

**BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
WASHINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES – November 16, 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.

Deputy Mayor Heinrich 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.”

Deputy Mayor Heinrich led everyone in the flag salute.

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

Absent: McDonald, Higgins

Also Present: Pat Titus, Acting Municipal Clerk;
Leslie Parikh, Municipal Attorney

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting – October 20, 2015

Motion made by Noone, seconded by Conry to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of October 20, 2015

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0
Motion Carried

CORRESPONDENCE:

Borough of Wanaque – Resolution

NCADD – Award Ceremony Thursday, November 19, 2015

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

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Request for Approval of Outside Thanksgiving Feast @ RCCG Royal Dominion Chapel

A motion was made by Conry, seconded by Klimko to approve the request for an outdoor Thanksgiving Feast.

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

AUDIENCE:

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

Dave DeSanto – 66 Cemetery Hill Road

Mr. DeSanto stated that he is from Washington HOPE which is Homeowners Protecting the Environment and also protecting the value of the neighboring homes. Mr. DeSanto wanted to touch base with Council to see if there have been any subsequent meetings between the Borough of Washington and the Washington Cemetery regarding the unused 125 acres since the Technical Review Committee meeting with the Planning Board. Councilman Heinrich replied that Council is not aware of any further meetings that have taken place but Mayor McDonald or Manager Blanchard would be the most knowledgeable on the topic and will both be at the next Council Meeting on December 1st. Mr. DeSanto added that he was heavily involved during the time of the Washington Cemetery's last proposal in which the group worked toward preserving the property and received \$250,000 from Green Acres to assist with purchasing the property. Mr. DeSanto mentioned that unfortunately at that time the Council was not open to the idea of placing the question of the Open Space Fund on the ballot to ask the taxpayers interest. Mr. DeSanto added that at this point the Green Acres has had to withdraw their \$250,000 since the Washington HOPE was not previously successful in obtaining the rest of the funds so they would need to apply again. Councilwoman Noone replied that any time there is a proposal to get an item on the ballot, Council would need to know as far in advance as possible and encouraged Mr. DeSanto to get a formal presentation together.

Peter Quelly – 4 Cleveland Street

Mr. Quelly thanked Council for taking his concerns with chimineas and fire pits seriously and moving forward so there are limitations on how close to other homes they can be in

use. Mr. Quelly also reminded Council that Manager Blanchard had talked about possibly getting an extra “No Parking” sign in front of 6 Cleveland Street since there are numerous cars parked where they should not be. Deputy Mayor Heinrich noted that Manager Blanchard is not here tonight but he will remind her. Deputy Mayor Heinrich also added that the Ordinance for the chimineas and fire pits will be discussed at the December 1st Council Meeting.

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

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

REPORTS:

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

1. Washington Township Police Department – October
2. Code Enforcement Report - October
3. Municipal Court Report – October

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Shared Services Committee

Deputy Mayor Heinrich stated that the Shared Services Committee wants to have an Executive Meeting next Monday the 23rd at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the Shared Service Agreement with the Washington Township Police Department.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approval of St. Joseph’s Bingo Application and Pull Tab Application

A motion made by Conry, seconded by Noone to approve the St. Joseph’s Bingo application and Pull Tab application.

Council Discussion:

Deputy Mayor Heinrich commented that a pull tab is similar to a scratch off type of ticket. Councilwoman Klimko added that it is a ticket with a little window to open and the winning number is underneath.

Roll Call: Klimko, Conry, Noone, Heinrich, Thompson
Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Resolution #181-2015 Redemption of a Tax Sale Certificate

RESOLUTION #181-2015

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 US Bank Cust for Pro Capital 4, 50 S 16th Street, Suite 2050, Philadelphia, PA 19102, in the amount of \$353.42 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2013 in the name of Rowlands, William & Kristin H. as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 78 S. Lincoln Avenue, Block 98 Lot 28, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #14-00071; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 11-10-15 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Seterus on behalf of Lereta 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 \$1,415.56 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #14-00071.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 16 day of November, 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 **\$2,615.56** (This amount consists of \$1,415.56 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$1,200.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 98 Lot 28 from the tax office records.

Resolution #182-2015 Redemption of a Tax Sale Certificate

RESOLUTION #182-2015

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 \$694.82 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2013 in the name of Van Arsdale, Rosemary G. as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 97 S. Lincoln Ave., Block 100 Lot 61, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #14-00074; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 11-10-15 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Seterus on behalf of 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 \$1,838.17 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #14-00074.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 16th day of November, 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 **\$1,838.17**.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 100 Lot 61 from the tax office records.

