

**BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
WASHINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES – September 5, 2006**

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey was held in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall at 8:00 P.M.

Roll Call: Van Deursen, Woykowski, Turner, Buoye, Oakley and Glaser – Present. Housel – 8:10 p.m.

Also Present: Richard J. Sheola, Borough Manager
Richard P. Cushing, Esq., Borough Attorney
Kristine D. Blanchard, RMC, Borough Clerk

The flag salute was led by Mayor Van Deursen.

Mayor Van Deursen read the following Statement into the Record:

“The requirements of the ‘Open Public Meetings Law of 1975, Chapter 231 have been satisfied in that adequate notice of this meeting has been published in the Star Gazette and posted on the Bulletin Board of Borough Hall stating the time, place and purpose of the meeting as required by law.

AUDIENCE:

At this time, Mayor Van Deursen deviated from the agenda to entertain remarks from the audience on items that do not appear on the meeting agenda.

Henry Barends 44 Willow Street – Mr. Barends still has concerns about the area behind his home on Willow Street. Mr. Barends explained that this “ditch” or “stream” behind his home is man-made and was made by the Borough. The Borough has cleaned this area up several times in the past and asked why the Borough will not take care of this area now.

Mayor Van Deursen asked Manager Sheola if he contacted Mr. Barends after he spoke with the DEP. Manager Sheola stated he read the letter from the DEP to Mr. Barends over the phone. Attorney Cushing stated that it would probably help clarify some issues if a meeting were set up between the DEP, Manager Sheola, and Mr. Barends. Mayor Van Deursen asked Manager Sheola to contact the DEP and ask if they would be willing to meet with Mr. Barends to help clarify the issue. Mayor Van Deursen also requested that Manager Sheola email Council as to the date and time of the meeting with the DEP.

Councilman Turner asked if the Borough Engineer had filled out the application with the DEP for a permit to clean the area. Mayor Van Deursen stated that this application had been filled out by the Borough Engineer.

Borough Clerk, Kristine Blanchard and Animal Control Officer, Betty Wysocki - Report on animal licensing fees. Borough Clerk, Kristine Blanchard explained that Washington Borough's late fee for animal licensing is only \$2.00 per year; which is the lowest late fee in Warren County. She stated it really is not a substantial penalty for failing to license an animal on time; especially when residents who license their animals earlier in the year are paying the same late fee as residents who license their animals towards the end of the year.

In addition, Ms. Blanchard recommended to Council that the municipal portion of the animal licensing fee be raised from \$4.00 to \$6.00; in order to fund more of the animal control program with revenue raised by animal licensing. She also suggested raising the un-neutered cat license fee from \$7.00 to \$9.00, charge a duplicate/replacement license fee of \$3.00, and change the due date for both dog and cat licenses from January 31 to May 31. Changing the due date will benefit residents who wish to take advantage of the Borough's free rabies clinic which is held every year in April.

Councilwoman Glaser asked if the due date could be changed from January 31 to May 31 legally. Animal Control Officer Betty Wysocki stated that state statute dictates that dogs must be licensed by June 30th.

Councilman Housel asked what the procedure is if animals remain unlicensed for longer than six months. Animal Control Officer, Betty Wysocki explained she sends reminders to pet owners, and eventually, if the animal remains unlicensed, she will write a summons.

Councilwoman Glaser made a motion to have the Animal Licensing Ordinance amended and presented to Council for consideration, seconded by Councilman Turner.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0.

Motion Carried.

Hearing no further remarks from the audience, it was moved by Glaser, seconded by Woykowski that the audience portion of the meeting be closed.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0.

Motion carried.

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting – August 15, 2006

Mayor Van Deursen entertained additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of August 15, 2006.

Hearing none, it was moved by Turner, seconded by Housel that the minutes of August 15, 2006 be approved.

Roll Call: Woykowski, Buoye, Glaser, Turner, Oakley, Housel and Van Deursen.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0.
Motion Carried

At this time Mayor Van Deursen called for a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of litigation and contractual negotiations.

It was moved by Councilwoman Glaser, seconded by Councilwoman Oakley that Council enter into Executive Session.

