

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY

Regular Meeting  
February 18, 2014

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 p.m. by Mayor Robert Klingel.

SUNSHINE LAW COMPLIANCE – The Mayor 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

Iacobucci, present; Klingel, present; Kovacs, present; Willan, present  
Rossi, absent

STAFF PRESENT

Anna C. Godfrey, Township Clerk; Peter deBoer, Township Administrator/Certified Public Works Manager; Chief McDonald; Kevin McCarthy, CFO; Joe Rossi, Construction Official, and Jeff Cooper, Assistant Municipal Supervisor of Public Works

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Klingel read the Proclamation designating March 1, 2014 as “Read Across America Day”.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Willan, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held January 21, 2014.

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

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Iacobucci, to approve the Executive Session minutes from the regular meeting held January 21, 2014.

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

ORDINANCE

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Willan, to open to the public Ordinance 14-01, Ordinance Re-Authorizing the Open Space Trust Fund for the Township of Washington, public hearing on second reading. All were in favor. Mayor Klingel welcomed comments from the public. Seeing no one, a motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Iacobucci, to close the public hearing of Ordinance 14-01. All were in favor. A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Iacobucci, to adopt Ordinance 14-01 on second reading.

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

A motion was made by Iacobucci, seconded by Kovacs, to open to the public Ordinance 14-02, 2014 Salary Ordinance (Acting CFO, Deputy Zoning Officer, Treasurer, Crossing Guards), public hearing on second reading. All were in favor. Mayor Klingel welcomed comments from the public. Seeing no one, a motion was made by Iacobucci, seconded by Kovacs, to close the public hearing of Ordinance 14-02. All were in favor. A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Iacobucci, to adopt Ordinance 14-02 on second reading.

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

RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Iacobucci, to approve Resolutions 14-41 through and including 14-45.

14-41 Tax Sale Certificate Redemption

14-42 Resolution to Appoint and Authorize Health Officer (Rossi)

14-43 Resolution Authorizing and Approving Salaries and Wages for Certain Employees (Berger, McCormick, Delaney, Allen)

14-44 Resolution Authorizing Membership in a Mutual Aid Assistance Agreement with Participating Units

14-45 2013 Recycling Tonnage Grant Application

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

STAFF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Chief McDonald previously submitted a report and commended the Public Works Department on an outstanding job plowing this winter.

J. Cooper previously submitted a report. His department has not done much more than plow these past few weeks. Mayor Klingel thanked the Public Works Department on behalf of the Committee, as theirs is a thankless job and has been especially demanding this winter. He and Mr. Willan stated they received e-mails from residents who appreciate the work the department is doing.

K. McCarthy stated the Township's 2013 Annual Financial Statement has been sent to the State. He has been preparing for the Budget Meeting this Saturday.

J. Rossi stated meetings regarding the holes in the A&P parking lot have been continuously rescheduled due to storms. He will keep the Committee informed.

Mr. deBoer previously submitted a report. He spoke to the Township Engineer regarding a Wastewater Management Grant. A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Kovacs, to approve Mr. deBoer sending a letter to the State in regards to the Wastewater Management Grant.

ROLL CALL: Willan, yes; Kovacs, yes; Iacobucci, yes; Klingel, yes.

Mr. deBoer updated the Committee on his meeting at Roaring Rock Park regarding timber harvesting. It was determined it is not in the Township's best interest to pursue this.

#### PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Mayor Klingel opened the meeting to the public.

Joel Schnetzer, 240 Cemetery Hill Road, asked for an update on the Open Space Committee. Mayor Klingel stated he is looking for people to fill the positions on the Committee. J. Schnetzer would like \$60,000 budgeted for open space acquisitions. He believes some farmers may be willing to sell their land this year for open space and explained. K. McCarthy stated this could be added to a wish list. Mr. Kovacs would like to see what's available before the Township commits.

Wally Godfrey, Recreation Commission Chairperson, stated the Commission has been approached by the Youth Association looking to spend some of their money on Meadow Breeze Park. Some of the suggestions are a ball wall and exercise stations. He will keep the Committee informed. W. Godfrey thanked the Public Works Department for their great work on the roads this winter.

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

#### OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business at this meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Willan, to approve Nancy Godfrey and Ann Kilduff to attend the Mid-State Registrar's Seminar/Business Meeting on March 11, 2014 in Clinton, NJ.

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

#### REPORT FROM OFFICIALS

There were no reports from the Committee.

#### 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; Iacobucci, yes; Klingel, yes

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Iacobucci, seconded by Willan, to approve Resolution 14-46, 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 7:55 p.m.

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

Attorney Lavery explained the Committee will be discussing a litigation matter dealing with Pinnacle/Hawk Pointe Developers, a pending litigation matter dealing with a matter brought up by J. Rossi.

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Iacobucci, to come out of Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. All were in favor. Attorney Lavery stated the Committee discussed a litigation matter dealing with Pinnacle/Hawk Pointe Developers, a pending litigation matter dealing with a matter brought up by J. Rossi, a potential litigation matter dealing with tort claim notice and an attorney/client privilege matter dealing with a resident's complaint. 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 Iacobucci, to reduce the bond posted by Pinnacle/Hawk Pointe Developers, LLC to \$250,000 as part of the settlement and to authorize the Mayor to execute the Settlement Agreement.

ROLL CALL: Kovacs, yes; Iacobucci, yes; Willan, abstained; Klingel, yes

ADJORNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before the Committee, a motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Willan, to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna C. Godfrey, RMC  
Township Clerk