

**BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
WASHINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES – June 4, 2008**

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: Cioni, Housel, Van Deursen, Higgins, Woykowski, Turner – Present  
Oakley – arrived 8:45 p.m.

Also Present: John Corica, Borough Manager  
Judith Kopen, Esq. Municipal Attorney  
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.

**PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Van Deursen presented Ms. Kathy Halpin with a proclamation from the governing body for her many years of dedicated service to Washington Celebrates America.

**A PROCLAMATION OF THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON  
EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO KATHY HALPIN FOR HER  
SERVICE TO WASHINGTON CELEBRATES AMERICA**

*WHEREAS, Kathy Halpin has honorably served the Borough of Washington in the capacity as a dedicated organizer of Washington Celebrates America for the past twenty two years; and*

*WHEREAS, Kathy Halpin, joined Washington Celebrates America in 1986; and*

*WHEREAS, Kathy Halpin served as Chairperson from 1990 to 2007 and;*

*WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington has benefited greatly from her commitment to the community during her long tenure; and*

*WHEREAS, Kathy Halpin has devoted herself to the betterment of the Borough of Washington and will be missed by all those who work for or on behalf of the Borough and Washington Celebrates America; and*

*WHEREAS, as the elected representatives of the Borough of Washington, the Mayor and Council desire to formally express the heartfelt appreciation of the entire community to Kathy Halpin for her many years of outstanding and dedicated service to the Borough of Washington.*

*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 appreciation of the community is hereby expressed to Kathy Halpin for her twenty two years of dedicated and honorable service to the citizens of the Borough of Washington;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be directed to have certified copy of this proclamation recorded in the permanent record of the Borough of Washington in perpetuity.*

Ms. Halpin thanked several people who have assisted with this event throughout the years. Ms. Halpin thanked the Washington Borough Police Department, Washington Township Police Department, the Washington Borough Fire Department, Washington Township Fire Department, the Washington Emergency Squad, and the Borough of Washington Department of Public Works. She also thanked, George and Roda Duby, Paul Mussleman and his father Harold for organizing the parade. Mike Schmidt, Pete and Kelly Gaylord, Jack Werner, Barry and Sherry Smith from the Penn Jersey Radio Club, Rachel and Roddy Semonchi, Maureen Mooney, Kathy Wiersberg, Ken Fintz, Ceph Garcia, and Cathy Miller who started the battle of the bands. She also thanked Rich Maguire for keeping the tradition alive and stepping up to Chairperson of Washington Celebrates America.

### **COUNCIL APPEARANCE**

#### **Shade Tree Commission – Kathy Halpin**

Ms. Halpin introduced the new Shade Tree Commission Chairperson, Lou Starita. She indicated that Mark Peduto resigned from the Commission and they are down to three members. Ms. Halpin stated that in 2007, the Borough received \$25,000.00 for as part of the Cool Communities tree planting grant. There are approximately thirty trees left to plant with the grant money.

Councilman Cioni asked, when a tree is removed from a location, is it replaced. Ms. Halpin stated it is the goal of the Commission to replace trees that are removed.

## **T & M Associates**

T & M did not appear before Council as scheduled.

## **MINUTES:**

Mayor Van Deursen entertained additions or corrections to the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 20, 2008 and the Executive Session of May 20, 2008.

Councilwoman Woykowski noted one change on page two.

Hearing no further comments it was moved by Higgins, seconded by Turner that the minutes be approved.

Roll Call: Van Deursen, Higgins, Turner, Woykowski, Cioni - Yes  
Housel – Abstain

Ayes: 5  
Nays: 0  
Abstain - 1  
Motion Carried

## **COMMUNICATIONS:**

The following communications were entered into the record:

1. Highlands Council Re: Request to Support Voter Referendum on Water Fee (in packets)
2. Notice of Land Use Applicant Washington Township Block 22 Lot 3.17 and Lot 2 for Variance

It was moved by Turner, seconded by Higgins that the communications be acknowledged, received and filed.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0.  
Motion carried.

Council briefly discussed the communication from the Highlands Council regarding the voter referendum on water fees.

