

**BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
WASHINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES – March 17, 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, Thompson, Higgins, McDonald, Noone, Heinrich,
Klimko (arrived at 7:02 pm)

Also Present: Kristine Blanchard, RMC Borough Manager/Clerk
Leslie Parikh, Municipal Attorney

PROCLAMATION:

Commending NORWESCAP Upon Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Community Action.

***PROCLAMATION
OF THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON
COMMENDING NORWESCAP UPON
CELEBRATING
THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF COMMUNITY ACTION***

WHEREAS, In January 1964 after President Lyndon B. Johnson declared unconditional war on poverty; the Economic Opportunity Act was signed into law on August 20th of that year; and

WHEREAS, through the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 channeled the birth of Community Action but also the Head Start Program was introduced, and one year later Northwest NJ Community Action Partnership (NORWESCAP) was created; and

WHEREAS, since 1965, Northwest NJ Community Action Partnership, Inc. (NORWESCAP) has been providing invaluable and outstanding service; and

WHEREAS, NORWESCAP is one of 23 Community Action Agencies in New Jersey, and one of over 1,000 nationwide founded on a common purpose: to support low-income households as they develop their abilities to be self-supporting and develop family and community relationships that will sustain self-reliance; and

WHEREAS, half of century later, NORWESCAP operates fifteen major programs: has grown to 270 full and part-time employees and more than 30,000 individuals are served each year through a multitude of anti-poverty services; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington recognizes NORWESCAP as being a community leader; its positive action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes New Jersey a better place in which to live.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey, do hereby commend the work of the Northwest NJ Community Action Partnership (NORWESCAP) upon the occasion of celebrating their 50th Anniversary of Community Action of serving the community.

MINUTES:

Budget Meeting – February 24, 2015

Motion made by Conry, seconded by Thompson to approve the Budget Meeting minutes of February 24, 2015.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0
Motion Carried

AUDIENCE:

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

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

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

REPORTS:

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

1. Code Enforcement Report – February 2015
2. DPW Report – February 2015

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

ORDINANCES:

Ordinance 3-2015 An Ordinance Amending Established Recreation Department Program Fees (Introduction)

Motion made by Conry seconded by Higgins to introduce Ordinance 3 – 2015 and have the Clerk read by title.

Roll Call: Noone, Klimko, McDonald, Conry, Higgins, Heinrich,
Thompson
Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

The Clerk read Ordinance 3-2015 An Ordinance Amending Established Recreation Department Program Fees.

3-2015

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ESTABLISHED RECREATION
DEPARTMENT PROGRAM FEES**

***amended**

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: * Kindergarten 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
	*Semi-Private	\$50	\$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
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		\$5	\$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
*Equipment Usage Fee		\$5	\$200
*Grandstand Snack Bar Usage – 3rd party		\$20	\$300
5K Run/Walk		\$5	\$60

Yoga		\$5	\$70
Zumba		\$5	\$70
Kids Zumba*		\$2	\$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 Conry seconded by Thompson to introduce Ordinance 3 – 2015 and have the Clerk read by title.

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

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Public Hearing of Ordinance 3-2015 An Ordinance Amending Established Recreation Department Program Fees will be on April 7, 2015 and advertisement of the Public Hearing will be in the Star Gazette on March 27, 2015.

A motion was made by Higgins, seconded by Conry to approve advertisement of the Public Hearing of Ordinance 3-2015.

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

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

Motion Carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Streets Committee

Mr. Dawson Bloom from Finelli Engineering stated that now that the weather has cleared, he expects to be able to complete the survey work that needs to be done on the Route 57 mid block crossing with a not to exceed \$1,500 that was discussed at a prior Council Meeting. Councilman Higgins added that the State of New Jersey's project to pave Route 57 from Hackettstown to Phillipsburg has now been pushed back approximately a year and a half due to a federal requirement to add handicapped accessible ramps to the curbing. This provides more time for the Borough to complete the necessary repairs to the crosswalk. Councilwoman Klimko suggested looking at the curbing located at the crosswalk and pushing it back to make it easier for the road to be plowed properly in the winter which should be done at the same time as the crosswalk repairs before the state paves. Councilman Higgins replied that would increase the cost to the repairs of the crosswalk and could take away from the Streets and Roads budget that he would rather see go towards paving the streets. Councilwoman Klimko added that the curbs are in bad shape from the plows hitting them all the time that they need to be repaired anyway so it makes more sense to make the repairs all at once before the State of New Jersey paves Route 57. Mr. Bloom replied that he can put together a cost analysis of the repairs that need to be made to the crosswalk and adding in the repairs to the curbs and then Council can have more information and make a decision.

