

**BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
WASHINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES – August 05, 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: Jones, Thompson, McDonald, Conry, Torres, Higgins

Absent: Gleba

Also Present: Kristine Blanchard, Borough Manager/Clerk

AUDIT REPORT:

Mr. Tom Ferry – Municipal Auditor

Mr. Ferry presented his annual audit for the year 2013 to the governing body and reviewed highlights of the audit discussing the current fund, the sewer fund, and the fund balance. Mr. Ferry suggested that the tax title liens that have been on the Borough’s books for some time now be considered for assignment sale or the town consider foreclosing on the properties. Mr. Ferry reviewed the comments and recommendations with the governing body. Mr. Ferry made the following recommendations to Council:

1. That interfund balances be reviewed and liquidated on a periodic basis.
2. That the Deferred Charges to Future Taxation – Unfunded over five years old be funded in the 2014 budget
3. That approval signatures be obtained on all timesheets.

Resolution #112-2014 Certification of the Annual Audit and Approval of Corrective Action Plan

Resolution #112-2014

Certification of the Annual Audit and Approval of the Corrective Action Plan

Audit Report Year 2013

Comment # 1

Reference to two balance sheets show interfund balances remaining at year end. Transactions invariably occur in one fund which requires a corresponding entry to be made in another fund, thus creating interfund balances. As a general rule, all interfund balances should be closed out as of the end of year.

Recommendation #1

That interfund balances be reviewed and liquidated on a periodic basis

Explanation and Corrective Action

All interfund balances reviewed on a monthly basis and all possible interfunds are eliminated at month-end. Several large interfunds could not be eliminated in one year and Borough is working to eliminate those interfunds over several budget cycles. Those interfunds are budgeted in 2014 budget and will be eliminated at the end of the year.

Implementation Date

Completed

Comment # 2

There is a Deferred Charges to Future taxation-Unfunded over 5 years old

Recommendation #2

That Deferred Charges to Future Taxation Unfunded over five years old be cancelled of funded

Explanation and Corrective Action

The Borough has a plan in place to fund Deferred Charges Unfunded over several budget cycles. General Capital fund was completed within 2014 budget cycle and Sewer Capital was funded in 2012, 2013 budget and will be completely funded in 2014 budget.

Implementation Date

Completed

Comment # 3

There are several cases where timesheets are missing approval signatures

Recommendation #3

The Borough will obtain approval signatures on timesheets in the future.

Explanation and Corrective Action

Timesheets are consistently reviewed during payroll processing. Additional effort will be placed to resolve those issues. Every timesheet will be reviewed by the payroll clerk and signed by the department head or borough manager.

Implementation Date

On going

Resolution #112-2014 was moved on a motion made by Higgins, seconded by Jones and approved.

Roll Call: Thompson, Torres, Jones, Conry, McDonald, Higgins
Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Resolution #117-2014 Directing the Undertaking of a Continuing Disclosure Review and Authorizing Participation in the Municipalities Continuing Disclosure Cooperation Initiative of the Division Of Enforcement of the US Securities and Exchange Commission

RESOLUTION # 117-2014

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON
DIRECTING THE UNDERTAKING OF A CONTINUING
DISCLOSURE REVIEW AND AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION
IN THE MUNICIPALITIES CONTINUING DISCLOSURE
COOPERATION INITIATIVE OF THE DIVISION OF
ENFORCEMENT OF THE U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE**

COMMISSION

WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington (the “Governmental Entity”) has entered into continuing disclosure agreement(s) in connection with certain of its prior bond and/or note issuance(s) (the “Prior Issuances”), agreeing to file certain financial information and operating data and/or certain enumerated event notices with the former nationally recognized municipal securities information repositories or the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (the “MSRB”) pursuant to the provision of Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Rule”); and

WHEREAS, the Governmental Entity has made certain representation regarding its continuing disclosures in bond and note offering documents in connection with its Prior Issuances; and

WHEREAS, in response to widespread concerns that many municipal issuers have not been complying with their obligations to file continuing disclosure documents under the Rule, and furthermore have made false representation concerning compliance in bond and note offering documents, the Division of Enforcement (the “Division”) of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) has set forth its Municipalities Continuing Disclosure Cooperation Initiative (the “MCDC Initiative”), attached hereto as Exhibit A, whereby the Commission will recommend favorable settlement terms to municipal issuers involved in the offer or sale of municipal securities, as well as underwriters of such offerings, if they self-report to the Division possible violations involving inaccurate statements in bond and note offering documents relating to prior compliance with continuing disclosure obligations pursuant to the Rule; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Local Finance Notice 2014-9, attached hereto as Exhibit B, the Director of the Local Finance Board, Division of Local Government Services of the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey, has recommended the undertaking of a Review (as hereinafter defined) by all municipal issuers and participation in the MCDC initiative, where appropriate, as determined by the facts of each Review (the “LFB” Recommendation”);