Councilman Cioni made a motion on Resolution 140-2008 Request to Support Voter Referendum on Water Fee, seconded by Higgins.

**RESOLUTION 140-2008**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BROUGH OF WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF WARREN COUNTY SUPPORT FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO DEDICATE REVENUE FOR OPEN SPACE AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature has adopted the Highlands Act in recognition that the 860,000 acre Highlands Region serves as an “essential source of drinking water, providing clean and plentiful drinking water for one-half of the State’s population” and that the area includes exceptional natural resources such as clean air, contiguous forest lands, wetlands, pristine watersheds, habitat for fauna and flora many sites of historic significance and provides abundant recreational opportunities, all of which are an invaluable and irreplaceable asset of the current citizens of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature included in the Highlands Act a specific commitment for additional funding through “a strong and significant commitment by the State to fund the acquisition of exceptional natural resources value lands”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Garden State Preservation Trust Fund that funds the Green Acres Program, the Farmland Preservation Program, and other programs presently provides a significant source of funding for acquisition projects in the Highlands Region; and

**WHEREAS**, the Garden State Preservation Trust Fund will no longer be able to issue any new bond, note or other obligation after June 30, 2009 unless the Trust Fund is reauthorized; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 6, 2008, Senate Concurrent Resolution 88 was introduced to the New Jersey Legislature proposing to amend Article VIII, Section II of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey to provide that revenue from water consumption and water user fees be dedicated only for the purpose of providing funding for the acquisition and development of lands for recreation and conservation purposes and for the preservation of farmland for agricultural and horticultural use and production.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the governing body of the Borough of Washington hereby supports the passage of Senate Concurrent Resolution 88 which proposes to amend Article VIII, Section II of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey and encourages support for this constitutional amendment from all parties interested in the protection and preservation of the Highlands Region and the resulting sustainability of clean and plentiful drinking water for over half the population of the State of New Jersey.

Roll Call: Cioni, Higgins, Turner, Housel, Van Deursen, and Woykowski – No

Ayes: 0, Nays: 6  
Motion Defeated

### **Paramount Assets LLC**

Richard Dunn from Paramount Assets introduced himself to the Mayor and Council. He stated that Paramount owns a vast number of properties within Washington Borough. He explained he is here this evening to address some concerns that have been brought to his attention. Mr. Dunn stated that earlier this year he had met with several council members regarding concerns and it was suggested that he make a presentation to the Governing Body. Paramount Assets is aware of the Borough's concerns regarding some of their properties and wants to work with the Borough and move forward.

Mr. Dunn stated Paramount Assets owns six properties in the Borough; all are located on Washington Avenue. These properties include: 6 East Washington Ave, 14 East Washington Ave, 28 East Washington Ave, 41-47 East Washington Ave, 14-20 West Washington Ave (Star Plaza), and 26 West Washington Ave.

Mr. Dunn stated that 6 East Washington Avenue contains one commercial unit which is currently vacant. The upper level is slated for future construction and will contain four, two bedroom apartments. He stated the current façade is in decent shape. Councilman Cioni asked if it was possible to move the fire escape to the back of the building. Mr. Dunn stated that they would keep it in mind however, it will depend on the NJ State Building and Fire Codes.

Mr. Dunn stated that the plan is to reestablish the apartments. Paramount does not feel that they will have any problem leasing; and the residential units will help feed the retail establishments. Mayor Van Deursen asked what the current timeline is. Mr. Dunn stated the architect is currently drawing plans. Mayor Van Deursen also noted that the windows should be cleaned up and/or replaced.

Mr. Dunn stated 14 East Washington currently has a commercial vacancy. The two upstairs apartments are currently occupied. The windows in this building have been cleaned out.

Twenty Eight East Washington Ave will be an art studio (tattoo parlor). The upstairs windows will be changed. Councilwoman Woykowski asked if a breakdown of residential vs. commercial occupancy rates can be provided.

Mr. Dunn stated that 41-47 East Washington has no current issues. The residential tenants have moved out and the shoe repair store has moved to another location. Paramount is actively seeking to lease the vacated spaces.

