi, seconded by Fiore, to approve the Executive Session minutes of the regular meeting of March 20, 2018 with the changes noted by Mr. Willan.

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

ORDINANCE

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Fiore, to open to the public Ordinance 18-04, Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank.

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

Seeing no one, a motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Rossi, to close the public portion of Ordinance 18-04. All were in favor. A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Kovacs, to adopt Ordinance 18-04 on second reading.

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

RESOLUTION

J. Mooney stated there have been no changes made to the budget since its introduction. The average taxpayer is looking at a \$9.44 per month increase mainly due to the regional school tax decreasing causing a loss of surplus. A motion was made by Rossi, seconded by Fiore, to open to the public Resolution 18-73, Adoption of the 2018 Annual Budget. All were in favor. Seeing no one, a motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Rossi, to close the public portion of the budget adoption. All were in favor. A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Rossi, to adopt the 2018 Annual Budget.

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

John Mooney left the meeting.

ORDINANCE

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Rossi, to open to the public Ordinance 18-03, Ordinance Revising, Amending and Supplementing Chapter 93 of the Code of the Township of Washington, County of Warren, State of New Jersey Entitled "Parks and Playgrounds". All were in favor. Seeing no one, a motion was made by Rossi, seconded by Fiore, to close the public portion of Ordinance 18-03. All were in favor. A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Rossi, to adopt Ordinance 18-03 on second reading.

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

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Rossi, to introduce Ordinance 18-05, Bond Ordinance Appropriating \$500,000 and Authorizing the Issuance of \$475,000 Bonds or Notes of the Township for Various Improvements or Purposes Authorized to be Undertaken by the Township of Washington in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey on first reading.

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

Second reading, public hearing and adoption will take place at the May 15, 2018 meeting.

#### RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Fiore, to approve Resolutions 18-74 through and including 18-80.

18-74 Resolution Authorizing a Donation of Abandoned Bicycles to Charitable Organizations, Namely "Pedals for Progress"

18-75 Resolution Authorizing and Approving Salaries and Wages for Certain Employees (E. Deemer– Crossing Guard)

18-76 Resolution Authorizing and Approving Salaries and Wages for Certain Employees (E. Walker - Crossing Guard)

18-77 Redemption Resolution – Block 38.03, Lot 9

18-78 Redemption Resolution – Block 38, Lot 22 C0114

18-79 Refund Resolution – Block 81, Lot 5.18

18-80 Chapter 159 Budget Amendment – Walmart Grant for EMT Supplies

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

#### STAFF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Lieutenant Teter previously submitted a report and stated the Chief has five candidates for the School Resource Officer positions.

A. Hart previously submitted a report and stated the park is at full staff and preparing for the Spring sports season.

J. Rossi updated the Committee on current property issues and stated he and the Fire Marshall coordinated their efforts to help a family displaced by an electrical fire.

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

#### PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Mayor Klingel opened the meeting to the public.

Darren Zignoli, 6 Edgemere Terrace, discussed the numerous potholes on his street with A. Hart.

Hearing no further business, Mayor Klingel closed the public portion of the meeting.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Klingel asked for comments regarding the vicious and dangerous dog sample ordinance. After a brief discussion, Attorney Lavery will speak to the Animal Control Officer regarding a similar ordinance for the Township.

Mayor Klingel stated the Scenic Byway Committee is looking for two representatives from the Township. Mr. Fiore will follow up with interested members of the Senior Group.

Mayor Klingel spoke regarding a list of the next properties to be considered for foreclosure. Mr. Fiore explained the current and next steps in the process. The Committee discussed the process with Attorney Lavery. A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Rossi, to move forward with the next properties on the list provided by Mr. deBoer.

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

#### NEW BUSINESS

J. Rossi explained state-wide changes to construction fees and would like to increase Township fees by twenty percent. Rates have not increased since 2013. The Committee discussed with J. Rossi. J. Rossi will submit a fee schedule for discussion at the May meeting.

#### REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS

Mr. Fiore updated the Committee on the various board meetings he attended.

#### 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 Fiore, seconded by Willan, to approve Resolution 18-81, 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 8:15 pm. All were in favor. Attorney Lavery stated the Committee will be discussing two personnel matters dealing with the Department of Public Works and a pending litigation attorney/client privilege matter.

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Willan, to come out of Executive Session at 8:42 pm. All were in favor. Attorney Lavery stated the Committee discussed two personnel matters dealing with the Department of Public Works and a pending litigation attorney/client privilege 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.

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Rossi, to approve Resolution 18-82, Authorizing Salaries and Wages for Certain Employees (Tyler Cochran – Temp DPW) as discussed in Executive Session.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before the Committee, a motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Willan, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kilduff, RMC  
Deputy Township Clerk