

**BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
WASHINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES – March 15, 2016**

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 asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence after the flag salute in honor of the passing of former First Lady Nancy Reagan and the passing of the Mount Arlington Mayor Arthur Ondish.

Mayor McDonald led everyone in the flag salute.

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

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

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Streets Committee

Councilman Higgins stated that there was a Streets Committee meeting yesterday in which many items were discussed but most importantly was the mid-block crossing bump out and the concern over the traffic pattern. Mr. Dawson Bloom stated that the project is at the point now where he is just finishing the design plans and working on the construction staging along with traffic maintenance. With the reduction of the lanes to no shoulders in the areas of the bump out there is not a lot of room to maintain traffic in two different directions during construction. Mr. Bloom added that if the Borough were to keep the bump outs in the final product, there would be fairly disruptive traffic patterns such as traffic down to one lane or a full detour, neither of which are good alternatives. With the disruption of traffic in mind, Mr. Bloom proposed removing the bump outs one side at a time which will allow sufficient space for two lanes of traffic and reconstruct new pavement. In order to achieve that, parking would need to be restricted along both sides of Route 57 up through School Street throughout the construction process. Mr. Bloom also added that there would be an additional cost to the project due to constructing

more of the roadway than the original plans anticipated. Mr. Bloom estimates about a twenty five percent increase to the project which would bring the cost to between seventy five thousand and eighty five thousand dollars. Mr. Bloom stated that to keep the bump outs and complete the project is still possible but it would be much more difficult and would be a disruption to a larger part of the community than removing the bump outs and keeping all of the traffic flowing on Route 57. Mr. Bloom estimated that the project would take three months and is open to discussion as to what the best time period is. Mr. Bloom stated that the condition of the mid-block crossing is getting to a point where something needs to be done to get it repaired. Mayor McDonald asked if there are plans for any type of warning lighting similar to what is in the crosswalk now. Mr. Bloom replied that there will be advanced warning high reflectivity signage. Mayor McDonald expressed concern over the fact that many vehicles currently do not stop for the crosswalk. Council discussed many concerns in regards to the mid-block crossing as well as Councilman Higgins brought up the fact that the clock would have to be moved. Mr. Bloom replied that the easiest solution would be to relocate the clock closer to the pocket park area. Mr. Montaverde replied that the clock would need to be moved in pieces and would cost a minimum of six hundred fifty dollars which he would have to bring up to the BID's Executive Board.

A motion made by Conry, seconded by Klimko to complete the plans for the mid-block crossing with the removal of the bump outs in order for the plans to be presented to Council and then submitted to the DOT.

Roll Call: Conry, Noone, Heinrich, McDonald, Klimko
Ayes: 5, Nays: (2) Higgins, Thompson
Motion Carried

Councilman Higgins stated that also discussed at the Streets Committee meeting was a list of streets that may be paved this year. Councilman Higgins also added that the increase in the mid-block crossing project will decrease the funds in the budget for paving. Councilman Higgins noted that the next Streets Committee meeting will be Monday, March 28th at 10:30a.m.

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting Minutes – February 2, 2016

Motion made by Noone, seconded by Conry to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2016.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

CORRESPONDENCE:

Jeanine Gleba – Finances, Streets, etc.

Mayor McDonald added at this time that Councilman Higgins dropped off a certificate from the Washington Emergency Squad.

Mayor McDonald read the following certificate into the record:

We are in grateful appreciation of the continued support to our squad and the communities we serve. We wish to thank the Borough of Washington

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

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

AUDIENCE:

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

Penelope Griffin – 8 Newbold Court

Ms. Griffin noted that on Route 31 between Route 57 and the Shop Rite there is only one traffic light which makes crossing Route 31 hazardous for pedestrians. Ms. Griffin added that she has seen many children and adults trying to cross Route 31 especially in the area of Borough Park. Ms. Griffin was wondering how plausible it is to have a stop light or an overpass in the area of Borough Park. Mayor McDonald replied that the request would have to go through the New Jersey Department of Transportation since it is a state highway. Ms Griffin also asked if there were any updates on the Washington Theatre. Mayor McDonald replied that the gentleman who is going to lease the Washington Theatre and the owner have worked out a deal for the lease but he does not believe the lease has been signed yet.