Resolution #183-2015 Redemption of a Tax Sale Certificate

RESOLUTION #183-2015

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 Arthur Frustaci, 712 Rugby Road, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865, in the amount of

\$135.69 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2013 in the name of Yawger, Matthew & Snyder, Jenifer as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 43 S. Wandling Ave., Block 98 Lot 45, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #14-00072; and

WHEREAS, I, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 11-10-15 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Seterus on behalf of Lereta 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 \$1,190.78, which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #14-00072.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 16th day of November, 2015 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, 712 Rugby Road, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865 in the **amount of \$1,490.78** (This amount consists of \$1,190.78 Certificate Amount redeemed +\$300.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 98 Lot 45 from the tax office records.

Resolution #184-2015 Redemption of a Tax Sale Certificate

RESOLUTION #184-2015

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 Metcalf, Agnes as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 112 Lenape Trail, Block 101 Lot 15.34, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #14-00079; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 11-10-15 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Seterus on behalf of 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 \$1,776.86 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #14-00079.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 16th day of November, 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 **\$3,076.86** (This consists of \$1,776.86 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$1,300.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 101 Lot 15.34 from the tax office records.

Resolution #186-2015 Redemption of a Tax Sale Certificate

RESOLUTION #186-2015

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 16, 2015 to US Bank Cust for BV001 Trust, 50 South 16th St. Suite 2050, Philadelphia, PA 19102-2513, in the amount of \$8,335.70 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2014 in the name of Sisto, Matthew & McDonald, Sarah as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 112 Myrtle Avenue, Block 44 Lot 23, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #15-00021; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 11-16-15 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Matthew Sisto claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by US Bank Cust for BV001 Trust, by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$13,866.27 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #15-00021.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 16th day of November, 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 BV001Trust, 50 South 16th St. Suite 2050, Philadelphia, PA 19102-2513, in the amount of **\$33,166.27** (This amount consists of \$13,866.27 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$19,300.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 44 Lot 23 from the tax office records.

Resolution #181-2015, #182-2015, #183-2015, #184-2015, and #186-2015 were moved on a motion made by Conry, seconded by Thompson and approved.

Roll Call: Klimko, Conry, Noone, Heinrich, Thompson
Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Resolution #185-2015 Resolution to Void a Check

RESOLUTION # 185-2015

A RESOLUTION TO VOID A CHECK

WHEREAS, check #8308 was written 11-05-15 on Washington Borough's Operating Fund # 8102360230 in the amount of \$24.00 and made payable to the Warren County Clerk, 413 Second Street, Belvidere, NJ 07823; and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer's office was made aware that a Certificate of Sale was being sold to a lien holder after the October 16, 2015 Tax Sale. Actlien Holding acquired Cert# 15-00015, which was about to be recorded as a Municipal Lien. As a result, the Tax Office only had to record two out of the three unsold Certificates. Consequently, the amount of the check to the Warren County Clerk's office was reduced from \$24.00 to \$16.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey that the Borough Treasurer is authorized to void check #8308 in the Operating Fund Account.

Resolution #185-2015 was moved on a motion made by Noone, seconded by Klimko and approved.

Roll Call: Klimko, Conry, Noone, Heinrich, Thompson
Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Resolution #187-2015 Resolution Authorizing Assignment

RESOLUTION #187-2015

AUTHORIZING ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:5-113 authorizes assignment by a municipality of tax sale certificates for the full amount of the certificate, including all subsequent municipal taxes and other municipal charges; and,

WHEREAS, Actlien Runoff LLC has presented an offer to purchase, by assignment, Certificate of # 15-00015 which was issued to the Municipality of Washington Borough at a tax sale held October 16, 2015, on Block 30.01, Lot 11, known as 6 Cleveland St, Washington Borough, NJ, and assessed to Lucas Kropywnycki, in the amount of \$24,648.08, being the full amount of the certificate, including all subsequent municipal taxes and other municipal charges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Body of the Borough of Washington hereby authorizes the Mayor and Municipal Clerk to execute the necessary assignment document to effect assignment of the above-referenced Certificate of Sale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Tax Collector.

Resolution #187-2015 was moved on a motion made by Conry, seconded by Klimko and approved.