Roll Call: Woykowski, Buoye, Housel, Oakley, Glaser, Turner, and Van Deursen.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION 198-2006

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from the remaining portion of this meeting.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 - Litigation
 - Contract Negotiations

It was moved by Councilwoman Glaser, seconded by Councilman Buoye that Council go out of Executive Session and back into open session at 9:40 PM.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0.
Motion Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

The following communications were entered into the Record:

1. Lori & Terence Finnegan Re: Play Structure at Borough Park. (included in packet)
2. Dale E. Parichuk Re: Heather Hill Development/Myrtle Avenue. (included in packet)
3. NJLM Re: League Seminar – Anti Gang Series.
4. Department of Environmental Protection – Notice of Public Hearing For the Proposed FFY2007 Priority System, Intended Use Plan and Project Priority List Document for Clean Water Financing.
5. Jersey Central Power and Light Re: Annual Proposal for Basic Generation Service.
6. NJLM Re: 2006 League Conference Resolutions.
7. NJLM Re: Press Release on DHS Funding.
8. NJLM Re: Race Equality and Inclusive Communities Week.
9. Comcast Fax: Re: Channel Changes.
10. NJLM Re: League Supports Changes to SHBP.
11. Comcast Fax: NBC 4.4 Launch Date Correction.
12. NJLM Re: Census Bureau Income, Poverty and Health Insurance Report.
13. NJLM Re: August 30th meeting of the Joint Legislative Committee on Government Consolidation and Shared Services.
14. NJLM Re: Joint Legislative Committee on Employee Benefits.
15. NJLM Re: Mayors Meeting on Notification of Site Remediation.
16. NJLM Re: Prompt Pay
17. NJLM Re: Legislative Update
18. George G. Cortellesi Re: Thank You to Washington Fire Department for Assistance with Raid August 23, 2006.

Council Discussion:

Councilman Turner commented on the letter from the Finnegan's in reference to the unsafe playground equipment. Manager Sheola said the playground equipment was removed this past Friday. Manager Sheola also suggested to the Recreation Commission that someone on the committee be certified as a playground equipment inspector.

Councilwoman Oakley asked if this playground equipment will be replaced. Manager Sheola stated that it is not budgeted for at the present time.

Councilman Housel inquired as to the status of the letter concerning the Heather Hill Development. Councilman Housel asked if the developer could put temporary black top down on the road. Manager Sheola explained that Borough Engineer, Bob Miller has discussed the situation with the developer. The contractor was waiting for the gas and water company to determine where they will be putting their main lines. They have just determined that the lines will be placed behind the curb line instead of in the street. That

was the reason for the delay. Manager Sheola stated it will be suggested to the developer that black top be put down on the roadway. Councilwoman Woykowski commented that this has been a recurring problem with the gas and water companies.

Hearing no further comments it was moved by Glaser, seconded by Turner that the communications numbered #1 thru #18 be acknowledged, received and filed.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0.
Motion carried.

ORDINANCES:

None

REPORTS

It was moved by Glaser, seconded by Tuner that the Manager's Report, Borough Clerk's Report, Highway Department Report, Collector/Treasurer Report, Library Director's Report, Admin. & Exec., Report, Zoning/Code Enforcement Report, and Police Department reports be accepted as presented and filed.

Council Discussion:

Mayor Van Deursen commented that she read in the Managers Report that the Borough only had one bidder for the Pool Renovations and the bid was over the available funding. Mayor Van Deursen asked if anyone from the Recreation Commission was at the bid opening. Manager Sheola stated that no one from the Recreation Commission was at the bid opening; he forwarded them the summary sheet from the bid opening and will wait to hear from them as to how they want to proceed.

Councilman Turner stated that he had requested Council be informed when there is a bid opening. Manager Sheola said that the announcement for the pool bid opening was covered in one of the Borough Manager's previous reports.

Councilman Housel commented on the Park Pavilion paving on the Borough Manager's report. He stated that the drainage is flowing onto property across the street. He stated that the problem existed previously; however we may need to put some kind of a drain in to correct the problem.

Councilman Turner asked Manager Sheola what the status was in reference to the Kimble's sewer issue. Manager Sheola said the contractor did not show up the week of September 1st and they are now scheduled to be here the week of September 5th.

