

**BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
WASHINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES – January 20, 2015**

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: Conry, McDonald, Higgins, Klimko, Noone, Heinrich

Absent: Thompson

Also Present: Ann Kilduff, Deputy Borough Clerk
Leslie Parikh, Municipal Attorney

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting – December 02, 2014 & December 16, 2014 and Special Year End Meeting – December 30, 2014

Motion made by Higgins, seconded by Conry to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of December 02, 2014 & December 16, 2014 and the Special Year End Meeting December 30, 2014.

Ayes: 3 Nays: 0
Abstain: (3) Klimko, Noone, Heinrich
Motion Carried

Re-Organization Meeting – January 06, 2015

Motion made by Higgins, seconded by Conry to approve the Re-Organization Meeting minutes of January 06, 2015.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0
Motion Carried

AUDIENCE:

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

Deborah Franklin – 125 North Lincoln Avenue

Mrs. Franklin stated that she still has issues with North Lincoln Avenue. Mrs. Franklin noted that the D.P.W. was working on patching the potholes and added that it was a very sloppy job. Mrs. Franklin added that she along with Mrs. Coleman went to Borough Hall to address the issue and they did return to repair more potholes but it was still a sloppy job. Mrs. Franklin asked if there was a date that North Lincoln Avenue will be paved by. Mayor McDonald replied that unfortunately he can not provide a date. The asphalt plants have closed due to the weather so he believes it will be spring when the road will be paved.

Mr. Marco Mateo – 13 Pleasant View Avenue

Mr. Mateo provided an update on the status of the Washington Theatre to Council. Mr. Mateo is trying to spread the word to the community about his funding websites to get the theatre back on track. Mr. Mateo stated that he is about half way there to potentially reopen the theatre. Mr. Mateo added that he is supposed to be receiving a grant which he will use to pay off the electric bill. Any funds raised after that will be used to update and pay for the fire alarm control panel, oil and building insurance. In February, Mr. Mateo would like to do a whole series of \$2 movies or free for the community. Mr. Mateo would like to create an advisory board and project the goal of not just saving the theatre but also renovating and restoring it to the multi cultural arts center that would benefit the region. Mr. Mateo asked for a letter of resolution in support of the theatre so it can be presented to the New Jersey Land Preservation in June. Mayor McDonald advised Mr. Mateo to contact the Borough Manager and make that request.

Mr. Mike Hausman – 9 Hann Terrace

Mr. Hausman asked Council if there was some change made to the parking on Hann Terrace. Mayor McDonald replied that he was not aware of anything nor has the Streets Committee discussed Hann Terrace.

Mr. Joseph Kresefsky – 35 South Lincoln Avenue

Mr. Kresefsky stated that he resides on the corner of Hann Terrace and South Lincoln Avenue. Mr. Kresefsky added that it is his understanding that there is a parking ordinance that is going to be put in place that may affect the parking on some of the Borough's streets and one of them being Hann Terrace. Councilman Higgins replied that there was a streets ordinance passed in December but does not recall if Hann Terrace was one of the roads mentioned. Councilwoman Noone added that the ordinance is in the

minutes from December 02, 2014 and the street affected by no parking is Hahn Street, not Hann Terrace.

Ms. Toni Vargas – 31 Lenape Trail

Ms. Vargas stated that she lives in Shabcong Village and added that there are lots of problems with water mains and her corner of the road is so icy. Also, Ms. Vargas believes the Borough is in charge of the location of the mailboxes for the complex, which is never shoveled, salted and is poorly lit. Mayor McDonald replied that he would have the Borough Manager give her a phone call. Mayor McDonald added that there may be a question as to whether the Borough owns the property or the postmaster.

Mr. Don Eller – 44 West Church Street

Mr. Eller asked if Council has rescinded the two portions of the Streets Ordinance regarding trailers. Councilman Higgins replied that the Streets Committee plans to hold a meeting on February 2nd and the trailer issues will be discussed. Mr. Eller stated that in his opinion there are approximately ten trailer locations in the Borough and approximately six thousand residents. Mr. Eller views this ordinance as poor management since it affects such a small amount of the community.

Reverend Bauknight – Mt. Pisgah Ame Church

Reverend Bauknight stated that the Mt. Pisgah Ame Church held an event yesterday and would have liked to invite all of Council but the Borough's website was not updated with the current Council Members. Mayor McDonald replied that the website will be updated. Reverend Bauknight also stated that she had previously asked for a copy of the rejection letter from the State of New Jersey and also a copy of the grant which was written in regards to the paving project on North Lincoln Avenue and she has not received either one. Reverend Bauknight also discussed the water runoff that occurs on North Lincoln Avenue which causes the pooling of water in the church parking lot. Mr. Bloom from Finelli Engineering replied that this issue can be addressed during the paving project of North Lincoln Avenue and he will take a look at the situation the next time there is a significant rain storm. Reverend Bauknight asked why there is a ramp that leads to nowhere, only bushes. Mr. Bloom replied that he does not know the origin of how or why that was constructed but it is once the ramps are created they can not be eliminated. Mr. Bloom stated that there will be a separate contractor to perform the A.D.A. curbing work and that portion of the work will be done before the paving. Reverend Bauknight also asked for an update on the Safe Routes to School grant which could possibly provide curbs and sidewalks for North Lincoln Avenue. Councilman Higgins replied that he will provide an answer to Reverend Bauknight at the next Council meeting on February 3rd.

