

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY

Regular Meeting
January 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

Anderson, present; Fiore, present; Klingel, present; Kovacs, present; Rossi, present

STAFF PRESENT

Anna C. Godfrey, Township Clerk; Peter deBoer, Township Administrator; Attorney Michael Lavery; Chief Cicerelle and the Washington Township Police Department; Joseph Rossi, Construction Official; Jeff Cooper, Superintendent of Public Works; Ann Kilduff, Deputy Clerk; Suzanne Heerwagen, Deputy Treasurer, Bill Heerwagen, Fire Official; and Helen Hartrum, Police Secretary

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

SWEARING IN CEREMONY – CHIEF CICERELLE

Prosecutor Richard Burke administered the Oath of Office to new Police Chief Thomas J. Cicerelle. Mayor Klingel congratulated Chief Cicerelle on his promotion. Chief Cicerelle thanked everyone for attending. He gave a brief history of the Police Department and spoke of where he sees the department heading.

The Committee took a brief recess and returned with all members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Rossi, seconded by Kovacs, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held December 15, 2015.

ROLL CALL: Rossi, yes; Kovacs, yes; Anderson, abstained; Fiore, abstained; Klingel, yes

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Rossi, to approve the Executive Session minutes of the regular meeting held December 15, 2015.

ROLL CALL: Kovacs, yes; Rossi, yes; Anderson, abstained; Fiore, abstained; Klingel, yes

A motion was made by Rossi, seconded by Kovacs, to approve the minutes of the Reorganization Meeting held January 1, 2016. Mr. Fiore noted he will now be the liaison to the Fire District and Mrs. Anderson will be the liaison to the First Aid Squad.

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

RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Rossi, to approve Resolutions 16-25 through 16-32, excluding Resolution 16-28.

16-25 Governors' Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse – Fiscal Grant Cycle July 2014 - June 2019

16-26 Resolution Authorizing and Approving Salaries and Wages for Certain Employees (C. Harrington/Crossing Guard)

16-27 Resolution Amending 2016 Salary Resolution

16-29 Redemption Resolution – Block 78, Lot 11

16-30 Redemption Resolution – Block 78, Lot 12

16-31 Redemption Resolution – Block 38, Lot 22 C0079

16-32 Refund Resolution – Block 45, Lot 33

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

Mr. Rossi and Mr. Fiore would like the wording in Resolution 16-28 changed to require Township Committee approval. A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Anderson, to approve Resolution 16-28, Resolution Approving Participation by the Washington Township Police Department in the 1033 Military Surplus Program, as amended.

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

Resolution 16-33, Resolution Supporting the Warren County Freeholders for a Commuter Shuttle Service Along the Route 31 Corridor, was pulled.

STAFF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

J. Cooper previously submitted a report and had nothing further to add. He spoke with Mr. Fiore regarding the road salt used in the Township and the assistance provided by his department to the Township schools.

J. Rossi reported Johnson Dodge is on schedule and the Hunterdon Medical project has begun.

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

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

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

Joel Schnetzer, 240 Cemetery Hill Road, asked the price of a ton of road salt. J. Cooper replied approximately \$74.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Klingel appointed Frank Marascia as the Chairman of the Environmental Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Mayor to sign the annual Interlocal Agreement with the County of Warren regarding solid waste disposal. Attorney Lavery explained the Agreement for the new Committee members.

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

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Rossi, to approve the Mayor to sign a Professional Services Agreement between the Township of Washington and Farmland Maintenance Manager Roger Woolf. Mr. Kovacs explained the Agreement for the new Committee members.

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

Mayor Klingel stated the Committee will be creating an Open Space Advisory Committee. Anyone interested in becoming a member of that Committee should contact the Clerk's office.

REPORTS FROM OFFICIALS

Mr. Fiore stated he and Mrs. Anderson attended the League of Municipalities Workshop for Newly Elected Officials. He met with the Recreation Commission, Environmental Commission and Land Use Board. He is scheduled to attend a training workshop for the Land Use Board.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Anderson, to approve Resolution 16-34, 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 8:08 pm. All were in favor. Attorney Lavery stated the Committee will be discussing a personnel matter dealing with Fire Prevention, a personnel matter dealing with the CFO position, an attorney/client privilege matter dealing with Asbury Farms, and a contractual matter dealing with the Shared Service Agreement with Washington Borough. Mayor Klingel stated he expects the Committee will be in Executive Session for approximately forty-five minutes.

A motion was made by Rossi, seconded by Fiore, to come out of Executive Session at 9:28 pm. All were in favor. Attorney Lavery stated the Committee discussed a personnel matter dealing with Fire Prevention, a personnel matter dealing with the CFO position, an attorney/client privilege matter dealing with Asbury Farms, and a contractual matter dealing with the Shared Service Agreement with Washington Borough. 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 Kovacs, seconded by Rossi, to authorize Attorney Lavery to send a letter to the Fire District as discussed in Executive Session.

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

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Fiore, to authorize Attorney Lavery to send a letter to Attorney Lowcher regarding Asbury Farms as discussed in Executive Session.

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

A motion was made by Rossi, seconded by Fiore, to authorize Attorney Lavery to send a letter to Washington Borough regarding the Shared Service Agreement as discussed in Executive Session.

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

ADJORNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before the Committee, a motion was made by Fiore, seconded by Rossi, to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna C. Godfrey, RMC
Township Clerk