

**BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
WASHINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES – June 04, 2014**

The Regular Meeting of the Borough Council of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey was held in the Council Chambers of Borough Hall at 7:00 P.M.

Mayor McDonald 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.”

Mayor McDonald led everyone in the flag salute.

Roll Call: Higgins, Thompson, McDonald, Conry, Gleba,
Jones (arrived at 8:05 p.m.)

Absent: Torres

Also Present: Kristine Blanchard, Borough Manager/Clerk

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting – March 18, 2014

Motion made by Gleba, seconded by Conry to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of March 18, 2014.

Council Discussion:

Councilwoman Gleba notes that on page two within the audience portion of the meeting, Mrs. Sloan commented that there were three vehicles blocking the view of oncoming traffic on Route 57 from Grand Avenue, not state owned vehicles.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0
Motion Carried

AUDIENCE:

Mayor McDonald opened up the audience portion for remarks, petitions, statements, and testimony from guests.

Sandi Cerami – Washington Borough BID, Director

Ms. Cerami thanked Council and congratulated them again on their working relationship and partnership with the BID. Ms. Cerami added that with the second phase of Midtown Limited Building there is over nine million dollars in physical, capital improvements and investment in the Borough which is changing the face and history of Washington. Ms. Cerami stated that on April 7th of 2009 the Washington Borough adopted a redevelopment plan. Part of that plan included the construction of the mid block park which provides the necessary relief and safe access for pedestrians to get to and from the parking lot. In August of 2010, Council passed a resolution which enabled the BID to act as a pass thru entity and redeveloper to be eligible for a grant from Warren County Open Space to purchase the Route 57 park property and after much hard work, the BID is beginning construction on the final stages. Ms. Cerami added that the Borough is the final and eligible owner of the property. It was always the intention that the Borough would take control once the construction was complete. The BID plans to come before Council formally on June 17th with a legal agreement and a resolution for the park post transfer of title to the Borough. Ms. Cerami stated that the BID has depleted their funds, five years of parking lot loan payments of approximately \$150,000 and \$96,000 of past investment into the park to date and an additional \$32,000 forthcoming. These expenses will leave the BID with approximately two and a half months worth of expenses at the end of the year in the bank. The BID would like to continue with fundraising efforts for the park with the agreement that the funds raise for the park by the BID would go to the BID as well as allow the BID to manage events there and implement any additional amenities the BID may afford based on the success of the fundraising campaign. Ms. Cerami added that she hopes everyone can attend the Cocktails in the Park fundraiser on Thursday June 26th from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Mediterranean Bistro.

Councilwoman Gleba asked if the Borough is assuming the loan in September. Ms. Cerami replied to clarify there are two separate entities, the parking lot and the park. The parking lot is supposed to be turned over to the Borough in August before the September 1st payment. Ms. Cerami stated that the current amount of the loan payment is about \$300,000 which is exclusively to pay off the loan, none of that goes into the BID's surplus. Manager Blanchard asked if the Borough would assume the maintenance on the property. Ms. Cerami replied yes but there shouldn't be much maintenance besides cutting the grass and trimming the trees. Manager Blanchard wanted Council to be aware of the added costs for the next year's budget.

Councilman Higgins added that the Streets Committee met with the engineer in regards to the downtown crosswalk and there are some issues. The entrance to the parking lot is confusing and not clearly marked. The engineer suggested flower box planters along the entrance way to deter cars from entering where the clock tower is located. Manger Blanchard noted that she spoke with the engineer today and together they will come up with a few ideas to make the entrance way less confusing.