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

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

REPORTS:

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

1. D.P.W. Report – November 2014
2. Code Enforcement Report – December 2014

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Sewer Committee

Councilman Higgins stated that the Sewer Committee met yesterday and discussed the current Sewer Engineer getting the plans and CAD file from the previous Sewer Engineer. Councilman Higgins added that the current Sewer Engineer should have those files and make the changes needed and be able to present preliminary plans to Council by the next meeting in order to move forward with the project. Councilman Higgins added that the residents on South Prospect Street will be hooked into the new lines then where the new line goes through Gardeners Court, those residents are going to be reattached. Councilman Higgins added that the Sewer Committee also discussed the Pleasant Valley Dam. Mr. Bloom commented that since it's classified as a Class II Dam, it requires at a minimum a two year inspection cycle even though the Borough plans on going through the process to decommission the dam. Mrs. Sloan from the audience stated that she is disappointed to see the dam be decommissioned. Mayor McDonald replied that the dam serves no purpose any longer and has become burdensome to maintain. Councilman Higgins replied that the dam will still have the same look, the only thing that would be removed are the control levers.

ORDINANCES:

Ordinance 1-2015 An Ordinance Establishing Recreation Department Program Fees (Introduction)

Motion made by Higgins seconded by Conry to introduce Ordinance 1 – 2015 and have the Clerk read by title.

Roll Call: Noone, Klimko, McDonald, Conry, Higgins, Heinrich
 Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
 Motion Carried

The Clerk read Ordinance 1-2015 An Ordinance Establishing Recreation Department Program Fees.

#1-2015

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING RECREATION DEPARTMENT PROGRAM FEES

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 Recreation Commission (“Recreation Commission”) is authorized to recommend fees for participation in its programs/events in accordance with the following schedule.

SECTION 2. The Recreation Director, or his/her designee, will schedule dates, times and locations for the following programs/events. The fee for participation in the program/event for each registrant shall be within the following parameters:

Recreation Program/Event		Minimum	Maximum
Fees Apply for all Boro Administered Programs up to and including the 2nd child (50% for 3rd child and no fee for 4th child and beyond)			
Girl's Softball: 2nd Grade thru 8th Grade			
	ALL	\$35	\$100
Karate/Self-Defense - Ages 5 thru 12			
	ALL	\$35	\$100
Easter Egg Hunt: Ages 3 to 6th Grade	No Charge		
Swim Team: Ages 5 to 18 Team Member	Must also be member of the pool	\$50	\$100

Swim Lessons: Ages 3 and Up	Must be 42 inches in height		
	ALL	\$40	\$100
	Private Lessons	\$60	\$100
Pool Fees			
Membership (All memberships half price after August 1 st)	Individual (Boro Resident)	\$75	\$125
	Individual (Non-Boro)	\$75	\$125
	Family (Boro Residents)	\$150	\$300
	Family(Non-Boro)	\$150	\$300
	Senior Citizens (ALL)	\$0	\$50
Trial Membership – 4 Days (for up to family)	Expires 7/1 each year	\$0	\$40
Trial fee may be applied to membership			
Daily			
Adult		\$6	\$10
Child (4 to 17 years old)		\$4	\$8
Child (up to 3 years old)		\$0	\$0
Senior		\$0	\$8
Twilight (after 6pm)	All Twilight	\$3	\$6
Teen Pool Party		\$3	\$10
Water Aerobics		\$10	\$40
Soccer: Kindergarten to 8th Grade	Age 5	\$35	\$50
	Ages 6 & 7	\$35	\$100
	Ages 8 and up	\$45	\$100
Field Hockey: 2nd to 6th Grade			
	ALL	\$35	\$100
Men's Basketball	Team Sponsor	\$200	\$600
Individual Participant	ALL	\$40	\$75
Movies in the Park	No Charge		
Youth Basketball: K thru 2nd Grade (Clinic)	Clinic only	\$30	\$60
3 rd Grade thru 8 th Grade	ALL	\$40	\$100

Street Hockey: Kindergarten to 8th Grade			
	ALL	\$35	\$100
Usage Fee – Field/Game Day (Field Fee Included in Registration Fee for all Boro Administered Programs)	Daily Fee	\$45	\$500
Field Fee Based on Field Maint/Prep			
Lighting at Park	Per Hour	\$15/hr	\$55/hr
Sport Clinic Programs		\$35	\$100
Party Rental (Pool Hours)	Members		
	Non-Members		
Party Rental (After Hours)	50 People	200	300
	51-100 People	300	400
	Over 100 People	400	500
Pavilion/Tent Rental		\$25	\$100
Summer Recreation Programs		\$50	\$1000
Special Events		\$5	\$1000
5K Run/Walk		\$5	\$60
Yoga		\$5	\$70
Zumba		\$5	\$70

SECTION 3. By no later than March first of each year the Recreation Director shall evaluate the costs and expenses for operating each Program/Event and make a recommendation to the Mayor and Council and Manager as to the amount to be charged for participation in the Program/Events presented by the Recreation Commission, which shall be within the range of fees established by this ordinance. The Borough Council shall review the Recreation Program/Event Fee recommendations made by the Recreation Director in order to establish the current year Recreation Program Fee Schedule, which shall be adopted by the Mayor and Council via resolution annually.