Sonia Rahm – 107 Park Avenue

Ms. Rahm stated that she has lived in Washington for seventeen years and has seen the population and the traffic grow. Ms. Rahm added that she has the same concerns for the area of Route 31 near Borough Park. Ms. Rahm asked Council what would need to be done in order to get an overpass in that area. Mayor McDonald replied that it would be a good idea to start with local legislators to get them on board and then submit a petition to

the State of New Jersey. Councilman Higgins suggested that Manager Blanchard contact Municipal Engineer Dawson Bloom to find out what would need to be done.

John Monataverde, Executive Director, Washington Borough BID

Mr. Montaverde provided Council with two packets of information, the first being a tiered level of sponsorship for the events that the BID will be running throughout 2016. Mr. Montaverde noted that some higher level sponsorships and lower level sponsorship numbers were both added for many of the BID's events which will allow more funds to advertise and draw people to the events. Mr. Montaverde added that with the help of Councilwoman Noone there are now sponsors for the Farmer's Market which will be a big help. The second handout lists all committees, panels, and help charts which will be placed on the BID's website and Facebook. The BID is looking for committee members and volunteers for all of the BID events.

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

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

REPORTS:

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

1. Municipal Court Report – February
2. Road Department - February

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

ORDINANCES:

Ordinance #2-2016 An Ordinance of the Borough of Washington to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank. (Introduction).

A motion made by Heinrich, seconded by Conry to introduce Ordinance #1-2016 on final passage and have the clerk read by title and publication statement.

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

The Clerk read Ordinance #2-2016 An Ordinance of the Borough of Washington to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank.

ORDINANCE # 2-2016

CALENDAR YEAR 2016

**ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION
LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 0% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington in the County of Warren finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2016 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington hereby determines that a 3.5 % increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$102,355.61 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2016 budget year, the final appropriations of the Washington Borough shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-

45.14, be increased by 3.5 %, amounting to \$ 102,355.61, and that the CY 2016 municipal budget for the Washington Borough be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

Motion made by Heinrich, seconded by Higgins to approve Ordinance #2-2016 on first reading.

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

Public Hearing and Adoption of Ordinance #2-2016 An Ordinance of the Borough of Washington to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank will be on April 19, 2016 and advertisement of the Public Hearing will be in the Star Gazette on March 25, 2016.

A motion was made by Higgins, seconded by Conry to approve advertisement of the Public Hearing of Ordinance #2-2016.

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

INTRODUCTION OF MUNICIPAL BUDGET:

A motion made by Higgins, seconded by Noone to Introduce the 2016 Municipal Budget.

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

Public Hearing and Final Adoption of the Municipal Budget will be on April 19, 2016.

Resolution #56-2016 Self-Examination of Budget

SELF-EXAMINATION OF BUDGET RESOLUTION
[as required by DCA]

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the *Borough of Washington* has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local government Services, and the Chief Financial officer has determined that the local government meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2016 budget year.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the *Borough of Washington* that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & 7.6b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification, the governing body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:
 - a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
 - b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
 - c. Cash deficit of preceding year
 - d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
 - e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
 - f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school

purposes.

2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3 et seq., are fully met (complies with CAP law).

3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.

4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:

- a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate and correctly stated,
- b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
- c. In itemization, form, arrangement and content, the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.

5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced and publicly advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.

6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services upon adoption.

Resolution #56-2016 was moved on a motion made by Conry, seconded by Heinrich and approved.

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

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS:

Amendment to Power Purchase Agreement – Washington Community Solar

Mayor McDonald tabled the Amendment to the Power Purchase Agreement until after further discussion in Executive Session.