Councilman Higgins asked if that is the building where the oil spill took place. Mr. Dunn stated yes; however he was not the steward of the properties at that time. He stated that he wants a productive relationship with municipalities, not an adversarial one. He will make sure property managers are following very stringent rules now. He assured the Borough it will not happen again.

Mr. Dunn indicated that Star Plaza has 27 units and only three vacancies. Mayor Van Deursen asked if the building is structurally sound. Mr. Dunn stated that Paramount was notified that there was a concern. They investigated and had the engineer out to evaluate the situation. Paramount met with the DCA and informed the DCA of the plan of action. The DCA approved the remediation plan and it will be completed by July 1, 2008.

Twenty Six West Washington Avenue, both units are occupied. Mr. Dunn outlined the short term goals for all properties located in the Borough. The goals include: the structural rehabilitation of Star Plaza, enhancing curb appeal, new signage, cleaning of store fronts, rehabilitation of 28 East Washington Avenue structural concerns, and reducing the vacancy rates on Washington Avenue. Long term goals include: renovation of the second floor of 6 East Washington Ave, increase of occupancy rate to 95%, and establishing positive roots in Washington Borough.

Councilman Cioni inquired as to how Paramount locates tenants for the properties. Mr. Dunn stated that Paramount places signs in various locations, places ads in papers, uses billboards, and uses realty companies to find tenants.

Councilman Turner noted that he has heard all of this information before and to date there has been no movement or progress made. Mr. Dunn stated that Paramount is committed to the Borough. Mayor Van Deursen stated that Council will be expecting the improvements to be made to the buildings by July 1, 2008. She also stated that the Borough is hoping to approve the redevelopment plan by the end of the month and we hope Paramount will work with us.

Councilwoman Oakley stated she wants to see visible changes to the buildings. Mayor Van Deursen asked for a progress report. Mr. Dunn stated he will be able to submit progress reports every two weeks.

Dr. Bloodgood of Community Prevention Resources noted for the record that Mr. Dunn has been working with her on the issues surrounding her building since April. Mr. Dunn has stepped up to the plate; after many unsatisfactory conversations with Maurice. She stated as of today, Mr. Dunn has completed all of his promises.

Dawn Higgins asked Mr. Dunn specifically what Paramount will be doing to the buildings. Mr. Dunn stated that his company will be working on curb appeal and cleaning up the store fronts.

## **AUDIENCE:**

### **Dawn Higgins – 113 Harding Drive**

Ms. Higgins stated that as of today, she has not seen anything regarding the tax rate for the Borough. Mayor Van Deursen stated that the Governing Body received the budget very early this year; however with the State removing and adjusting the State Aid figures the budget was held up and will be introduced at the June 17, 2008 Council Meeting.

Ms. Higgins asked if equal cuts were made in the budget to even out what was lost in State Aid. Councilwoman Woykowski stated that would be very difficult. Council will be reviewing the budget again prior to introduction. Ms. Higgins stated that more should be done to cut the budget.

### **Pam Harrington - 17 Flower Avenue**

Ms. Harrington stated she has concerns regarding the appearance of a home on Rt. 57 near the underpass and another home on the North side of Rt. 57. The town is going through redevelopment and looks beautiful. She stated Council should work with the smaller property owners to improve their appearance of their properties.

**Candy DeFillippis – 119 Broad Street**

Ms. DeFillippis commented that the children in the Borough do not have any form of recreation. The parks are all closed in the evening, they are unable to play basketball at the parks, there is no community center, and no skate park.

Council discussed options for the children of the Borough as far as recreational activities. Councilman Turner suggested extending the hours of the park and leaving the lights on for a longer period of time during the evening.

**Assistant Fire Chief Josh Devoe**

Mr. Devoe stated that there are over seventy fire agencies attending the parade on Saturday. Mr. Devoe asked council to be at the reviewing stand at 12:15 p.m. The parade will begin at 1:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilman Cioni for a five minute recess, seconded by Councilwoman Oakley.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

Council reconvene at 10:15 p.m. Councilman Housel excused himself from the remainder of the meeting.