Robin Klimko – 35 West Marble Street

Mrs. Klimko asked for an update in regards to the sewer project on South Prospect Street. Manager Blanchard asked Council to discuss offering the owner of the property where the sewer easement needs to be placed an additional \$1,000. Manager Blanchard noted that at the last meeting, Council voted against that but the homeowner is asking for up to \$1,000 for legal services plus an additional \$1,000 for a total of \$2,000. It is Manager Blanchard's recommendation to Council to grant the homeowner's request to get the project moving. Councilwoman Conry asked how the homeowner came up with the amount of \$2,000. Manager Blanchard replied that the homeowner feels she should be compensated for allowing the sewer line to go through her property. Manager Blanchard added that this is probably the least disruptive property to place the easement on. Mayor McDonald added that is also the most cost effective in the long run. Mrs. Klimko noted that the alternative is to go through the Quick Mart parking lot which would be a lot more invasive going through the parking lot and repaving.

A motion was made by Gleba to pay the homeowner \$2,000 in order to move forward with the sewer project, seconded by Higgins.

Council Discussion:

Councilman Higgins asked when the cost estimate and the plans for the project will be done. Manager Blanchard replied that the cost estimate is \$150,000 and that includes the twenty percent contingency fee in case there is something that is not foreseeable now. That cost includes the engineering fees and the construction costs. Manager Blanchard added that there will be a not to exceed letter once she has the signed easement agreement from the property owner. Councilman Higgins added that he would like to put the engineer on a time line to keep things moving along.

Roll Call: McDonald, Conry, Higgins, Thompson, Gleba
Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried.

Hearing no further comments from the audience a motion was made by Higgins, seconded by Conry, to close the audience portion of the meeting.

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

REPORTS:

A motion was made by Gleba, seconded by Thompson to receive and file the following reports:

1. Code Enforcement Report – May 2014
2. Health Department Report – May 14, 2014

Council Discussion:

Councilwoman Gleba asked about the silt runoff situation that was listed in the Board of Health report. Manager Blanchard replied that there seems to be a disagreement between the D.E.P. and the engineering firm as to who is responsible for the silt. Councilwoman Gleba also asked if the Health Department was able to issue violations in regards to 53 Vannatta Street. Manager Blanchard replied that the Board of Health can issue violations which are different from the violations issued by the Borough's Code Enforcement Officer. Code Enforcement Officer Bescherer added that he appeared in Court in Belvidere in regards to numerous violations for 53 Vannatta Street and the responsible party as well as the prosecutor failed to appear so they will be rescheduled. Councilwoman Gleba added that if the residence is in violation of any of the Borough's ordinances, then the Washington Township Police should be issuing tickets as well.

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

ORDINANCES:

Ordinance 2-2014 An Ordinance Providing Funding for Various Capital Purposes for the Borough of Washington and Appropriating \$264,000 for Such Purposes (Introduction).

Motion was made by Gleba, seconded by Conry, to introduce Ordinance 2 – 2014 and have the Clerk read by title.

Roll Call: Gleba, McDonald, Conry, Higgins, Thompson
Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

The Clerk read Ordinance 2-2014 An Ordinance Providing Funding for Various Capital Purposes for the Borough of Washington and Appropriating \$264,000 for Such Purposes.

ORDINANCE # 2-2014

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FUNDING FOR VARIOUS
CAPITAL PURPOSES FOR THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON
AND APPROPRIATING \$264,000 FOR SUCH PURPOSES.**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, New Jersey, authorizes various capital improvements to be undertaken, included but not limited to: the purchase of fire gear, 4x4 truck, boiler replacement, various road improvements, including but not limited to milling and paving of _____, fire suppressions system and sediment control in air conditioning unit, for the Borough of Washington to be funded from the sources specified in Section 2 of the Ordinance.

Section 2. The amount of \$264,000 is hereby appropriated for the purposes stated in Section 1 of the Ordinance and which amount was funded from the Capital Improvement Fund in the amount of \$264,000.

Section 3. In connection with the purpose and the amount authorized in Sections 1 and 2 hereof, the Borough determines the purpose described in Section 1 hereof is not a Current Expense and is an improvement which the Borough of Washington may lawfully make as a general improvement.

Section 4. All ordinances or parts of ordinances which are inconsistent with the terms of this Ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.

Section 5. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon due passage and publication according to law.