Councilwoman Woykowski stated that we already sent the contractor a letter informing him that he had two weeks to correct the problem before the Borough took action. Councilman Turner stated the situation is unfair to the Kimble's; especially when the Borough has the ability to fix the problem.

Attorney Cushing advised Manager Sheola to send another letter via fax, regular mail and certified mail informing the contractor he had five days to fix the issue with the sewer pump.

Councilman Housel voiced his concern over the renovation of the parking lot in the downtown area. He does not want to see these lots sit vacant for five or six years; he wants to see the lots developed.

Mayor Van Deursen stated she wants to make sure the timing of the downtown streetscape project is done carefully. Mayor Van Deursen would like to see the Borough move from one portion of the project to the next without a delay.

Roll Call: Woykowski, Turner, Buoye, Housel, Glaser, Oakley and Van Deursen.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried.

VOUCHERS:

Mayor Van Deursen entertained additions or questions of the vouchers and claims for payment.

Councilwoman Glaser asked if the encumbrances on the Budget to Actual Report have been checked and if they are completely up to date, or do they just reflect what is on the voucher list. Manager Sheola stated he did not check the report this month; however the report should reflect all encumbrances.

Hearing no further comments or questions it was moved by Turner, seconded by Glaser that that the vouchers and claims be approved for payment in the amount of \$846,516.27 as reflected in the debit/credit memorandum on file in the collector/Treasurer's office.

Roll Call: Woykowski, Glaser, Housel, Buoye, Turner, Oakley and Van Deursen.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0.
Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Department of Public Works Garage –

Manager Sheola stated this project went to bid on August 17, 2006. The bid opening date is September 14, 2006. Councilman Turner asked if the bid comes in higher than the budget amount can the Borough go back to the original plan and save the \$40,000.00 on the roof system. Attorney Cushing stated that he will have to check into that; it may not be considered the same project.

Extraneous Flow Project –

This topic was covered in the Borough Managers Report. Last November, all affected residents have been notified and were given one year to correct the problem.

Kimble Sewer Pump –

This topic was covered during the Reports discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Swimming Pool Renovations –

Manager Sheola explained there was only one bidder for the swimming pool renovations even though four vendors showed up at the mandatory pre-bid conference. The base bid was \$457,500.00; the budget for the project was \$433,000.00, not including any of the options.

Mayor Van Deursen commented that the Borough appropriated the money based on Wayne Wade's estimates. Councilwoman Glaser asked where the Borough is going wrong with the bids; many of our estimates from our professionals are lower than what the bids are coming in at.

Manager Sheola explained that right now the private market is so good that a contractor will only bid a public job if they really need the work; when the private market is not so good, the public job bids will start to plummet.

Councilman Turner said that the Borough may want to start advertising in the larger papers within the state. Manager Sheola stated that the swimming pool renovation bid was advertised in *Construction Daily News*, and *Browns*.

Councilman Housel asked if the storm-water issue was still going to be taken care of regardless of what happens with the swimming pool project. Manager Sheola stated that the storm-water issue will be taken care of.

Proclamation of POW/MIA Day September 15, 2006 –

Mayor Van Deursen proclaimed September 15, 2006 to be POW/MIA Recognition Day based on a request by Douglas A. Koeppen A.U.S. retired, Chaplain and Past Commander of Washington Post 103. Borough Clerk, Kristine Blanchard will invite Mr. Koeppen to the next Council meeting to receive a framed Proclamation from the Mayor and Council.

School Street (Block 24 Lot 16) Handicap Parking Space –

Discussion was held on a request from Mr. Richard Fischer to remove a handicap parking space on School Street. Mr. Fischer requested that Council consider removing the handicap space due to the fact that it is no longer being used.

Councilwoman Glaser stated that the Borough may want to keep that handicap parking spot due to all of the revitalization going on downtown. Councilwoman Oakley was in agreement and stated that it is a good idea to keep one handicap spot available for anyone who may need it.

Mayor Van Deursen polled Council as to whether or not the handicap parking space should remain or be taken out.

Councilwoman Oakley – Keep the handicap parking spot.

Councilwoman Glaser – Keep the handicap parking spot.