**ORDINANCES:**

**Ordinance 6-2008 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 74 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, “SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT”, OF THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY” (Introduction)**

Mayor Van Deursen entertained a motion to introduce Ordinance #6-2008.

Ordinance 6-2008 was introduced by Councilman Higgins, seconded by Councilman Cioni.

It was further moved by Higgins, seconded by Cioni that the Clerk read Ordinance #6-2008 by title only.

Roll Call: Higgins, Woykowski, Turner, Van Deursen, Oakley and Cioni

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

The Clerk read Ordinance #6-2008 entitled, “An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 74 of the Code of the Borough of Washington, “Special Improvement District”, of the Borough of Washington, Warren County, State of New Jersey.

Council Discussion: None

Mayor Van Deursen entertained a motion to introduce Ordinance 6-2008 on first reading.

Ordinance 6-2008 was moved by Councilman Turner, seconded by Councilman Higgins to be introduced on first reading.

Roll Call: Higgins, Turner, Cioni, Van Deursen, Oakley and Woykowski.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

It was further moved by Turner, seconded by Higgins that Ordinance #6-2008 be published in the Star Gazette on June 12, 2008 as required by law and that the public hearing be scheduled for July 1, 2008.

### **ORDINANCE # 6-2008**

#### **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 74 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, “SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT” OF THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Washington wishes to make certain changes to Chapter 74 of the Washington Borough Municipal Code,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren, as follows:

**Section 1.** Section 74-5(B)(6) of the Code of the Borough of Washington be and the same is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

“(6) Borrow money from private lenders and government entities;”

**Section 2.** Sections 74-5(B)(17) and (18) of the Code of the Borough of Washington be and the same are deleted and Section 74-5(B)(19) and (20) of the Code of the Borough of Washington be and the same are renumbered as Sections 74-5(B)(17) and (18).

**Section 3.** This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage in accordance with law.



**REPORTS:**

It was moved by Oakley, seconded by Turner to receive and file the following reports.

1. Zoning/Code Enforcement May 2008

Roll Call: Turner, Oakley, Higgins, Van Deursen, Cioni and Woykowski.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Redevelopment Committee:** No Report

**DPW Garage:** No Report

**Sewer Committee:** No Report

**Streets Committee:** No Report

**Finance Committee:** No Report

**Shared Services Committee:** No Report

**Senior Services:** No Report

**Website Committee:** Councilman Cioni reported that the website home page has been updated.

**Curfew Committee:** No Report

**Pedophile Ordinance Committee:** No Report

**BID:** The BID minutes were distributed. The Borough Clerk will document when the minutes are sent to Council members.

**VOUCHERS AND CLAIMS**

Mayor Van Deursen entertained questions or additions to the vouchers and claims for payments that were not previously addressed before the meeting.

Councilman Higgins inquired about the phone bill. He asked if \$1200.00 is for one month. Manager Corica stated that there will be a substantial credit on the phone bill next month.

Councilwoman Woykowski asked if the engineering bills for the DPW Garage have been charged to the correct capital ordinance. Manager Corica indicated the bills have been charged to the correct ordinance.

Hearing no further comments or questions the vouchers and claims were approved for payment in the amount of \$ 211,237.03.

Roll Call: Turner, Higgins, Cioni, Woykowski, Oakley, and Van Deursen.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0  
Motion carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Email Hosting Proposal**

Councilman Cioni reviewed the proposal received from City Connections to provide email services to the Borough of Washington.

Motion made by Higgins, seconded by Turner to accept the proposal for email services from City Connections. The Borough Clerk will be the email administrator.

Roll Call: Higgins, Turner, Cioni, Woykowski, Oakley, and Van Deursen.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Request for Road Closure South Wandling Avenue Sunday, June 15 2008**

Motion made by Turner, seconded by Higgins to approve the request for a road closure on South Wandling Avenue Sunday, June 15, 2008 provided notification is made to the neighbors.