A motion was made by Higgins, seconded by Conry to approve Ordinance 2-2014 on first reading.

Council Discussion:

Councilwoman Gleba asked if a list of roads being paved will be shared with Council. Councilman Higgins replied that Council will be provided a list of the potential streets to be paved.

Roll Call: Gleba, McDonald, Conry, Higgins, Thompson
Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution #79-2014 – Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #79-2014

A RESOLUTION FOR REDEMPTION OF TAX CERTIFICATE

As per N.J.S.A.54:5

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS THAT, WHEREAS, lands in the taxing district of Washington Borough, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, were sold on December 5, 2013 to US Bank Cust Pro Capital III, 2 Liberty Place, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102, in the amount of \$3,625.91 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2012 in the name of Lum, Arthur E. as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 82 West Johnston Street, Block 15 Lot 25, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #13-00014; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 5-21-14 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Comerica Bank on behalf of Corelogic Tax Service claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by US Bank Cust Pro Capital III by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$12,825.17 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #13-00014.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 4th day of June, 2014 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to US Bank Cust Pro Capital III, 2 Liberty Place, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102 in the amount of **\$33,925.17** (this amount consists of \$12,825.17 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$21,100.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 15 Lot 25 from the tax office records.

Resolution #80-2014 – Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #80-2014

A RESOLUTION FOR REDEMPTION OF TAX CERTIFICATE

As per N.J.S.A.54:5

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS THAT, WHEREAS, lands in the taxing district of Washington Borough, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, were sold on December 5, 2013 to US Bank Cust Pro Capital III, 2 Liberty Place, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102, in the amount of \$695.60 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2012 in the name of Gonzalez, Reynaldo/Vigil, Marlen C as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 22 Sunrise Terrace , Block 44 Lot 51, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #13-00022; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 5-15-14 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Wells Fargo Real Estate Tax Service claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by US Bank Cust Pro Capital III by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$1,589.55 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #13-00022.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 4th day of June, 2014 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to US Bank Cust Pro Capital III, 2 Liberty Place, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102 in the amount of **\$2,889.55** (this amount consists of \$1,589.55 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$1,300.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 44 Lot 51 from the tax office records.

Resolution #81-2014 – Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #81-2014

A RESOLUTION FOR REDEMPTION OF TAX CERTIFICATE

As per N.J.S.A.54:5

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS THAT, WHEREAS, lands in the taxing district of Washington Borough, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, were sold on December 5, 2013 to US Bank Cust Pro Capital III, 2 Liberty Place, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102, in the amount of \$355.36 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2012 in the name of Ricci, Matteo A. as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 26 Fisher Avenue, Block 76 Lot 3, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #13-00028; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 5-15-14 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Wells

Fargo Real Estate Tax Service claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by US Bank Cust Pro Capital III by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$1,242.30 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #13-00028.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 4th day of June, 2014 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to US Bank Cust Pro Capital III, 2 Liberty Place, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102 in the amount of **\$1,642.30** (this amount consists of \$1,242.30 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$400.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 76 Lot 3 from the tax office records.

Resolution #82-2014 – Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #82-2014

A RESOLUTION FOR REDEMPTION OF TAX CERTIFICATE

As per N.J.S.A.54:5

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT, WHEREAS, lands in the taxing district of Washington Borough, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, were sold on December 5, 2013 to Tower Fund Services as Custodian for Ebury Fund, LLC , PO Box 37695, Baltimore, MD 21297-3695 in the amount of \$643.54 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2012 in the name of Walters, Mark & Rachel as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 30 Sunrise Terrace Block 44 Lot 55, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #13-00023; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 5-15-14 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Wells Fargo Real Estate Tax Service claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by Tower Fund Services as Custodian for Ebury Fund, LLC by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$1,377.27, which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #13-00023.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 4th day of June, 2014 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to Tower Fund Services as Custodian for Ebury Fund, LLC, PO Box 37695, Baltimore, MD 21297-3695 in the amount of **\$2,677.27**(This amount consists of \$1,377.27 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$1,300.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 44 Lot 55 from the tax office records.