NOW, THEREFORE, IN CONNECTION WITH THE LFB RECOMMENDATION, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY, as follows:

Section 1. The Governmental Entity, through its Chief Financial Officer or through the engagement of a third-party disclosure-dissemination agent, is hereby directed to conduct a continuing disclosure review of its prior continuing disclosure undertakings (the “Review”), and the Governmental Entity hereby ratifies any such previously conducted Review. Such Review shall include, but is not limited to, a historical review of the Governmental Entity’s continuing disclosure obligations and filings in connection with its Prior Issuances that are presently outstanding and which are no longer outstanding but, as of

the date five years prior to the date of submission of the Questionnaire (as hereinafter defined), were outstanding; and the undertaking, at any time, of any applicable remedial filings with the MSRB deemed necessary for the compliance with its continuing disclosure obligations.

Section 2. The Governmental Entity, through its Chief Financial Officer, is hereby authorized to participate in the MCDC Initiative, if in the discretion of the Chief Financial Officer after consultation with Governmental Entity Officials, it is determined that the Governmental Entity may have made materially inaccurate statements in its bond and note offering documents relating to prior compliance with continuing disclosure obligations pursuant to the Rule in connection with its Prior Issuances issued during the period beginning five years prior to the date of submission of the Questionnaire.

Section 3. The Chief Financial Officer of the Governmental Entity is hereby authorized to execute and deliver any and all documents and instruments, including the Municipalities Continuing Disclosure Cooperation Initiative Questionnaire for Self-Reporting Entities contained in the MCDC Initiative (the "Questionnaire"), and to do and cause to be done any and all acts and things necessary or proper for participating in the MCDC Initiative and all related transactions, including the Review, contemplated by this resolution.

Section 4. All resolutions or proceedings, or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this resolution are to the extent of such conflict hereby repealed.

Section 5. This resolution shall become effective in accordance with applicable law.

Resolution #117-2014 was moved on a motion made by Torres, seconded by Conry and approved.

Roll Call: Thompson, Torres, Jones, Conry, McDonald, Higgins
Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At this time, Mayor McDonald stated that an Executive Session is needed for the purpose of litigation discussion. A motion made by Conry, seconded by Torres to enter into Executive Session.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0
Motion Carried

RESOLUTION # 113-2014
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;

MINUTES:

Regular Meetings – May 20, 2014 & July 01, 2014

Motion made by Higgins, seconded by Conry to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of May 20, 2014 and July 01, 2014.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0
Motion Carried

CORRESPONDENCE:

A motion was made by Higgins, seconded by Conry to receive and file the correspondence.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Warren Hills Regional High School – Paint the Town Blue

Council Discussion:

Councilman Thompson asked how long the parade route is and how long streets will be shut down. Manager Blanchard replied that she is not sure how long the route is or how long the roads will be closed. Mayor McDonald suggested that Council approve the request with the stipulation that the Warren Hills Regional High School let the public know which roads will be affected by the parade route and for how long.

A motion was made by Higgins, seconded by Conry to approve Warren Hills Regional High School's request with the stipulation that the residents directly affected by the parade route be notified in some way.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

AUDIENCE:

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

Reverend Bauknight – Mt. Pisgah Ame Church

Reverend Bauknight stated that the garbage from Sal’s Pizza on the corner of East Washington Avenue and Broad Street smells badly, attracts flies and is discoloring the sidewalk. Councilman Torres agreed that the conditions are horrendous and it attracts flies. Councilman Torres suggested sending the owner a letter and asking them to clean it up. Code Enforcement Office Bescherer replied that there could be violations and that he and Manager Blanchard will follow up tomorrow on the situation and have them clean the sidewalk. Reverend Bauknight also stated that residents at 83 Lenape Trail leave a trash can out to save their parking space. Manager Blanchard replied that she will take care of the situation tomorrow. Reverend Bauknight also commented that a safety concern on the same street regarding a basketball hoop on the curb. Reverend Bauknight is afraid that someone driving around the corner will not see the children playing and could possibly hit them. Councilman Torres recommended possibly a “Kids at Play” sign which may slow drivers down. Reverend Bauknight also asked about an update on the North Lincoln Avenue project. Mayor McDonald replied that the berm was added there yesterday at the bottom of Rush Street to eliminate the water into the woods. Lastly, Reverend Bauknight asked how to go about getting a permit to hold a block party. Manager Blanchard replied that she should get the information to her prior to the Thursday before the next Council meeting.