Roll Call: Klimko, Conry, Noone, Heinrich, Thompson
Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Resolution #188-2015 Authorizing Budget Transfers in the Amount of \$39,305.00

RESOLUTION #188-2015

AUTHORIZING BUDGET TRANSFERS
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$39,305.00
IN THE CURRENT FUND

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-58 provides for appropriations transfers during the last two (2) months of the fiscal year, when it has been determined that it is necessary to expend for any of the purposes specified in the budget an amount in the excess of the sum

appropriated therefore and where it has been further determined that there is an excess in any appropriation over and above the amount deemed to be necessary to fulfill the purpose of such appropriation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, the Chief Financial Officer Natasha S. Turchan, be and the same is hereby authorized to make transfers among the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget in the amount of \$39,305.00 in the Current Fund as follows:

	TO		FROM
Unclassified		Insurance	
Fire Hydrants		Group Insurance	
Other Expenses	350	Other Expenses	\$29,305.00
Water Utilities		Unclassified	
Other Expenses	\$100	Traffic Lights	
		Other Expenses	\$10,000.00
Liabilities Insurance			
Statewide			
Other Expenses	\$2,000.00		
Tax Collector			
Other Expenses	\$5,000.00		
Planning Board			
Other Expenses	\$3,000.00		
General Administration			
Other Expenses	\$2,000.00		
Statutory Expenditures			
DCRP	\$200.00		
Public Safety			
Police			
Other Expenses	\$6,655.00		
Legal			
Other Expenses	\$20,000.00		
TOTAL	\$39,305.00	TOTAL	\$39,305.00

Resolution #188-2015 was moved on a motion made by Conry, seconded by Noone and approved.

Roll Call: Klimko, Conry, Noone, Heinrich, Thompson
Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Resolution #189-2015 Treatment Works Approval Permit for South Prospect Street

A motion made by Noone, seconded by Conry to allow Finelli to send in the TWA Permit for South Prospect Street Sewer Project and approved.

Council Discussion:

Councilman Heinrich noted that this resolution is for the application to the Department of Environmental Protection for the South Prospect Street sewer project and needs to be approved in order to move forward with the project and the change in the pump station.

Roll Call: Conry, Noone, Heinrich, Thompson
Ayes: 4, Nays: 0
Abstain: (1) Klimko
Motion Carried

VOUCHERS:

Deputy Mayor Heinrich entertained a motion to approve the vouchers and claims in the amount of \$1,375,967.21

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

Council Discussion:

Councilman Thompson asked why a charge on page four to Public Works payable to the Sunshine Tree & Landscape Company was not paid out of the Shade Tree Commission. Councilwoman Conry replied that this particular occasion, the Sunshine Tree and Landscape Company was hired outside of the D.P.W. as an emergency since the description reads removal of dangerous trees on Borough easements. Councilman Thompson also asked about the charge from Sweet Valley Farms on page ten. Councilwoman Noone replied that charge is a disbursement as part of the Sustainable Jersey Grant that the Green Team received.

Roll Call: Noone, Heinrich, Thompson, Klimko, Conry
Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Abstain: (1) Thompson (Fire & EMS only)
Motion Carried.

RECAP:

Ms. Titus will follow up with Manager Blanchard in regards to the “No Parking” sign for Cleveland Street.

COUNCIL REMARKS:

Councilman Thompson commented that it is getting cold out so bundle up.

Councilwoman Noone noted that the Green Team held an event on November 7th and thanked the volunteers that came out and helped clean up the open space and recreational area along the Shabcong Creek across from the Department of Public Works.

Councilwoman Conry asked Ms. Titus to follow up with Manager Blanchard on all the street signs that were supposed to be placed throughout the Borough particularly the one way sign for Youman’s Avenue exiting from the Family Dollar Store. Councilwoman Klimko added that all of the handicapped and other signs need to be addressed as well.

Councilman Heinrich reminded Council that John Smith from Energy Market Exchange Company (EMEX) will be coming to do a presentation at the next Council Meeting. Councilman Heinrich added that Manager Blanchard provided Mr. Smith with the Borough’s historical bills and EMEX will use that information to present a spreadsheet of potential cost savings. Councilman Heinrich stated that the Borough is trying a number of different options in order to save the Borough on energy costs. Councilman Heinrich wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving next week.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business, a motion was made by Thompson, seconded by Conry to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Deputy Mayor Michael Heinrich

Kristine Blanchard, RMC Borough Clerk