Roll Call: Turner, Higgins, Oakley, Van Deursen, Cioni, and Woykowski.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

**Resolution 127-2008 Board of Education Change of EDU Rate – Warren Hills High School**

Resolution 127-2008 was moved on a motion made by Higgins, seconded by Oakley and adopted.

Roll Call: Higgins, Van Deursen, Woykowski, Cioni, Turner and Oakley.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION # 127 -2008**  
**OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF**  
**WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, TO ADJUST SEWER EDU RATES**  
**FOR THE WARREN HILLS REGIONAL SCHOOL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education for the Warren Hills Regional School system has submitted water bills for the year 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Warren Hills Middle School is currently being billed for sewer at a rate of 15 EDUs; and

WHEREAS, the Warren Hills High School is currently being billed for sewer at a rate of 32 EDUs and;

WHEREAS, analysis of the water bills indicate that the Warren Hills Middle School should be billed at the rate of 13 EDUs and the Warren Hills High School should be billed at the rate of 40 EDUs.

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 effective with the July sewer billing cycles that the Warren Hills Middle School rate be reduced from 15 EDUs to 13 EDUs and that the Warren Hills High School rate be increased from 32 EDUs to 40 EDUs.

**Resolution 128-2008 Board of Education Change of EDU Rate – Taylor and Memorial School**

Resolution 128-2008 was moved by Higgins, seconded by Oakley and adopted.

Roll Call: Van Deursen, Higgins, Oakley, Cioni, Woykowski, and Turner.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION # 128 -2008**  
**OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF**  
**WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, TO ADJUST SEWER EDU RATES**  
**FOR THE WASHINGTON BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, the Washington Borough Board of Education has submitted water bills for the past year; and

WHEREAS, the Taylor Street School is currently being billed for sewer at a rate of 11 EDUs; and

WHEREAS, the Memorial School is currently being billed for sewer at a rate of 4 EDUs and;

WHEREAS, analysis of the water bills indicate that the Taylor Street School should be billed at the rate of 5 EDUs and the Memorial School should be billed at the rate of 5 EDUs.

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 effective with the July sewer billing cycles that the Taylor Street School rate be decreased from 11 EDUs to 5 EDUs and that the Memorial School rate be increased from 4 EDUs to 5 EDUs.

**Resolution 129-2008 Approval of Application for “Obey the Signs or Pay the Fines” Grant**

Resolution 129-2008 was moved on a motion made by Higgins, seconded by Oakley and adopted.

Roll Call: Higgins, Van Deursen, Cioni, Woykowski. - Yes  
Turner, Oakley – No

Ayes: 4, Nays: 2  
Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION # 129-2008**  
**OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF**  
**WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, TO APPROVE**  
**APPLICATION FOR A NJDHTS GRANT**

WHEREAS, funds are available from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the amount of \$4,000 under the “Obey the Signs or Pay the Fines” program; and

WHEREAS, the grant would fund salary and wages for police enforcement to target

aggressive driving along Rt. 31, Rt. 57, Belvidere Avenue and Broad Street.

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 Chief of Police is hereby authorized to submit a Project Grant Application for Highway Safety to the NJDHTS under the Obey the Signs or Pay the Fines program.

**Resolution 130-2008 Establishing Sewer Connection Fees**

Resolution 130-2008 was moved on a motion made by Higgins, seconded by Cioni and adopted.

Roll Call: Turner, Higgins, Oakley, Cioni, Woykowski, Van Deursen

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0

Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION # 130-2008**  
**OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF**  
**WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, NJ ESTABLISHING**  
**SEWER CONNECTION FEES**

WHEREAS, Stephanie Lewis, Municipal Capital Management has completed the analysis of the Sewer Utility debts structure and has recommended that the Sewer Connection Fee be adjusted to \$3,310.02; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was advertised for May 20, 2008; and

WHEREAS, said public hearing was held and no one spoke regarding the change, 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 that the sewer connection fee be increased to \$3,310.02.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this change will be effective immediately upon passage of this resolution.

**Resolution 131-2008 Void and Replace Check**

Resolution 131-2008 was moved on a motion made by Higgins, seconded by Cioni and adopted.