Mrs. Robin Klimko – 35 West Marble Street

Mrs. Klimko asked about an update on the South Prospect sewer project. Councilman Higgins stated that the Sewer Committee met with the Department of Environmental Protection last night and they made it very clear that any issues that arise need to be reported. Kevin Shoudt and or the Sewer Engineer will go door to door with a letter stating who they need to contact with there issues, when the project will start and also in the letter they will need to make arrangements to inspect the home. After reviewing the plans they all went down to the site as they were walking the site they found a pile of grit on the siphon which was cleaned out the Wednesday prior. Plans have been made to correct the issues in the South Prospect area and the Borough has the easement letter. Councilman Higgins added that the Borough has to get a letter out to the D.E.P. stating what the Borough’s corrective action plan is. The letter which is being written by our Sewer Engineer Chris Jepson will go to the D.E.P. by August 11th. Once the D.E.P. receives the letter and it is accepted, the project will be started.

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: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

REPORTS:

A motion was made by Torres, seconded by Conry to receive and file the following reports:

1. OEM Report - July 2014
2. Washington Township Police Reports – April, May and June
3. Code Enforcement Report – July 2014
4. DPW Report – July 2014

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Streets Committee:

Councilman Higgins and the Streets Committee met with the Road Department and has a list of several items they are working on.

1. Ordered no parking signs on the streets that are already listed in the ordinance and they will be put up before school starts.
2. Manager Blanchard and CFO Turchan will work on numbers for next year's budget hoping to add \$100,000 more than this year's budget for road repair.
3. Also discussed was what needs to be done to add a question to the ballot for a binding or non-binding referendum either thru increasing taxes or by going out to bond. Manager Blanchard said it won't be ready to go on this year's ballot.
4. Councilman Higgins also discussed the paving over the pavers in the crosswalk. Manager Blanchard is awaiting a report from Dawson on the parking lot and the pavers. Also, still waiting on a report of the core samples which the Borough should have this week or next week.
5. Still working on the adding and deleting of handicapped parking. The Borough will start line painting on Washington Avenue in the fall.
6. Councilman Higgins stated that the millings from the roads that are being paved now will be spread around the D.P.W. garage.
7. Also we want to go thru each district as a committee to see which roads needs to be repaired and then have a 5 year plan to fix the roads.

Next Meeting is August 18th at 10am.

Codebook Committee:

Councilman Torres stated that the Codebook Committee met and discussed the proposed streets ordinance and there will be a few minor changes which will be presented to Council when complete.

Mayor McDonald added that he and Councilwoman Gleba met in regards to a new personnel policy which was submitted Manager Blanchard. Manager Blanchard submitted it to the Borough's attorney and is awaiting their comments.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution #107-2014 – Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION # 107-2014

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 \$530.22 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2012 in the name of Peer, Albert & Sherry as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 72 McKinley Ave., Block 71.01 Lot 9, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #13-00026; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 7-2-14 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 Crestar Capital, LLC, by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$1,431.71, which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #13-00026.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 5th day of August, 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 **\$1,631.71 (Certificate Redemption amount \$1,431.71 + \$200.00 Premium)**.

Resolution #111-2014 – Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #111-2014

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 October 25, 2012 to US Bank Cust, ATR-NJ & CAPONE, 50 South 16th Street, Suite 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102-2513, in the amount of \$351.97 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2011 in the name of Irvine, Leonard, as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 107 Harding Drive, Block 71 Lot 3, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #12-00040; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 7-30-14 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Deutsche Bank on behalf of Corelogic Tax Service claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by US Bank Cust ATR-NJ & CAPONE by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$2,094.72 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #12-00040.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 5th day of August, 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 ATR-NJ & CAPONE, 50 South 16th Street, Suite 1950, Philadelphia, PA 19102-2513 in the amount of **\$2,094.72**.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 71 Lot 3 from the tax office records.

Resolutions #107-2014 and #111-2014 were moved on a motion made by Conry, seconded by Torres and approved.

Roll Call: Thompson, Torres, Jones, Conry, McDonald, Higgins
Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Resolution #108-2014 – Adjustment of Sewer Charge due to Fire Damaged Property

RESOLUTION # 108-2014

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADJUSTMENT OF A

**BOROUGH'S SEWER SERVICE CHARGE DUE TO FIRE
DAMAGED PROPERTY**

WHEREAS, according to the Treasurer's records, a borough property was subject to fire damage on November 9, 2013. As a result of the extensive damage, the house was demolished and;

WHEREAS, the quarterly sewer invoice was being billed without interruption, to the damaged property; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Treasurer's office has received a written notification from Sewer Plant Manager, Kevin Shoudt that the sewer line was capped off. It was confirmed that the property at 209 Broad Street was disconnected from the Washington Borough Sewer system.