Resolution #83-2014 – Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #83-2014

A RESOLUTION FOR REDEMPTION OF TAX CERTIFICATE

As per N.J.S.A.54:5

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT, WHEREAS, lands in the taxing district of Washington Borough, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, were sold on December 5, 2013 to US Bank Cust Crestar Capital, LLC, TLGS; 2 Liberty Place, 50 South 16th Street Ste 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102, in the amount of \$183.62 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2012 in the name of Hudson, Michael as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 74 East Church Street, Block 27.02 Lot 8, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #13-00018; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 5-15-14 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Wells Fargo Real Estate Tax Service , claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by US Bank Cust Crestar Capital, LLC, by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$904.25, which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #13-00018.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 4th day of June, 2014 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to US Bank Cust Crestar Capital, LLC, TLGS; 2 Liberty Place, 50 South 16th Street Ste 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102 in the amount of **\$1,004.25 (Certificate Redemption amount \$904.25 + \$100.00 Premium)**.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 27.02 Lot 8 from the tax office records.

Resolution #84-2014 – Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #84-2014

A RESOLUTION FOR REDEMPTION OF TAX CERTIFICATE

As per N.J.S.A.54:5

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS THAT, WHEREAS, lands in the taxing district of Washington Borough, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, were sold on

December 5, 2013 to Arthur Frustaci, 1178 Fifth Avenue, Alpha, NJ 08865, in the amount of \$160.88 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2012 in the name of Palazzola, Frank S. & Jola A., as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 96 Lenape Trail, Block 101 Lot 15.26, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #13-00040; and

WHEREAS, I, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 5-15-14 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Wells Fargo Real Estate Tax Service claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by Arthur Frustaci by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$868.73, which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #13-00040.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 4th day of June, 2014 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to Arthur Frustaci, 1178 Fifth Avenue, Alpha, NJ 08865 in the **amount of \$868.73**.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 101 Lot 15.26 from the tax office records.

Resolution #86-2014 – Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #86-2014

A RESOLUTION FOR REDEMPTION OF TAX CERTIFICATE

As per N.J.S.A.54:5

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS THAT, WHEREAS, lands in the taxing district of Washington Borough, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, were sold on December 5, 2013 to US Bank Cust Pro Capital III, 2 Liberty Place, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102, in the amount of \$692.99 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2012 in the name of Ingram, Nicholas as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 46 Lenape Trail, Block 101.01 Lot 14, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #13-00042; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 5-23-14 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Comerica Bank on behalf of Corelogic Tax Service claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by US Bank Cust Pro Capital III by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$1,586.85 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #13-00042.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 4th day of June, 2014 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to US Bank Cust Pro Capital III, 2 Liberty Place, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102 in the amount of **\$2,586.85** (this amount consists of \$1,586.85 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$1,000.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 101.01 Lot 14 from the tax office records.

Resolution #87-2014 – Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #87-2014

A RESOLUTION FOR REDEMPTION OF TAX CERTIFICATE

As per N.J.S.A.54:5

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS THAT, WHEREAS, lands in the taxing district of Washington Borough, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, were sold on December 5, 2013 to US Bank Cust Pro Capital III, 2 Liberty Place, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102, in the amount of \$913.07 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2012 in the name of Seymour, Alan W. as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 34 Beethoven Ave, Block 79 Lot 8.01, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #13-00030; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 5-30-14 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Comerica Bank on behalf of Corelogic Tax Service claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by US Bank Cust Pro Capital III by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$2,751.17 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #13-00030.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 4th day of June, 2014 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to US Bank Cust Pro Capital III, 2 Liberty Place, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102 in the amount of **\$2,751.17**.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 79 Lot 8.01 from the tax office records.