Roll Call: Turner, Oakley, Higgins, Van Deursen, Cioni, and Woykowski

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0

Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION #131-2008**

**A RESOLUTION TO VOID AND REPLACE A CHECK**

**WHEREAS**, check #7002 was written 5/21/08 on Washington Borough's Other Trust Account # 8025578411 in the amount of \$5,215.55 and made payable to Warnock-Ryan, Inc., PO Box 524, 175 Route 10, East Hanover, NJ 07936; and

**WHEREAS**, the Treasurer's office was made aware that the check was made payable to the wrong vendor and a written request has been received for a replacement.

**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 Borough Treasurer is authorized to void and replace check #7002. A replacement check in the amount of \$5,215.55 should be made payable to Ford Motor Credit Company at Dept 67-434, FMCC Municipal Finance, PO Box 67000, Detroit, MI 48267-0434.

**Resolution 132-2008 Refund of Tax Overpayment**

Resolution 132-2008 was moved on a motion made by Higgins, seconded by Cioni and adopted.

Roll Call: Turner, Cioni, Oakley, Higgins, Van Deursen, and Woykowski

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0

Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION # 132-2008**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REFUND  
OF A PRIOR YEAR TAX OVERPAYMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector's records shows an overpayment on the 3rd quarter 2007 taxes on Block 101 Lot 013.29, 51 Lenape Trail, and

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector's office has received a written request that the amount of \$1,248.07 should be refunded to the Estate of Catherine Jones, and mailed to:

Estate of Catherine Jones  
C/O Daughn Jones-Randle  
936 Albert Avenue  
Norfolk, Va., 23513

**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 Treasurer is authorized to refund the above payment amount as directed.

**Resolution 133 – 2008 Void and Replace Check**

Resolution 133-2008 was moved on a motion made by Higgins, seconded by Cioni and adopted.

Roll Call: Higgins, Cioni, Woykowski, Turner, Oakley, and Van Deursen.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION #133-2008**

**A RESOLUTION TO VOID AND REPLACE A CHECK**

**WHEREAS**, check #1037 was written 5/21/08 on Washington Borough's Operating Fund # 8102360230 in the amount of \$258.00 and made payable to Tropicana Hotel, Brighton and the Boardwalk, Atlantic City, NJ 08405-0059; and

**WHEREAS**, the Treasurer's office was made aware that the check should be made payable to a different vendor. The invoice needed to be paid with a credit card and now the payment is a reimbursement to the card holder; 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 that the Borough Treasurer is authorized to void and replace check #1037. A replacement check in the amount of \$258.00 should be made payable to Kay Stasyshan at 17 Hillcrest Ave., Washington, NJ 07882.

**Resolution 134-2008 Resolution to Explore the Feasibility of Entering into a Shared Services**

Resolution 134-2008 was moved on a motion made by Oakley, seconded by Turner and adopted.

Councilman Higgins inquired about the difference between a shared service and an inter-local agreement. Manager Corica explained that this Resolution is simply a preliminary phase. This will allow the two municipalities to explore the feasibility of a police shared service between Washington Township and Washington Borough.

Roll Call: Oakley, Turner, Van Deursen, Woykowski, Cioni – Yes  
Higgins – No

Ayes: 5, Nays: 1  
Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION # 134-2008**  
**OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF**  
**WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, NJ TO EXPLORE THE**  
**FEASIBILITY OF ENTERING INTO A SHARED SERVICES**  
**AGREEMENT WITH WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP TO PROVIDE**  
**POLICE SERVICES**

WHEREAS, Washington Borough and Washington Township have appointed Shared Services Committees to explore areas in which both municipalities might share services to their mutual benefit; and

WHEREAS, the joint Shared Service Committee has met with the Police Chiefs of the Borough and Township to explore the feasibility of creating a shared police department; and

WHEREAS, Chiefs and representatives of both departments have indicated that they believe it would be feasible and is worthy of further investigation and analysis; and

WHEREAS, the Shared Services Committee of Washington Borough has reported to the Council that it believes that the Borough and the Township should explore the feasibility of creating a Police Shared Service; and

WHEREAS, the Governor and the Legislature of the State of New Jersey have expressed their desire for municipalities to explore sharing services as a means to reduce costs and property taxes and has made available grants for feasibility studies and for implementation.