Councilman Higgins stated that the Streets Committee met and Mr. Pete Mulligan from Carlton Avenue was in attendance and discussed the water runoff issues regarding the Warren Hills Middle School parking lot. Manager Blanchard put in an OPRA request through the Warren Hills Board of Education to obtain a copy of the plans for the paving work that was completed years ago. Councilman Higgins added that Mr. Bloom would like to possibly videotaping the line that runs from the parking lot out to the street in order to find the termination. Mr. Bloom added that he is in the process of getting prices together for the costs associated with the videotaping. Councilman Higgins asked for Manager Blanchard to set up a meeting with Council and the Warren Hills Board of Education to discuss the project.

Councilman Higgins added that the Streets Committee also spoke about the potholes on the bridge located near Advanced Auto Parts. Manager Blanchard replied that she had contacted the Department of Transportation and left a message as the bridge is not the Borough's responsibility. Councilman Higgins also mentioned that Code Enforcement Officer Bescherer brought to his attention that the abandoned vehicles ordinance has a problem with the wording and a violation was dismissed in court due to the wording. Manager Blanchard replied that Attorney Parikh is aware of the wording issue and can have it ready for the next meeting. Councilman Higgins also added that the Streets Committee spoke about the paving project on North Lincoln Avenue and the contract has

been awarded for the curbing portion of the project which will probably start next month. The next Streets Committee meeting will be on April 13th.

A motion made by Conry, seconded by Klimko to set up a meeting between the Washington Borough Council and the Warren Hills Board of Education.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution #58-2015 Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #58-2015

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 FWDSL & Associates LP, 5 Cold Hill Rd S Ste:11, Mendham, NJ 07945, in the amount of \$498.75 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2013 in the name of Pollard, Melissa A. as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 104 Youmans Avenue, Block 82 Lot 18.01, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #14-00052; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 3-10-15 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, CitiMortgage claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by FWDSL & Associates LP by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$1,218.62 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #14-00052.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 17th day of March, 2015 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to FWDSL & Associates LP, 5 Cold Hill Rd S Ste: 11, Mendham, NJ 07945 in the amount of **\$2,518.62** (This amount consists of \$1,218.62 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$1,300.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 82 Lot 18.01 from the tax office records.

Resolution #59-2015 Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #59-2015

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 FWDSL & Associates LP, 5 Cold Hill Rd S Ste:11, Mendham, NJ 07945, in the amount of \$704.32 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2013 in the name of Christiana Trust as Trustee Stanwich as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 6 Myrtle Avenue, Block 44 Lot 35, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #14-00036; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 3-10-15 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Selene Finance on behalf of Corelogic Tax Service claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by FWDSL & Associates LP by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$1,268.61 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #14-00036.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 17th day of March, 2015 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to FWDSL & Associates LP, 5 Cold Hill Rd S Ste: 11, Mendham, NJ 07945 in the amount of **\$2,568.61** (This amount consists of \$1,268.61 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 35 from the tax office records.

Resolution #60-2015 Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate

RESOLUTION #60-2015

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, 2015 to US Bank Cust for Pro Capital 4, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 2050, Philadelphia, PA 19102, in the amount of \$414.20 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2013 in the name of Figliozzi Living Trust as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 17 Marble Street, Block 100 Lot 48, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #14-00073; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 3-10-15 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 for Pro Capital 4 by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$1,159.21 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #14-00073.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 17th day of March, 2015 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 for Pro Capital 4, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 2050, Philadelphia, PA 19102 in the amount of **\$1,159.21**.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 100 Lot 48 from the tax office records.

Resolution #61-2015 Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate

RESOLUTION #61-2015

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, 2015 to US Bank Cust for Pro Capital 4, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 2050, Philadelphia, PA 19102, in the amount of \$372.06 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2013 in the name of Ramos, Jessica & Cabrera, Angela as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 100 Park Avenue, Block 79 Lot 5, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #14-00046; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 3-10-15 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Comerica Bank on behalf of PHH Mortgage claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by US Bank Cust for Pro Capital 4 by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$1,089.31 which is the amount

necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #14-00046.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 17th day of March, 2015 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 for Pro Capital 4, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 2050, Philadelphia, PA 19102 in the amount of **\$2,289.31** (This amount consists of \$1,089.31 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$1,200.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 79 Lot 5 from the tax office records.