Councilman Turner – Remove the handicap parking spot.

Councilman Housel – Remove the handicap parking spot.

Councilman Buoye – Remove the handicap parking spot.

Councilwoman Woykowski – Keep the handicap parking spot.

Mayor Van Deursen – Keep the handicap parking spot.

Majority is to leave the handicap parking space on School Street at this time.

Resolution 191-2006 – 192-2006

Councilwoman Glaser asked why these properties are tax exempt. Manager Sheola explained that these properties are Borough owned properties

The following Resolutions were moved on a motion made by Housel, seconded by Glaser and adopted.

Roll Call: Woykowski, Housel, Buoye, Van Deursen, Turner, Glaser, and Oakley.

Ayes: 7, Nays 0.

Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION # 191-2006

A RESOLUTION TO CANCEL 2006 TAXES DUE TO EXEMPT STATUS

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector was notified that a Deed pertaining to Block 044 Lot 034 was entered into between Glen Manor Construction, LTD and the Borough of Washington on August 31, 2005 as recorded by Warren County Clerk in Book 2027 Page 152 as of August 31, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Assessor is advising that the property is exempt and therefore have no tax liability due and owing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel 2006 Real Estate Property Taxes on Block 044 Lot 034 due to the exempt status.

RESOLUTION # 192-2006

**A RESOLUTION TO CANCEL 2006 TAXES
DUE TO EXEMPT STATUS**

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector was notified that a Memorandum of Agreement pertaining to Block 024 Lot 024.01 was authorized by Resolution #110-2005 to acquire a parking area for downtown improvement; and

WHEREAS, the deed change was done as of 12-22-05 and the Tax Assessor is advising that the property is exempt and therefore have no tax liability due and owing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel 2006 Real Estate Property Taxes on Block 024 Lot 024.01 due to the exempt status.

Resolution 193-2006

Councilman Turner asked if the fire bureau fines were used for training purposes for the fire department. Manager Sheola stated that the Fire Official has control over the penalty account and any penalties received is usually used for fire prevention, equipment or training, etc.

The following Resolution was moved on a motion made by Councilman Buoye, seconded by Councilman Housel and adopted.

Roll Call: Woykowski, Housel, Buoye, Turner, Oakley, Glaser, and Van Deursen.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION # 193-2006

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF DEDICATED PENALTY FEES
FROM CURRENT FUND TO DEDICATED PENALTIES ACCOUNT**

WHEREAS, according to the Treasurer's records, the amount of \$700.00 needs to be transferred from the Current Fund to the Dedicated Penalty Fire Bureau Fines checking account;

and

WHEREAS, the Dedicated Penalties were once received through the Borough Clerk's office and then were received directly from the Fire Prevention Bureau and credited to a revenue account in the Current Fund.

WHEREAS, in the year 2006 the auditors declared after receiving a notice from the Fire Prevention Department Head that a separate checking account was to be established for the Dedicated Penalties and that the monies from prior years was to be deposited into this account, which was opened in June 2006.

WHEREAS, the amount of \$100.00 was received on February 23, 2006, the amount of \$500.00 was received on May 1, 2006 before the checking account was set up and the amount of \$100.00 was received on August 15, 2006 with the three items being deposited in the Current Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey to hereby authorize the Treasurer to issue a check made payable to Dedicated Penalty Fire Bureau Fines Account in the amount of \$700.00.

Resolution 194-2006

The following Resolution was moved on a motion made by Councilwoman Glaser, seconded by Councilman Housel and adopted.

Roll Call: Woykowski, Housel, Turner, Buoye, Glaser, Oakley, and Van Deursen.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION # 194-2006

**A RESOLUTION TO REFUND OVERPAYMENT
ON 2006 CURRENT YEAR REAL ESTATE TAXES**

WHEREAS, according to the Tax Collector's records, there is an overpayment of \$1,710.53 _
on 2006 3rd Quarter Regular Taxes paid on property located at 86 Flower Avenue, also known as Block 044 Lot 010, and in the name of McLaughlin, Robert T and Tara R; and

