

**BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
WASHINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES – May 03, 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.

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, Heinrich, Conry, Thompson, Higgins Noone

Also Present: Ann Kilduff, Acting Municipal Clerk
Dawson Bloom, Municipal Engineer

PROCLAMATIONS:

Older Americans Month

**A PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING MAY AS OLDER AMERICANS MONTH
2016**

WHEREAS, The Borough of Washington, Warren County includes a community of older Americans who deserve recognition for their contributions to our nation; and

WHEREAS, The Borough of Washington, Warren County recognizes that older adults are trailblazers—advocating for themselves, their peers, and their communities—paving the way for future generations; and

WHEREAS, The Borough of Washington, Warren County is committed to raising awareness about issues facing older Americans and helping all individuals to thrive in communities of their choice for as long as possible; and

WHEREAS, we appreciate the value of inclusion and support in helping older

adults successfully contribute to and benefit from their communities; and

WHEREAS, our community can provide opportunities to enrich the lives of individuals of all ages by:

- Promoting and engaging in activity, wellness, and social involvement.
- Emphasizing home- and community-based services that support independent living.
- Ensuring community members can benefit from the contributions and experience of older adults.

NOW THEREFORE, The Governing Body of the Borough of Washington, New Jersey do hereby proclaim May 2016 to be Older Americans Month. Governing Body urge every resident to take time this month to acknowledge older adults and the people who serve them as powerful and vital individuals who greatly contribute to our community.

A motion made by Conry, seconded by Thompson to approve May as Older Americans Month in Washington Borough.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Science Fiction Month 2016

**A PROCLAMATION OF THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON
PROCLAIMING MAY AS SCIENCE FICTION MONTH IN THE BOROUGH OF
WASHINGTON**

WHEREAS, prolific science fiction writer Isaac Asimov’s official birthday was chosen to be the unsanctioned National Science Fiction Day; and

WHEREAS, he became famous in his creation of technically fabricated imaginings of mechanical or computerized devices or beings and space; and

WHEREAS, Science Fiction is a type of fiction with visionary content where storylines are characterized by ultramodern technology, usual stories deal on space and time travel or life outside of the planet earth. Celebration of the day aims to create awareness of the need to learn living a possible future life; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Business Improvement District will celebrate

Science Fiction on Saturday, May 21 with Sci-Fi Day in downtown Washington Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, the governing body of the Borough of Washington,

DO HEREBY PROCLAIM, the month of May as Science Fiction Month in the Borough of Washington, New Jersey, and we encourage all citizens to join the celebration and activities on Sci-Fi day on May 21, 2016.

A motion made by Noone, seconded by Thompson to approve May as Science Fiction Month in Washington Borough.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

1. Safe Routes to School
2. Letter from Paul and Debe Spinks, 40 State Street to the Streets Committee
3. Chief Cicerelle regarding enforcement of parking laws and painting of curbs

Council Discussion:

Councilman Higgins feels that Council should apply for the Safe Routes to School grant and would like to see sidewalks installed on North Lincoln Avenue. Municipal Engineer Bloom added that the requirements for the grant is that the location has to be within two miles of a school and the Borough would have to cover the portion of the costs that the grant does not. Municipal Engineer Bloom will get more information on the grant and report back to Council.

Councilman Higgins stated that he will forward the letter from the Spinks family in regards to North Wandling to the Streets Committee.

Councilwoman Klimko commented that the letter from Chief Cicerelle states that the Washington Township Police Department has received several complaints concerning enforcement of parking status throughout the Borough of Washington. Chief Cicerelle

would like to request that the DPW paint or repaint all the curbs yellow in appropriate areas as well as to install missing signage in order to aid the police officers with enforcement.

A motion was made by Higgins, seconded by Noone to forward Chief Cicerelle's letter to Manager Blanchard and get started on his request.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

MINUTES:

Regular Meeting Minutes April 05, 2016

Motion made by Higgins, seconded by Conry to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of April 05, 2016.