Resolution #48-2016 Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #48-2016

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 FWDSL & Associates LP, 17 W. Cliff St., Somerville, NJ 08876, in the amount of \$525.12 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2014 in the name of Radline, Erick D. & Theresa A. as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 56 West Johnston Street, Block 15 Lot 18, which sale was evidenced by certificate #15-00009; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 3-4-16 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, EastWest Bank 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 \$1,213.52 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #15-00009.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 15th day of March, 2016 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, 17 W. Cliff St., Somerville, NJ 08876 in the amount of **\$2,513.52** (This consists of \$1,213.52 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$1,300.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 15 Lot 18 from the tax office records.

Resolution #51-2016 Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #51-2016

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 Actlien Holding Inc., 50 South 16th St., Suite 2050,

Philadelphia, PA, 19102 in the amount of \$687.99 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2014 in the name of Leinbach, Deborah S. supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 114 Myrtle Avenue, Block 44 Lot 21, which sale was evidenced by certificate #15-00020; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 3-8-16 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 Actlien Holding Inc. by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$1,379.74 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #15-00020.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 15th day of March, 2016 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 Actlien Holding Inc., 50 South 16th St., Suite 2050, Philadelphia, PA 19102 in the amount of **\$2,879.74** (This consists of \$1,379.74 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$1,500.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 44 Lot 21 from the tax office records.

Resolution #52-2016 Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #52-2016

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 FWDSL & Associates LP, 17 W. Cliff St., Somerville, NJ 08876, in the amount of \$525.12 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2014 in the name of Ingram, Nicholas as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 46 Lenape Trail, Block 101.01 Lot 14, which sale was evidenced by certificate #15-00053; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 3-8-16 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 FWDSL & Associates LP by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$1,213.52 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #15-00053.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 15th day of March, 2016 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, 17 W. Cliff St., Somerville, NJ 08876 in the amount of **\$2,813.52** (This consists of \$1,213.52 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$1,600.00 Premium).

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

Resolution #53-2016 Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #53-2016

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 FWDSL & Associates LP, 17 W. Cliff St., Somerville, NJ 08876, in the amount of \$525.12 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2014 in the name of Ashanti, Abdul-Shabazz as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 102 Lenape Trail, Block 101 Lot 15.29, which sale was evidenced by certificate #15-00051; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 3-8-16 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 FWDSL & Associates LP by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$1,213.52 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #15-00051.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 15th day of March, 2016 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, 17 W. Cliff St., Somerville, NJ 08876 in the amount of **\$2,813.52** (This consists of \$1,213.52 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$1,600.00 Premium).

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

Resolution #54-2016 Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #54-2016

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 FWDSL & Associates LP, 17 W. Cliff St., Somerville, NJ 08876, in the amount of \$181.92 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2014 in the name of Parr-Mupo, C. & Mupo, Jr, R. as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 96 Flower Avenue, Block 44 Lot 5, which sale was evidenced by certificate #15-00017; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 3-9-16 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Catherine Mupo 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 \$859.82 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #15-00017.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 15th day of March, 2016 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, 17 W. Cliff St., Somerville, NJ 08876 in the amount of **\$1,059.82** (This consists of \$859.82 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$200.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 44 Lot 5 from the tax office records.

Resolutions #48-2016, #51-2016, #52-2016, #53-2016 and #54-2016 were moved on a motion made by Conry, seconded by Thompson and approved.

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

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Resolution #49-2016 Refund Tax Monies as per Tax Appeal

RESOLUTION # 49-2016

A RESOLUTION TO REFUND TAX MONIES PER TAX COURT APPEAL

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has received a Tax Court Judgment received in 2013 for the property listed below:

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>NAME OF OWNER/ PROPERTY LOCATION</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	
89	3	Keane, Vincent 206-208 Broad Street	2013 Taxes	430.13
			TOTAL	430.13

Refund payable to: Vincent Keane, 105 Belvidere Avenue, Washington, New Jersey 07882

WHEREAS, due to Tax Court Judgment Dockets #012801-2013 the assessed value for the improvement has been reduced from 189,300 to 180,000 which changes the amount of taxes due thus creating these overpayments.