WHEREAS, Deirdre LaRue, 32 Lenape Trail, Washington, NJ 07882 paid the 2006 3rd Quarter Regular Taxes on August 1, 2006 on behalf of the McLaughlin's and wasn't aware that

the McLaughlin's mortgage company was also going to be making the payment which they did on August 16, 2006. Due to the fact that the taxes were to have been paid by the mortgage company; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has received a written request from Robert T McLaughlin requesting that the tax overpayment be refunded to Deirdre LaRue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey, to hereby authorize the Tax Collector and Treasurer to refund the amount of \$1,710.53 payable to:

Deirdre LaRue
32 Lenape Trail
Washington, NJ 07882

Resolution 195-2006

The following Resolution was moved on a motion made by Councilman Turner, seconded by Councilwoman Glaser and adopted.

Roll Call: Turner, Oakley, Glaser, Buoye, Woykowski, Housel, and Van Deursen.

Ayes: 7, Nays 0
Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION 195-2006

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINT (DISPATCH AND 911) SERVICES

WHEREAS, there exists a need for services related to the operation of a Public Safety Answering Point 911 and Dispatch Services and,

WHEREAS, the County of Warren has provided the service to Washington Borough at no additional cost; and

WHEREAS, the services provided by the County of Warren, Department of Public Safety meet the needs of the local law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services and emergency management community; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. That the Mayor, Manager and Clerk are hereby directed to complete any and all documents relating to the renewal of the Agreement between the County of

Warren and the Borough of Washington relative to the Public Safety Answering Point dispatch and 911 services.

2. There are no additional charges to the Borough or any non-profit emergency service organizations operating within the confines of the Borough of Washington for the use of this service.
3. That an executed copy of the contract between the parties be on file with the Office of the Clerk and be available for public inspection in accordance with law.

Resolution 196-2006 – 197-2006

The following Resolutions were moved on a motion made by Councilwoman Glaser, seconded by Councilman Turner and adopted.

Roll Call: Turner, Glaser, Oakley, Buoye, Housel, Woykowski, and Van Deursen.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION #196-2006

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MUNICIPAL
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR**

WHEREAS, there New Jersey law provides that each municipality shall have an Emergency Management Coordinator as prescribed by App. A;9-40.1 ; and

WHEREAS, Keith Gonzales has the requisite training and experience to hold the position of Emergency Management Coordinator for the Borough of Washington; and

WHEREAS, the services provided by Keith Gonzales are professional services that need vital to the health, safety and welfare of the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor, Manager and Council of the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. That the Mayor and Council hereby appoint Keith Gonzales as Emergency Management Coordinator for the Borough of Washington for a term of three (3) years, effective July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2009.

RESOLUTION #197-2006

**A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A DEPUTY
MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
COORDINATOR**

WHEREAS, there New Jersey law provides that each municipality shall have an

Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator as prescribed by App. A;9-40.1 ; and

WHEREAS, Cef Garcia has the requisite training and experience to hold the position of Emergency Management Coordinator for the Borough of Washington; and

WHEREAS, the services provided by Cef Garcia are professional services that need vital to the health, safety and welfare of the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor, Manager and Council of the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. That the Mayor and Council hereby appoint Cef Garcia as Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator for the Borough of Washington for a term of three (3) years, effective July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2009.

ABC Permit Washington Fire Department – September 23, 2006 Comedy Night

Approval for the ABC Permit for Washington Fire Department was moved on a motion made by Councilwoman Glaser, seconded by Councilman Housel and adopted.

Roll Call: Woykowski, Glaser, Buoye, Housel, Oakley, Turner, and Van Deursen.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

Motion Carried.

Approval of Bingo Applications for St. Josephs Couples Club and St. Josephs Church.

Approval for the Bingo Applications for St. Josephs Church and Couples Club was moved on a motion made by Councilman Turner, seconded by Councilman Housel and adopted.

Roll Call: Woykowski, Glaser, Buoye, Housel, Turner, Oakley and Van Deursen.

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0

Abstain: 2 (Oakley and Van Deursen)

Motion Carried.