Resolution #62-2015 Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate

RESOLUTION #62-2015

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 October 25, 2012 to FWDSL & Associates LP, 5 Cold Hill Rd S Ste:11, Mendham, NJ 07945, in the amount of \$5,464.05 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2011 in the name of Hidalgo, Mariela M. & Gualdo as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 8 Nunn Avenue, Block 97.02 Lot 11, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #12-00055; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 3-13-15 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Lereta Tax Service claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by FWDSL & Associates LP by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$41,076.13 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #12-00055.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 17th day of March, 2015 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to FWDSL & Associates LP, 5 Cold Hill Rd S Ste: 11, Mendham, NJ 07945 in the amount of **\$56,076.13** (This amount consists of \$41,076.13 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$15,000.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 97.02 Lot 11 from the tax office records.

Resolutions #58-2015, #59-2015, #60-2015, #61-2015, and #62-2015 were moved on a motion made by Conry, seconded by Thompson and approved.

Roll Call: Klimko, Noone, Conry, Thompson,
Heinrich, Higgins, McDonald
Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Resolution #63-2015 Authorizing Sale of 1983 Mack Fire Truck to the Township of Liberty – Mountain Lake Fire Department

RESOLUTION # 63-2015

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY TO THE TOWNSHIP OF LIBERTY WARREN COUNTY NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-36(2) permits a municipality by resolution to sell personal property not needed for public use to another contracting unit without advertisement or auction; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington has one (1) 1983 Mack Firetruck VINNumber 1M1A111Y2DM002245 which is no longer needed and was authorized to be sold via Resolution 62-2014; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Liberty – Mountain Lake Fire Department is interested in said equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington desires to sell the equipment to the Township of Liberty, Mountain Lake Fire Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren hereby authorize the following:

1. The sale of the 1983 Mack Firetruck VIN Number 1M1A111Y2DM002245 to the Township of Liberty – Mountain Lake Fire Department for \$2,500.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Borough of Washington Chief Financial Officer, Washington Borough Fire Department, and the Township of Liberty.

Resolution #63-2015 was moved on a motion made by Conry, seconded by Klimko and approved.

Roll Call: Klimko, Noone, Conry, McDonald,
Heinrich, Higgins
Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Abstain: (1) Thompson
Motion Carried

VOUCHERS:

Mayor McDonald entertained a motion to approve the vouchers and claims in the amount of \$1,305,900.48

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

Roll Call: Noone, Conry, Klimko, Thompson, Heinrich, Higgins,
McDonald
Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried.

RECAP:

Manager Blanchard will work with Attorney Parikh on the abandoned vehicles ordinance. Manager Blanchard will also set up a meeting between the Warren Hills Regional Board of Education and the Washington Borough Council. Manager Blanchard will get the plans and numbers for the conceptual crosswalk downtown from Mr. Bloom.

COUNCIL REMARKS:

Councilman Thompson asked when the D.P.W. will be taking down old signs and putting up any new signs that are needed. Manager Blanchard replied that the D.P.W. will be completing that task once the ground is no longer frozen.

Councilwoman Klimko asked if the signs for those streets affected in the new streets ordinance have been ordered and delivered. Manager Blanchard replied that the signs are here and the D.P.W. is just waiting for the ground to thaw. Councilwoman Conry asked if the 'no thru traffic' sign for the back end of the dollar store parking lot was ordered. Manager Blanchard replied that she will have to check on the status of that sign.

Councilwoman Klimko also noted that she had a lot of interested seniors in regards to the bus trip to the Sands Casino in Bethlehem organized by the Senior Advisory Committee.

Councilman Higgins would like to look into the Borough performing their garbage collection services in house instead of contracting the services out. Councilman Higgins feels there could possibly be a cost savings and would like to have the Shared Services Committee look into the numbers. Councilman Higgins also added that the municipal parking lot located at Borough Hall needs to be looked at because there is no place for the volunteer fire department members to park if there is a fire call. Councilman Higgins would like some type of notification sent through the school to the parents that they are not allowed to park in the spaces reserved for the fire department. Councilwoman Klimko asked Manager Blanchard to look into the ordinance in regards to designating a few spaces as 'municipal use only'. Councilman Higgins also asked Manager Blanchard to schedule a Shared Services Committee meeting during the first week of April to discuss the Washington Township Police Department's budget and how frequently actual numbers are received.

Councilman Heinrich asked if the grit collected by the D.P.W. through the street sweeper is reused. Manager Blanchard replied that currently the grit is brought over to the Oxford Landfill and it is not reused because there is no place to store it. Councilwoman Klimko added that it was her understanding that the grit could not be reused for environmental reasons.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business, a motion was made by Higgins, seconded by Noone to adjourn the meeting at 7:40p.m.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Mayor Scott McDonald

Kristine Blanchard, RMC Borough Clerk