

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY

Regular Meeting
June 16, 2015

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

Iacobucci, present; Klingel, present; Kovacs, present; Willan, present
Rossi arrived at 7:35 pm

STAFF PRESENT

Anna C. Godfrey, Township Clerk; Peter deBoer, Township Administrator; Attorney Michael Lavery; Deputy Chief Cicerelle; Jeff Cooper, Superintendent of Public Works; and Joseph Rossi, Construction Official

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Kovacs, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held May 19, 2015.
ROLL CALL: Willan, yes; Kovacs, yes; Iacobucci, abstained; Klingel, yes

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Kovacs, to approve the Executive Session minutes of the regular meeting held May 19, 2015.
ROLL CALL: Willan, yes; Kovacs, yes; Iacobucci, abstained; Klingel, yes

RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Willan, to approve Resolutions 15-74 through and including 15-78. Mrs. Iacobucci asked for clarification on Resolution 15-76. Mayor Klingel explained.

15-74 Redemption Resolution – Block 71, Lot 7.04

15-75 Chapter 159 – Clean Communities Grant

15-76 Authorization for Signature of Treatment Works Application for Leo's Pizzeria & Italian Restaurant

15-77 Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Two 2015 Ford Interceptor Utility Vehicles

15-78 Resolution Accepting and Authorizing the Mayor to Sign the Developers Agreement between Washington Community Solar, LLC and the Township of Washington

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

STAFF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

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

J. Cooper previously submitted a report and had nothing further to add.

Mr. deBoer previously submitted a report and stated he received a request to support the Paint the Town Teal program. A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Kovacs, to approve Paint the Town Teal.

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

J. Rossi spoke to the Committee regarding the addition of a credit union at Hawk Pointe and stated two abandoned properties have been sold.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

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

Lydia Schmidt, 21 Cemetery Hill Road, questioned the parking ordinance as there was an issue with parking on both sides of the street during an event at the Blue Army Shrine. Attorney Lavery will review the ordinance.

Ralph Fiore, 162 Mine Hill Road, questioned Resolution 15-77 and the purchase of two police vehicles. Deputy Chief Cicerelle explained they will be replacing two vehicles with over 120,000 to 140,000 miles. Mr. Kovacs noted Washington Borough will be paying for half of the cost. R. Fiore questioned the work being done on Mine Hill Road and stated the website states the Township is paying for the work. Mr. deBoer will look into this but confirmed the work is being done at no cost to the Township.

Louellen Hofgesang, 18 Partridge Run, questioned Resolution 15-78 for Washington Community Solar and discussed with the Committee. Mr. Lavery stated this project was approved by the Land Use Board and explained the Developers Agreement.

Nancy Anderson, 11 Kinnaman Avenue, asked for the status of the digital tax maps and how the Township is paying for them. Mr. deBoer stated the process is moving forward. Mr. Willan stated the maps will be paid for with the revenue from the old municipal building as approved at an earlier meeting.

Jeff Duckworth, 28 Coleman Hill Road, asked for clarification of an address on the Zoning Officer's report. The Clerk will follow up with J. Duckworth.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Klingel briefly explained the New Jersey Economic Development Authority Municipal Loan Pool Revenue Bond program. Mr. deBoer stated the Township Auditor looked into paying two bonds off early but advises against it as there are seven other towns involved. The bonds will mature in 2022.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee approval of the semi-annual reimbursement of street lighting costs to the Hawk Pointe Property Owners Association will be discussed during the Payment of the Bills.

Mr. deBoer explained the Warren County Planning Board contacted him regarding the timing of the Township's three traffic signals on Route 31 and discussed with the Committee.

Mr. deBoer and J. Cooper explained reasons for amending Chapter 117, Sub-Section 117-30 "Stop Intersections" of the Code Book and issues at the intersection of Skyview Drive, Candlewood Drive, and Mill Pond Road. Mrs. Iacobucci explained there are visibility issues as well. A motion was made by Iacobucci, seconded by Kovacs, to have Attorney Lavery review the draft ordinance of the amendment of Chapter 117, Sub-Section 117-30 "Stop Intersections". Attorney Lavery stated all stop intersections in the Township should be listed in the ordinance and suggested the Township Engineer also review the draft ordinance. The Committee will provide a list at the next meeting of stop intersections which they feel should be amended.

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

REPORT FROM OFFICIALS

Mrs. Iacobucci reported on the latest Warren Heritage Scenic By-Way meeting. The next meeting will be held on July 20, 2015.

Mr. Kovacs reported Ann Kilduff recently received her Registered Municipal Clerk certification. Mr. deBoer added Eileen Parks received her Certified Tax Assessor certification.

There were no further reports from the Committee.

Walter Godfrey, Recreation Commission Chairman, reported the County Recreation Department would like to use the Roaring Rock Park trails as a continuation of the Highlands trails. Attorney Lavery stated the park was bought with Green Acres monies, making it available to all State residents. Attorney Lavery asked W. Godfrey to provide the Committee with a copy of the plans.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Willan, to approve the payment of the bills, including the addition of the semi-annual reimbursement to the Hawk Pointe Property Owners Association for the cost of street lighting in the amount of \$2,539.50.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Rossi, to approve Resolution 15-79, 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 8:18 pm. All were in favor. Attorney Lavery stated the Committee will be discussing a pending litigation matter dealing with DP Warren, a contractual matter dealing with the PBA and Teamsters, a contractual matter dealing with a potential property acquisition, a contractual matter dealing with the Police Department and a personnel matter. The Mayor stated he expects the Committee will be in Executive Session for approximately 45 minutes.

A motion was made by Iacobucci, seconded by Rossi, to come out of Executive Session at 9:19 pm. All were in favor. Attorney Lavery stated the Committee discussed a pending litigation matter dealing with DP Warren, a contractual matter dealing with the PBA and Teamsters, a contractual matter dealing with a potential property acquisition, a contractual matter dealing with the Police Department and a personnel 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.

ADJORNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before the Committee, a motion was made by Rossi, seconded by Willan, to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna C. Godfrey, RMC
Township Clerk