SECTION 4. All ordinances and resolutions inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed as to such inconsistencies.

SECTION 5. This ordinance shall take effect immediately after final passage, approval and publication of notice thereof as required by law.

Motion made by Higgins seconded by Conry to introduce Ordinance 1 – 2015 and have the Clerk read by title.

Roll Call: Noone, Klimko, McDonald, Conry, Higgins, Heinrich

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Public Hearing of Ordinance 1-2015 An Ordinance Establishing Recreation Department Program Fees will be on February 3, 2015 and advertisement of the Public Hearing will be in the Star Gazette on January 23, 2015.

A motion was made by Higgins, seconded by Conry to approve advertisement of the Public Hearing of Ordinance 1-2015.

Roll Call: Noone, Klimko, McDonald, Conry, Higgins, Heinrich
Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution #27-2015 Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate

RESOLUTION #27-2015

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 November 7, 2014 to JU Solo 401K Trust, 42 Huntington Rd, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920, in the amount of \$182.65 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2013 in the name of Federal Home Mortgage Association as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 57 Alvin Sloan Avenue, Block 2.11 Lot 13, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #14-00008; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 1-7-15 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Closing Partner, LLC on behalf of Weichert REO Services, claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by JU Solo 401K Trust by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$726.68, which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #14-00008.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 20th day of January, 2015 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to JU Solo 401K Trust, 42 Hunting Rd, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920 in the **amount of \$1,126.68** (This amount consists of \$726.68 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$400.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 2.11 Lot 13 from the tax office records.

Resolution #27-2015 was moved on a motion made by Higgins, seconded by Conry and approved.

Roll Call: Klimko, Noone, Conry, McDonald,
Heinrich, Higgins
Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Resolution #28-2015 Recreation Appointment

RESOLUTION #28-2015

RECREATION COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey is governed by Plan "E" of Municipal Charter Law; and

WHEREAS, under this plan the Mayor of the Borough is to appoint the members of the Recreation Commission with the consent of the Borough Council; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor has designated the following person his appointee to the Recreation Commission.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Term Ending</u>
Heather Jorgensen	12/31/19

WHEREAS, The Council does approve of this transfer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the above mentioned appointment shall take effect immediately.

Resolution #28-2015 was moved on a motion made by Heinrich, seconded by Conry and approved.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Resolution #29-2015 Shade Tree Commission Appointment

RESOLUTION # 29-2015

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE
SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey is now governed by Plan “E” of Municipal Charter Law; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey under this plan is directed and authorized to appoint a **Shade Tree Commission** in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:64-2 et. seq.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following named person is hereby appointed by the Mayor to serve as a member of the Shade Tree Commission for a term to expire 12/31/2019.

Mark Marrotta

Resolution #29-2015 was moved on a motion made by Noone, seconded by Conry and approved.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

VOUCHERS:

Mayor McDonald entertained a motion to approve the vouchers and claims in the amount of \$1,279,317.90

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

Council Discussion:

Councilman Heinrich stated that he would like to conduct a study on the lighting at Borough Hall, the D.P.W. building and the library. Councilman Heinrich added that the fluorescent lighting is now outdated and he has a lot of experience with the new L.E.D. technology. Councilman Heinrich would like to conduct a study to find out how much the upfront costs will be to retro fit all of the lights to save money on electricity. Mayor McDonald replied that the Borough did a study a few years ago which might be helpful. Councilman Heinrich added that even in the last three years, the technology has radically changed.

Roll Call: Noone, Conry, Klimko, McDonald, Heinrich, Higgins
Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried.

RECAP:

Mayor McDonald will speak to Manager Blanchard regarding the resolution in support of the Washington Theatre. Manager Blanchard will call Ms. Toni Vargas regarding the placement of the mailboxes and also the icy road conditions on Lenape Trail. Manager Blanchard will update the Council contact information on the Borough's website. Manager Blanchard will get a copy of the rejection letter and grant to Reverend Bauknight.

COUNCIL REMARKS:

Councilwoman Noone stated that she attended the Martin Luther King discussion at the Mt. Pisgah Ame Church and it was a very positive discussion that was well attended by the community and was a nice way to celebrate Martin Luther King Day.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business, a motion was made by Higgins, seconded by Klimko to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Mayor Scott McDonald

Kristine Blanchard, RMC Borough Clerk