Resolution #88-2014 – Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #88-2014

A RESOLUTION FOR REDEMPTION OF TAX CERTIFICATE

As per N.J.S.A.54:5

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS THAT, WHEREAS, lands in the taxing district of Washington Borough, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, were sold on December 5, 2013 to US Bank Cust Pro Capital III, 2 Liberty Place, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102, in the amount of \$693.09 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2012 in the name of Ashanti, Abdul-Shabazz. as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 102 Lenape Trail, Block 101 Lot 15.29, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #13-00041; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 5-30-14 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Comerica Bank on behalf of Corelogic Tax Service claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by US Bank Cust Pro Capital III by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$1,586.95 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #13-00041.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 4th day of June, 2014 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to US Bank Cust Pro Capital III, 2 Liberty Place, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102 in the amount of **\$2,586.95** (this amount consists of \$1,586.95 Certificate Amount Redeemed + \$1,000.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 101 Lot 15.29 from the tax office records.

Resolutions #79-2014, #80-2014, #81-2014, #82-2014, #83-2014, #84-2014, #86-2014, #87-2014, and #88-2014 were moved on a motion made by Higgins, seconded by Conry and approved.

Roll Call: Thompson, Higgins, Conry, McDonald, Gleba
Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Abstain: (1) Higgins – Resolution #86-2014 only
Motion Carried

Resolution #85-2014 – EDU Increase

RESOLUTION # 85-2014

**A RESOLUTION TO ADJUST SEWER BILLINGS IN
ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 70, SECTION 28B OF THE
CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON.**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington commenced operations of a municipal sewer utility in January of 1999; and

WHEREAS, certain facts have come to the attention of the Borough to justify modification of sewer service charges which have been reviewed by the Borough Manager; and

WHEREAS, notice has been provided to the owner(s) of the property or properties listed below of the action proposed to be taken with the date, time and place where the Mayor and Council will meet to consider change(s) in the E.D.U.'s assigned to the property or properties listed below; and

WHEREAS, all parties affected by this resolution will be notified of the action taken, in writing, and notified of an opportunity to appear, in person, at a formal hearing of the governing body, if dissatisfied with the decisions made herein.

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 following changes in the sewer service charge(s) are approved:

BLOCK/LOT	NAME/ADDRESS	
REASON/ADJUSTMENT		
22.03/2	Trexler, Ritter Litz 22 West Church Street Washington, NJ 07882	Change in Use (.5) to (1) E.D.U. Effective: June 2014

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be directed to send a certified copy of this resolution to all parties affected by this resolution and advise them of their right to protest the decision and request a formal hearing before the governing body, as provided in Chapter 70, Section 13. If no protest is filed, the decisions contained herein shall be considered final.

Resolution #85-2014, was moved on a motion made by Higgins, seconded by Gleba and approved.

Roll Call: Thompson, Higgins, Conry, McDonald, Gleba
Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Approval of Washington Emergency Squad Raffle Application and Approval of St. Joseph Church Raffle Application

A motion was made by Higgins, seconded by Conry to approve the Raffle Applications for the Washington Emergency Squad and for St. Joseph Church.

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Abstain: (1) Higgins – EMS only
Motion Carried

VOUCHERS:

Mayor McDonald entertained a motion to approve the vouchers and claims in the amount of \$611,844.13

Motion made by Conry, seconded by Gleba to approve the vouchers.

Council Discussion:

Councilwoman Gleba asked Manager Blanchard to verify that the resolution to appoint Joe Trinity as Special Counsel was done last December to coincide with the invoices. Councilwoman Gleba also asked about the charges for the roof damage at the D.P.W. garage. Manager Blanchard replied that the Borough has already received payment from the insurance company to cover those costs. Councilwoman Gleba also asked about the difference between the Washington Borough Fire Department and the Washington Emergency Squad in respect to contributing towards gas costs. Councilman Higgins replied that the fire department is a department of the Borough of Washington and the emergency squad is a non-profit organization who receives a donation from the Borough.