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 Borough and Washington Township should work in concert to begin in depth studies to determine the feasibility of creating a shared Police Department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough and Washington Township hold a joint public meeting of their governing bodies for the purpose of gathering information, to hear a presentation by the Police Departments of both municipalities outlining their preliminary



findings and recommendations, to hear questions and comments from the public and to develop a plan to move forward with further studies if so desired; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council suggest such joint meeting to be held on 19 June 2008 at 8:00 p.m. at a location to be mutually agreed upon by the governing bodies and said meeting to be advertised as required by the Open Public Meetings Act.

**Resolution 135-2008 to Amend Temporary Budget**

Resolution 135-2008 was moved on a motion made by Cioni, seconded by Oakley and adopted.

Roll Call: Cioni, Oakley, Higgins, Woykowski, Van Deursen – Yes  
Turner – No

Ayes: 5, Nays: 1  
Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION #135-2008  
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF  
WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, TO AMEND THE  
2008 TEMPORARY BUDGET**

WHEREAS, a temporary budget was approved by Resolution 1-2008; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-20 provides that emergency temporary appropriations may be made “for the period between the beginning of the current fiscal year and the date of the adoption of the budget for said year,” by a 2/3 vote of the full membership of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that there is a need for additional appropriations not included in the temporary budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by a 2/3 vote of the full membership of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the temporary budget for the year 2008 is hereby amended to add the following amounts:

General Administration Salary and Wages	25000
General Administration Other Expenses	5,000
Mayor and Council S&W	4,500
Municipal Clerk S&W	13,000
Municipal Clerk, Other Expenses	2,500
Financial Administration S&W	2,000

Tax Collection OE	2,000
Tax Assessment OE	5,000
Legal OE	2,500
Engineering OE	10,000
Downtown Redevelopment	5,000
Planning Board SW	1,000
Planning Board OE	2,000
Board of Adjustment SW	500
Board of Adjustment OE	2,000
Code Enforcement SW	10,000
Code Enforcements OE	750
Police SW	300,000
Fire Prevention	750
Fire Hydrants	20,000
Prosecutor	6,400
Streets & Roads SW	100,000
Streets & Roads OE	20,000
Solid Waste Collection	75,000
Buildings and Grounds OE	10,000
Shade Tree SW	250
Animal Control	1,000
Recreation	20,000
Library SW	50,000
Library OE	30,000
Electricity	10,000
Traffic Lights	20,000
Telephone	10,000
Natural Gas	7,500
Gasoline	15,000
Solid Waste Disposal	40,000
Social Security	30,000
Court SW	30,000
Court OE	2,000

**Resolution 136-2008 to Amend Sewer Temporary Budget**

Resolution 136-2008 was moved on a motion made by Higgins, seconded by Turner and adopted.

Roll Call: Higgins, Turner, Cioni, Oakley, Van Deursen, Woykowski.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION # 136-2008**  
**OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF**  
**WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, TO AMEND THE**  
**2008 SEWER TEMPORARY BUDGET**

WHEREAS, a temporary budget was approved by Resolution 2-2008; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-20 provides that emergency temporary appropriations may be made “for the period between the beginning of the current fiscal year and the date of the adoption of the budget for said year,” by a 2/3 vote of the full membership of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that there is a need for additional appropriations not included in the temporary budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the a 2/3 vote of the full membership of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the temporary budget for the year 2008 is hereby amended to add the follow amounts:

Salary and Wages	30,000
Operating Expenses	400,000
<b>CAPITAL</b>	
Infrastructure Trust Loan Interest and Principal	77,524

**RECAP**

Manager Corica stated that the Borough will move forward with the new emails based on the proposal of City Connections.

**COUNCIL REMARKS**

**Councilwoman Oakley** – Congragulated Patrick Boyle and Mayor Van Deursen. Councilwoman Oakley wished the Fire Department good luck in the parade on Saturday.