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 to refund the above tax overpayment.

Resolution #49-2016 was moved on a motion made by Noone, seconded by Conry and approved.

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

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0

Motion Carried

Approval of Washington Borough PTO Calendar Raffle

A motion made by Higgins, seconded by Conry and to approve the Washington Borough PTO Calendar Raffle.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

VOUCHERS:

Mayor McDonald entertained a motion to approve the vouchers and claims in the amount of \$353,253.76.

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

Roll Call: Noone, Heinrich, Thompson, Conry, Higgins,
McDonald, Klimko
Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Abstain: (1) Thompson (Fire & EMS only)
Motion Carried

RECAP:

Manager Blanchard will look into including another brush date per a conversation she had with Councilman Thompson. Manager Blanchard will contact the Municipal Engineer regarding what needs to be done in order to have an overpass or an additional traffic light on Route 31 near Borough Park and report back to Council.

COUNCIL REMARKS:

Councilman Heinrich thanked Manager Blanchard for taking care of the pavilion and getting someone there to quickly fix the vandalism that had taken place.

Councilwoman Conry asked the Streets Committee if they had decided to remove a handicapped parking space on Youmans Avenue and if the church in the area had applied for a handicapped space. Councilman Higgins replied that yes there was a handicapped space removed from Youmans Avenue and to his knowledge the church did not apply for a handicapped space.

Councilman Higgins stated that there needs to be a Shared Services Committee Meeting which will be discussed in Executive Session. Councilman Higgins also stated that the

Washington Rescue Squad banquet was held at the Draught House and noted that they Rescue Squad could use more volunteers.

Councilwoman Klimko reminded everyone that the Senior Advisory Committee will be holding their Sands Casino trip on April 23rd.

Councilman Thompson wished everyone a happy Saint Patrick's Day and a happy Easter.

Mayor McDonald said a few words about Mayor Ondish from Mount Arlington who passed away from cancer. His viewing was attended by a great number of people from all over the State of New Jersey. Mayor Ondish was a past president of the New Jersey League of Municipalities and the president of the New Jersey League of Municipalities Education Foundation and actively involved in Sustainable New Jersey. Mayor McDonald expressed his sadness at the passing of Mayor Ondish.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At this time, Mayor McDonald stated that an Executive Session is needed. A motion was made by Conry, seconded by Noone to enter into Executive Session after a five minute recess.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0
Motion Carried

RESOLUTION # 55-2016

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;

Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party; (The general nature of the litigation or contract negotiations is: ___/Personnel___ The public disclosure of such information at this time would have a potentially negative impact on the municipality's position in the litigation or negotiation; therefore this information will be withheld until such time as the matter is concluded or the potential for negative impact no longer exists.)

_____Matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his or her ethical duties as a lawyer; (The general nature of the matter is: _____
_____ OR _____ the public disclosure of such information at this time would have a potentially negative impact on the municipality's position with respect to the matter being discussed; therefore this information will be withheld until such time as the matter is concluded or the potential for negative impact no longer exists.);

_____Matters involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective or current public officer or employee of the public body,

where all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected have not requested in writing that the matter(s) be discussed at a public meeting; (The employee(s) and/or general nature of discussion is: _____ the public disclosure of such information at this time would violate the employee(s) privacy rights; therefore this information will be withheld until such time as the matter is concluded or the threat to privacy rights no longer exists.;

_____ Deliberation occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty or loss of a license or permit;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council hereby declare that their discussion of the subject(s) identified above may be made public at a time when the Borough Attorney advises them that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the Borough or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council, for the reasons set forth above, hereby declare that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place.

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

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business, a motion was made by Conry, seconded by Higgins to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Ayes: 7, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Mayor Scott McDonald

Kristine Blanchard, RMC Borough Clerk