Roll Call: McDonald, Conry, Higgins, Thompson, Gleba
Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Abstain: (1) Thompson – Fire Department & EMS
Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Streets Committee

Councilman Higgins stated that the Streets Committee met last week and went over the list of streets that were presented for possible no parking or one side of the street parking and the committee added a few streets as well. Councilwoman Gleba stated that the

Codebook Committee will need a complete list to add to the Streets Ordinance. Councilwoman Gleba added that she would like to add the wording to the ordinance that the vehicle will be towed at the owner's expense so that the police are able to take action. Councilman Higgins added that he would like to add that the Code Enforcement Officer has the ability to tow a vehicle during a snow emergency. Manager Blanchard replied that Attorney Kopen looked into the ordinance and it currently does not give the Code Enforcement Officer the ability to tow during a snow emergency but that can be changed. Councilwoman Gleba added that the language needs to be very clear and Code Enforcement Officer Bescherer added that it needs to be clearly notified to drivers as they enter the Borough.

Councilman Higgins also stated that the Streets Committee discussed the milling and paving of streets keeping in mind the budget is \$100,000. Councilman Higgins added that North Lincoln Avenue is being paved with the N.J.D.O.T. grant funds. Manager Blanchard noted that North Lincoln may have to be paved separately due to a water main issue that could delay the paving. Councilman Higgins added that that the potential streets recommended for milling and paving are Presidential Drive, South Prospect (which may be paved as part of the sewer project), Green Street, Taylor Street (from East Stewart Street), Flower Avenue and Youmans Avenue East.

RECAP:

Manager Blanchard will work with the D.P.W. Supervisor and have the Morris County Co-op come out and provide the Borough with an estimate on the paving. Manager Blanchard will speak with Attorney Kopen on revamping the street ordinances. Manager Blanchard will verify the August BID parking lot payoff date. Manager Blanchard will get back to Mrs. Klimko in regards to the engineer information.

COUNCIL REMARKS:

Councilman Thompson asked when Council will be reviewing and negotiating the Shared Services contract with the Washington Township Police Department. Manager Blanchard replied that the Shared Service contract is up in July 2016 so it will not be open to negotiations until closer to that date. Councilman Thompson wished a Happy Father's Day to all fathers and for everyone to remember D-Day on June 6th. Councilman Thompson also added that he will need to step down for a few weeks due to a medical procedure on June 17th.

A motion was made by Gleba, seconded by Jones to excuse Councilman Thompson for the next three meetings if needed.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Councilman Jones asked if there has been any action on the burned out house on Broad Street. Manager Blanchard stated that they are in the process of obtaining all the proper permits such as a demolition permit. Manager Blanchard spoke to the Fire Official and the process is under way. Councilman Thompson asked about the burned house on Carlton Avenue near the Middle School. Mayor McDonald replied that it is for sale and he believes it is under contract so there should be movement on that property as well. Councilman Jones asked about the status of the time clocks. Manager Blanchard replied that she planned on doing only one location at a time starting with Borough Hall. Manager Blanchard added that the \$500 cost is the initial purchase of the clocks and the rest will be computer generated which will feed into the Borough's payroll system which is why she would like to implement the time clock in Borough Hall first. Councilman Jones stated that he would like to see the time clocks implemented in all three locations which are Borough Hall, D.P.W. garage and the pool. Manager Blanchard replied that the Recreation Department has time clocks at the pool for the seasonal employees but the Recreation Director and Recreation Secretary primarily work out of Borough Hall. Councilman Jones would like the time clock system implemented in all three locations and be done with it. Manager Blanchard replied that her preference would be to implement it at Borough Hall and see how it works first. Councilwoman Gleba suggested if the pool already has time clocks there for the seasonal employees, the Borough should only purchase two for Borough Hall and the D.P.W. garage.

