

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY

Regular Meeting
March 20, 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 Katrina Campbell; Peter deBoer, Township Administrator; Chief Cicerelle; Janice Congleton, Chief Financial Officer; and Robert Lagonera, Animal Control Officer

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Klingel presented Carly Shopko of Shop-Rite with a proclamation designating March 2018 as National Nutrition Month. C. Shopko provided healthy snacks, recipe booklets, and a list of upcoming events to those present.

Robert Lagonera, Animal Control Officer, discussed the need for a potentially dangerous dog ordinance with the Committee. The Committee will continue the discussion at their April meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

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

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

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

A motion was made by Rossi, seconded by Fiore, to approve the minutes of the budget meeting of February 24, 2018.

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

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Willan, to approve the Executive Session minutes of the budget meeting of February 24, 2018.

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

RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Willan, to approve Resolutions 18-61 through and including 18-63.

18-61 Deferred Local District School Tax

18-62 Resolution to Utilize an Average of Prior Three Years Tax Collection Percentage

18-63 Self-Examination of the 2018 Budget

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

ORDINANCE

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Rossi, to open to the Public Ordinance 18-02, Ordinance of the Township of Washington, County of Warren, State of New Jersey to Amend and Supplement Chapter 71, Section 71-3, "Fees for Use of the Township Park, Ball Fields, Tennis Courts and Other Facilities", of the Code of the Township of Washington. All were in favor. Seeing no one, a motion was made by Willan, seconded by Fiore, to close the public portion of Ordinance 18-02. All were in favor. A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Rossi, to adopt Ordinance 18-02 on second reading.

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

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Rossi, to introduce 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" 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 April 17, 2018 meeting.

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

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

Second reading, public hearing and adoption will take place at the April 17, 2018 meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Fiore, to approve Resolutions 18-65 through and including 18-70.

18-65 Redemption Resolution – Block 82, Lot 4.01

18-66 Redemption Resolution – Block 38, Lot 22 C0114

18-67 Redemption Resolution – Block 38.03, Lot 9

18-68 Resolution Authorizing Refund of 2018 Taxes Not Yet Billed

18-69 Refund Resolution – Block 68, Lot 20

18-70 Governing Body Certification of Compliance with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's "Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964"

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

A motion was made by Rossi, seconded by Fiore, to approve Resolution 18-64, Introduction of the 2018 Budget.

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

Mayor Klingel stated copies of the budget will be available on the website and from the Clerk's office.

STAFF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Chief Cicerelle previously submitted a report and provided the Committee with call volume statistics from Winter Storm Reilly. Paperwork has been submitted to FEMA and the Chief is waiting to hear if the Township will receive funding.

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

J. Congleton explained Resolution 18-70 ensures all candidates for employment are treated equally.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Rossi, to open the meeting to the public. All were in favor.

Ron Sizemore of the Recreation Committee spoke about the on-going issue of parking on the grass near Field D1 at Meadow Breeze Park. The Recreation Committee would like to build a split rail fence for approximately \$3,000. Mr. deBoer suggested the Department of Public Works install the fence. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Rossi, to approve the installation of a split rail fence at Meadow Breeze Park by the Department of Public Works as discussed pending the availability of funds.

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

Mr. Kovacs suggested additional parking could be added at the Friese property.

Hearing no further business, 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

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Willan, to approve the request from the Washington Historical Society to hold a History Expo on April 14, 2018 from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm at the Masonic Lodge on Route 31 North.

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

REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS

Mr. Fiore updated the Committee on the various board meetings he attended and the next steps with regards to vacant and abandoned properties.

Mayor Klingel stated the Township will be receiving grant funds for Section 3 of Cemetery Hill Road and encouraged everyone to attend the Art Show at the Family Guidance Center in Phillipsburg on March 23rd.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Rossi, to approve Resolution 18-71, 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.

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

Attorney Campbell stated the Committee will be discussing an attorney/client privilege matter, a contractual matter, and three personnel matters.

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Fiore, to come out of Executive Session at 8:45 pm. All were in favor. Attorney Campbell stated the Committee discussed an attorney/client privilege matter, a contractual matter, and three personnel matters. 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 Willan, to approve Resolution 18-72, Washington Township Shared Services Agreement for Sharing an Animal Control Officer Vehicle Between Other Municipalities in the County of Warren and the Township of Washington as discussed in Executive Session.

ROLL CALL: Fiore, yes; Willan, yes; Kovacs, yes; Rossi, 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 8:46 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kilduff, RMC
Deputy Township Clerk