**Councilman Turner** – Councilman Turner congragulated Mayor Van Deursen and Patrick Boyle for their win in the primary election. He stated he is very proud of have served with everyone on Council.

**Councilwoman Woykowski** – No Comments

**Mayor Van Deursen** – Congratulated Patrick Boyle and Councilwoman Woykowski on their win in the primary. She stated that the Borough is now prepared to introduce a budget for 2008. Council agreed to meet Wednesday June 11 to review the budget prior to introduction.

**Councilman Higgins** – Asked for a status update on the drainage situation on Washington Avenue. Manager Corica stated that copies of all correspondence had been given to Council.

**Councilman Cioni** – Councilman Cioni noted the broken sidewalk in front of PNC Bank. Manager Corica stated that Mr. Holt has been in discussions with the contractor and it will be repaired. He also noted he would like more detail on the status report.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Van Deursen entertained a motion to enter executive session. Motion was made by Oakley, seconded by Turner and adopted.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0  
Motion Carried

### **RESOLUTION 137-2008**

#### **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act; *N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.*, declares it to be the public policy of the State to insure the right of citizens to have adequate advance notice of and the right to attend meetings of public bodies at which business affecting the public is discussed or acted upon; and

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act also recognizes exceptions to the right of the public to attend portions of such meetings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council find it necessary to conduct an executive session closed to the public as permitted by the *N.J.S.A. 40:4-12*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council will reconvene in public session at the conclusion of the executive session;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren, State of New Jersey that they will conduct an executive session to discuss the following topic(s) as permitted by *N.J.S.A. 40:4-12*:

\_\_\_\_\_A matter which Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court requires be kept confidential or excluded from discussion in public (Provision relied upon: \_\_\_\_\_);

\_\_\_\_\_A matter where the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the federal government;

\_\_\_\_\_A matter whose disclosure would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy;

\_\_\_\_\_A collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions thereof (Specify contract: \_\_\_\_\_);

  X  A matter involving the purpose, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of bank rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed; Tilly Property

\_\_\_\_\_Tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public provided that their disclosure could impair such protection;

\_\_\_\_\_Investigations of violations or possible violations of the law;

\_\_\_\_\_Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party; (The general nature of the litigation or contract negotiations is: EPA \_\_\_\_\_ OR \_\_\_\_\_ the public disclosure of such information at this time would have a potentially negative impact on the municipality's position in the litigation or negotiation; therefore this information will be withheld until such time as the matter is concluded or the potential for negative impact no longer exists.)

\_\_\_\_\_Matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his or her ethical duties as a lawyer; (The general nature of the matter is: \_\_\_\_\_ OR \_\_\_\_\_ the public disclosure of such information at this time would have a potentially negative impact on the municipality's position with respect to the matter being discussed; therefore this information will be withheld until such time as the matter is concluded or the potential for negative impact no longer exists.);

\_\_\_\_\_Matters involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective or current public officer or employee of the public body, where all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected have not requested in writing that the matter(s) be discussed at a public meeting; (The employee(s) and/or general nature of discussion is \_\_\_\_\_

OR \_\_\_\_\_ the public disclosure of such information at this time would violate the employee(s) privacy rights; therefore this information will be withheld until such time as the matter is concluded or the threat to privacy rights no longer exists.;

\_\_\_\_\_Deliberation occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty or loss of a license or permit;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council hereby declare that their discussion of the subject(s) identified above may be made public at a time when the Borough Attorney advises them that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the Borough or any other entity with respect to said discussion. That

time is currently estimated to be: \_\_\_**SIX MONTHS** estimated length of time) OR upon the occurrence of \_\_\_\_\_;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council, for the reasons set forth above, hereby declare that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place.

Council adjourned from Executive Session at 11:15 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilman Higgins, seconded by Oakley to authorize an access agreement for the Environmental Protection Agency for the Department of Public Works garage site.

Hearing no further business to come before Council, it was moved by Turner, seconded by Oakley that the meeting be adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0.  
Motion carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Marianne Van Deursen

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kristine Blanchard, RMC Borough Clerk