

**BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
BUDGET WORKSHOP  
WASHINGTON BOROUGH MINUTES – May 8, 2007.**

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: Higgins, Oakley, Cioni, Woykowski, Van Deursen  
5 – Present  
Turner, Housel - Absent

Also Present: John Corica, Interim Borough Manager  
Kristine Blanchard, RMC Borough Clerk

Mayor Van Deursen led everyone in the flag salute.

Mayor Van Deursen read the following Statement into the Record:

“The requirements of the ‘Open Public Meetings Law, 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.

**Budget Workshop**

Interim Manager, John Corica informed the Mayor and Council that he wanted to introduce the 2007 Budget at the May 15, 2007 Council Meeting and have the public hearing and final adoption on June 19, 2007.

At this time he reviewed the several items that he changed on the budget document. He reviewed with Council the cost of making the receptionist full time. The additional cost will be \$3,400.00. The receptionist will be able to answer more phone inquiries and inquiries made at the information window as well as assisting the Borough Clerk as needed.

The Mayor and Council discussed the parking lots downtown and the cost to the Borough. Mayor Van Deursen requested Manager Corica to look into the estimated cost of paving the parking lots at midtown. Manager Corica will follow up with the Borough Engineer.

Mayor Van Deursen asked Manager Corica if the Recreation Commission had requested additional funding. Manager Corica stated that they had not. The Mayor and Council discussed the options for watering the sod to be installed at Vara Field. Manager Corica will inquire with the Fire Department to see if they will be able to help with the watering.

Manager Corica explained to the Mayor and Council that the municipal portion of the tax bill will be an increase of 7.9 cents.

Councilwoman Woykowski asked if the Borough is over budget on the streetscape project. Manager Corica explained some of the higher or unexpected costs from the downtown project; including the lights from JCP&L and some engineering bills.

Mayor Van Deursen stated that she realizes that this budget is not exactly what Council wants but is unfortunately the result of poor fiscal management. We have learned a lesson and need to move on and plan properly.

A motion was made by Councilman Higgins, seconded by Councilwoman Oakley to adjourn the budget workshop at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristine Blanchard, RMC  
Borough Clerk