A motion made by Jones, seconded by Gleba to purchase two time clocks, one for Borough Hall and the other for the D.P.W. garage.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Councilman Jones asked if Manager Blanchard spoke with the Washington Township Police in regards to them utilizing vehicles at the schools and comments that were made by an officer during the Borough's snow emergency in regards to issuing summonses. Manager Blanchard replied that she did address these issues with Assistant Chief Cicerelle and he is aware but since Council is not sure who made the comments there's nothing that can be done. Councilman Jones added that he is not pleased with those types of comments and unprofessional behavior. Lastly, Councilman Jones wished Councilman Thompson the best with his surgery and a Happy Father's Day to all.

Councilman Higgins stated that he has a list of grants but unfortunately the closing date for the grants is June 30th. Councilman Higgins added that there are many grant opportunities available including grants are from the Division of Housing and Community Resources, the Division of Fire Safety. Councilman Higgins noted that Attorney Kopen is retiring and he would like the Borough to present a proclamation thanking her for her years of service. Councilman Higgins added that there will be a Streets Committee meeting and a Sewer Committee meeting on June 10th. Councilman

Higgins would also like for the Shared Services Committee to meet soon as well. Councilwoman Gleba asked Manager Blanchard if there was an update on the Borough being the lead agency on the Shared Service Agreement with Franklin Township in regards to the paving equipment. Manager Blanchard replied that she has not heard anything yet.

Councilwoman Conry wished all fathers a Happy Father's Day.

Councilwoman Gleba asked Manager Blanchard to reach out to the Rolling Thunder Organization to have them appear before Council. Manager Blanchard replied that she did reach out to them and they are scheduled to appear at the second meeting in June. Councilwoman Gleba added that the Rolling Thunder Organization would like to honor fallen soldiers and hometown heroes by adding honorary street signs to a few of the Borough's streets. Councilwoman Gleba also asked Manager Blanchard to check with the Recreation Commission about their plans to put up the nets and keep softballs/baseballs out of harm's way on Route 31. Councilwoman Gleba added that the Senior Committee had a great day for Older American's Month, about twenty seniors came out for the presentation on safety. Councilwoman Gleba thanked Mark and Tim Van Deursen for taking care of the presentation and she also thanked Councilwoman Conry for the refreshments. Councilwoman Gleba added that Warren County recognizes seniors in the community for Older Americans Month and she nominated Susan Sloan. Councilwoman Gleba also wished a Happy Father's Day to all the fathers.

Mayor McDonald stated that he received a certificate of appreciation to the Borough of Washington's Senior Committee in recognition of their efforts to support the older residents of the municipality by keeping them connected, engaged, and vital members of the community. Mayor McDonald added that the certificate was signed by Susan Lennon, Executive Director of the Warren County Division of Aging and Disability Services and Dennis Lackovic, Chairman of the Aging Services Advisory Council. Mayor McDonald wished Councilman Thompson good luck on his upcoming surgery.

Manager Blanchard added that she had a discussion with Code Enforcement Officer Bescherer and the D.P.W. Supervisor at their monthly staff meeting regarding the maintenance of the abandoned and foreclosed properties in the Borough. Manager Blanchard stated that there are currently fifty nine foreclosed properties in the Borough. The D.P.W. can't mow fifty nine properties in one week and it's a problem that needs to be addressed. Manager Blanchard noted that there has been new legislation passed that puts a little more pressure on the banks that own the properties in foreclosure. Manager Blanchard added that the Borough does not have the resources to maintain nearly sixty properties and this is a problem that needs to be addressed. It was suggested that possibly community service workers or the boy scouts would be able to assist

At this time, Mayor McDonald stated that an Executive Session is needed for the purpose of personnel and litigation discussion. A motion made by Higgins, seconded by Jones to enter into Executive Session after a ten minute recess.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0
Motion Carried

RESOLUTION # 123-2014

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: _____);

_____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; Real Estate Acquisitions

_____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;

 X 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: ___/Personnel___ 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: ___ _____ 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.

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.

A motion was made by Higgins, seconded by Conry, to go out of Executive Session.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business, a motion made by Jones, seconded by Higgins to adjourn the meeting at 8:45p.m.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Mayor Scott McDonald

Kristine Blanchard, RMC Borough Clerk