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 adjust the sewer account #2012-0 with a balance that reflects the amount due at the time the sewer connection was capped.

**BLOCK/LOT PROPERTY OWNER/FINAL BAL.
PROPERTY LOCATION AFTER CAP**

96/13 Stevens, Ronald & Rosemary \$ 648.28
209 Broad St.

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 adjust sewer balance on the above property location.

Resolution #108-2014 was moved on a motion made by Jones, seconded by Conry and approved.

Roll Call: Thompson, Torres, Jones, Conry, McDonald, Higgins
Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Abstain: (1) Thompson
Motion Carried

Resolution #114-2014 – Approval of Items of Revenue and Appropriations

RESOLUTION #114-2014

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF ITEMS OF REVENUE AND
APPROPRIATIONS NJSA 40A: 4-87**

WHEREAS, NJSA 40A: 4-87 provides that the Director of Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, the Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Body of the Borough of Washington in the County of Warren State of New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget of the year 2014 in the sum of \$95,000.00 which is now available from the State of New Jersey

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the like sum of \$95,000.00 is hereby appropriated under the caption of Other Expenses – Small Cities.

Resolution #114-2014 was moved on a motion made by Torres, seconded by Conry and approved.

Roll Call: Thompson, Torres, Jones, Conry, McDonald, Higgins
Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

**Resolution #115-2014 – Resolution of Support No Passing Zone Rt 31 in the
Borough**

RESOLUTION #115-2014

**Resolution of Support
NO PASSING Zone Rt. 31
Borough of Washington, Warren County NJ**

WHEREAS, the NJ Department of Transportation (DOT) recently completed a traffic investigation on Route 31 within the Borough of Washington; and

WHEREAS, the NJDOT investigation revealed the current centerline pavement markings on Route 31 meet and conform to current standards; and

WHEREAS, the NJDOT will update existing records to reflect current NO PASSING ZONE conditions along US NJ Route 31;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough of Washington Governing Body of the County of Warren, State of NJ, that it supports the use of a NO PASSING ZONE on Route 31 in the Borough of Washington as recommended by the NJ DOT.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the NJ DOT as requested.

Resolution #115-2014 was moved on a motion made by Conry, seconded by Thompson and approved.

Council Discussion:

Councilman Torres noted that it may be difficult to enforce the no passing zone when the Borough does not have control over the police department. Manager Blanchard added that the D.O.T. is looking for each municipality located along Route 31 to reaffirm their no passing zone.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Resolution #116-2014 – Refund of Overpayment of 2014 Taxes

RESOLUTION #116-2014

A RESOLUTION TO REFUND OVERPAYMENT ON 2014 REAL ESTATE TAXES

WHEREAS, according to the Tax Collector's records, there is an overpayment of \$1,240.66 on 2014 2nd Quarter Regular Taxes paid on property located at 38 Nunn Avenue also known as Block 97.02 Lot 2, and in the name of Kirchuk, I Leah; and

WHEREAS, Sunrise Title and Lereta Tax Service had both paid the 2014 2nd Quarter Regular Taxes, resulting in the overpayment; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has been resolving the matter of tax overpayments and has received a written request from Lereta Tax Service that the overpayment be refunded to them.

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 \$1,240.66 payable to:

Lereta
1123 Park View Drive
Covina, CA 91724
Attn: Central Refunds

Resolution #116-2014 was moved on a motion made by Torres, seconded by Jones and approved.

Roll Call: Thompson, Torres, Jones, Conry, McDonald, Higgins
Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Approval of Town Wide Yard Sale – September 13 and 14, 2014

A motion made by Conry, seconded by Jones to approve the Town Wide Yard Sale on the dates of September 13 and 14, 2014.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Approval of ABC – Washington Borough Fire Department, Festival in the Borough – September 6th & 7th

A motion made by Torres, seconded by Conry to approve the ABC License for the Washington Borough Fire Department – Festival in the Borough on September 6th & 7th

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Abstain: (1) Thomspen
Motion Carried

VOUCHERS:

Mayor McDonald entertained a motion to approve the vouchers and claims in the amount of \$2,076,348.99

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

Council Discussion:

Councilman Higgins asked about the engineer review of the pocket park for \$880 on page three. Manager Blanchard replied that this was a Council request and the report was included in her Manager's Report approximately three weeks ago. Councilman Jones asked about the \$550 charge to D.P.W. for garage repair. Manager Blanchard replied that the snow damaged the chimney and also the garage door. Manager Blanchard added that the Borough was reimbursed by the insurance company. Councilman Higgins asked about the charge for shine protectant and car wash on page six. Manager Blanchard will look into the charge. Councilman Higgins also asked about a \$249 charge for a new medical supply cabinet. Manager Blanchard replied that the medical supply cabinets at the D.P.W. garage and at Borough Hall were extremely outdated and they were both replaced. Manager Blanchard added that the Borough's Risk Manager came in and did an inspection some of the items in the medical cabinet were dated three years ago. Councilman Thompson stated that there should not be a water bill for \$103 at Vara Field because according to Recreation Chairman Cioni there is no water at Vara Field. Manager Blanchard will check with Chairman Cioni on the water bill issue.

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

RECAP:

Manager Blanchard will work with CFO Turchan for obtaining prices for foreclosures on municipal liens. Manager Blanchard will also notify Warren Hills Regional High School that they need to notify the residents on the parade route either by their billboard or by press release. Manager Blanchard will look into the garbage situation in front of Sal's Pizza and she will check into the garbage can blocking the space at 83 Lenape Trail. Manager Blanchard will check into the items discussed in the bill list such as the water bill at Vara Field and the bug protectant and shine wax charged to D.P.W. garage.

Manager Blanchard reported that the Borough finally received a check from Cinelli Scrap Metal in the amount of \$389 for one load of scrap metal. Manager Blanchard added that Attorney Parikh wrote a letter to the Township Administrator of Washington Township in Bergen County copying Cinelli asking them to go through their records to verify the

payments that they have received to try to track down the Borough's missing payments. Manager Blanchard also reported that New Jersey Natural Gas provided information on an energy assessment for Borough Hall as a courtesy. Mayor McDonald added that it may provide the Borough with Sustainable Jersey points as well. Manager Blanchard also reported that she heard back from the contractor in regards to the milling and paving and the work will probably be completed by the end of August or early September. Manager Blanchard also stated that the Borough received an additional \$75,000 in addition to the \$45,000 that the Borough already received in 2013 to install a generator at Borough Hall. The additional \$75,000 can go towards the cost of the generator in Borough Hall and also any other projects that they approve. The two that Manager Blanchard suggested were a generator for the D.P.W. garage and solar panels at the library. Manager Blanchard stated that the solar panels at the library may not be approved since these grants are generally geared towards generators.

A motion was made by Torres, seconded by Thompson to move forward with the grant paperwork for the generators.

Roll Call: Torres, McDonald, Conry, Jones, Thompson, Higgins
Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried.

COUNCIL REMARKS:

Councilman Thompson asked about the status of 67 South Lincoln Avenue. Code Enforcement Officer Bescherer replied that the foreclosure was withdrawn on the property and the mortgage was cancelled on the property. The property goes back to the previous owner and Code Enforcement Officer Bescherer has sent a letter to the owner but he doesn't expect and progress on the property. There was a fire on the property many years ago and it is an eyesore. Councilman Thompson also noted that 16 West Warren Street is another property in poor condition. Code Enforcement Officer Bescherer replied that D.P.W. cut down a tree on the property. Councilman Thompson asked about the bushes that are impeding the alley way. Manager Blanchard replied that she will see what she can do about the bushes.

Councilman Higgins stated that the Streets Committee agreed to add Davis Street to the list for milling and paving.

A motion made by Higgins, seconded by Torres to add Davis Street to the list of streets for milling and paving.

Roll Call: Torres, McDonald, Conry, Jones, Thompson, Higgins
Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Councilman Higgins also mentioned that he had heard that the County may have some interest in the Borough Library. Mayor McDonald replied that he sent an email to Council on this topic and there is really nothing more to report other than that at this time. Councilman Higgins added that if it ever reaches the point of negotiation, he feels there should be a committee set up of more than one person

Councilman Torres agreed with Councilman Higgins that a committee of multiple members should be set up to negotiate on behalf of the Borough's library. Councilman Torres also added that the crosswalk light is out again. Manager Blanchard replied that she is aware and it will be repaired. Councilman Torres added that one of the businesses downtown moved a planter and garbage can. Manager Blanchard will discuss this with Code Enforcement Officer Bescherer. Councilman Thompson added that there is another business owner that has a picnic chained to a tree. Manager Blanchard replied that she will also have Code Enforcement Officer Bescherer look into that as well.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business, a motion made by Torres, seconded by Jones to adjourn the meeting at 8:20p.m.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Mayor Scott McDonald

Kristine Blanchard, RMC Borough Clerk