RECAP

Manager Sheola stated he will call the DEP to arrange an on-sight visit at the property on Willow Street and will notify Council of the date and time of this meeting. The dog/cat license fees Ordinance will be prepared for the October 3, 2006 meeting. Manager Sheola will take a look at the driveway at the park pavilion concerning the drainage and will send a “short notice” letter to the contractor in regards to fixing the Pershing Ave. sewer pump. Manager Sheola will double check the deadline to use the Department of Transportation money concerning the streetscape project. Manager Sheola

will send Mr. Fisher a letter stating that Council decided not to remove the handicap parking space on School Street.

COUNCIL REMARKS:

Mayor Van Deursen asked Manager Sheola if anyone had gotten back to him from the Recreation Commission in regards to the Washington Meadows Soccer Fields. Manager Sheola stated that he had not heard from the Recreation Commission in regards to scheduling a meeting however the Chair of the Recreation is on vacation this week and upon her return a meeting will be scheduled.

Mayor Van Deursen wanted to make sure that everyone had read the letter to the editor from the Governing Body thanking the Washington Fire Department and Emergency Squad for their dedication and hard work during the fire last week. Mayor Van Deursen also thanked all members of the Governing Body for being there during the fire and for supporting the Borough during that time.

Councilwoman Oakley thanked all the fire departments who responded and helped during the fire. Councilwoman Oakley was saddened to see a landmark of the Borough destroyed.

Councilwoman Glaser personally thanked the emergency services teams, considering that the sparks from the fire could have easily touched her home. She also thanked all of the responding fire departments for their help during this time.

Councilwoman Glaser also stated that there was a letter from the DOT regarding the DOT Grant for Belvidere Avenue. Councilwoman Glaser emphasized the importance of getting this done. Manager Sheola stated that the Borough Engineer will be at the next meeting and Council should discuss scaling back the project and doing it in phases, considering the Borough has been out to bid twice and the bids have not been advantageous. Councilwoman Glaser stated that Chris Colleri from the DOT offered his assistance in getting the project awarded. Councilwoman Glaser suggested that between now and the next meeting we need to call Mr. Colleri and find out what kind of assistance they can offer the Borough.

Councilman Turner thanked the fire department for their dedication as volunteers and also thanked the emergency squad. The volunteers who serve the Borough of Washington are incredible and did an excellent job of preventing a further disaster.

Councilman Turner also stated that the Kimble sewer pump issue needs to be corrected by next week. He is disappointed that the issue has still not been resolved.

Councilman Buoye commented that seeing the antique store building burn down was heartbreaking; but he offered his thanks to the fire department and emergency squad for all of their hard work and dedication.

Councilman Buoye commented that the Green Acres loan application did not come through for Railroad Avenue it might be possible to use the Community Development Block Grant to complete this project. Councilwoman Glaser stated that Community Development Block Grant money is usually used for the creation of affordable housing. Councilman Turner commented that the letter stated Green Acres

would keep the Borough's application on file and we should notify them of our interest to remain on the list.

Councilman Housel commented that he was amazed that the adjoining buildings to the antique store were not even touch by fire. The job that our volunteers did exceeded any professional fire department.

Councilman Housel inquired as to the status of 258 W. Washington Ave. Manager Sheola has made several phone calls to tree companies to remove the "poison ivy" tree and unfortunately no one will touch it. The grass has been trimmed on the property, and the house itself is in lien status. One of the members of the BID has written a letter to the lien holder encouraging him to clean up the property.

Councilwoman Woykowski requested that the Recap items be addressed in the Managers Report at the next meeting. Manager Sheola stated that if the item is unresolved he will update Council in the next Managers Report.

Councilwoman Woykowski also gave her thanks to the volunteer fire departments and the rescue squad for everything that they do for the Borough.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

It was moved by Glaser, seconded by Oakley that Council go into Executive Session.

Roll Call: Glaser, Turner, Van Deursen, Oakley, Woykowski, Buoye, and Housel.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0.
Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION 204-2006

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from the remaining portion of this meeting.

2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

- Potential Litigation

It was moved by Glaser, seconded by Buoye that Council go out of Executive Session and back into open session at 11:00 PM.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0.
Motion Carried.

Hearing no further business to come before the governing body, it was moved by Glaser, seconded by Turner that the meeting be adjourned.

Marianne Van Deursen
Mayor

Kristine Blanchard, RMC
Borough Clerk