Council Discussion:

Councilwoman Noone stated that there should be 7 Ayes for Resolution #66-2016 authorizing a five month extension of the police shared services agreement on page 20 of the April 05, 2016 minutes.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

AUDIENCE:

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

John Montaverde – Washington Borough Business Improvement District

Mr. Montaverde announced that the Active Shooter Protocol training session will take place on Thursday, May 12th at 11:45 am in the Washington Borough Fire Hall. The event is \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door and will be catered by the Lost Ladies Café. Mr. Montaverde added that Sci-Fi Fantasy Day is May 21st and will be a great, entertaining event.

Jay Arrington – Poetry in Motion

Mr. Arrington provided Council with an update on the Washington Theatre project including the fact that he will be purchasing the building instead of leasing it and plans on

closing within the next thirty to forty-five days.

Reverend Bauknight – Mt. Pisgah AME Church

Reverend Bauknight stated that one of the projects that the church is preparing for is installing a fence and there are items that belong to the Warren Hills Middle School where the properties meet and asked who she should contact. Council suggested that Reverend Bauknight contact Mrs. Patricia Hetrick, Principal and the Warren Hills Board of Education.

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

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Streets Committee

Councilman Higgins stated that the Streets Committee would like to hold a public awareness for the construction of the downtown crosswalk on Wednesday, May 11th or Thursday, May 12th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm provided the fire hall is available. Municipal Engineer Bloom recommended that any notices or advertisements get out quickly.

Councilwoman Conry noted that the holes located at the intersection of Park Avenue and Route 31 are still there. Municipal Engineer Bloom noted that the holes are right at the corner of Park Avenue and may be the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation and not part of the Environmental Protection Agency project but the Borough is able to patch the area.

A motion was made by Higgins, seconded by Klimko to fill in the holes near the crosswalk of Park Avenue and Route 31 within the next forty eight hours.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Sewer Committee

Municipal Engineer Bloom stated that the construction of the Gardeners Court sewer project should start tomorrow and that all of the residents have been notified. Municipal Engineer Bloom will check with Manager Blanchard to see if the residents on Marble

Street were notified as well. Municipal Engineer Bloom added that the project is to replace the eight inch main along Gardeners Court, installation of two manholes, and the tying in of the existing laterals. There will be no repair or replacement of laterals which will be the responsibility of the individual homeowners

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution #77-2016 Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #77-2016

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 JU Solo 401K Trust, 42 Huntington Rd, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920, in the amount of \$701.40 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2014 in the name of Sanchez, Jamie Bernardo & Teresa D. as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 25 South Jackson Ave., Block 81 Lot 5, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #15-00039; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 4-19-16 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Midland Mortgage, 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 \$1,399.97 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #15-00039.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 3d day of May, 2016 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 Huntington Rd, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920 in the **amount of \$2,999.97** (This amount consists of \$1,399.97 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$1,600.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 81 Lot 5 from the tax office records.

Resolution #78-2016 Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #78-2016

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 \$ 322.80 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2014 in the name of Gonzalez, Reynaldo & Vigil, Marlen C.Z. as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 22 Sunrise Terrace, Block 44 Lot 51, which sale was evidenced by certificate #15-00028; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 4-13-16 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Wells Fargo 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 \$1,007.95 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #15-00028.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 3rd day of May, 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 **\$2,007.95** (This consists of \$1,007.95 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$1,000.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 44 Lot 51 from the tax office records.

Resolution #79-2016 Redemption of Tax Certificate

RESOLUTION #79-2016

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 \$3,378.54 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2014 in the name of 117-119 E Washington LH, LLC as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 117-119 East Washington Ave., Block 94 Lot 15, which sale was evidenced by certificate #15-00041; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 4-11-16 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Liberty Abstract, Inc. 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 \$12,030.48 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #15-00041.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 3rd day of May, 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 **\$31,530.48** (This consists of \$12,030.48 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$19,500.00 Premium).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 94 Lot 15 from the tax office records.

Resolutions #77-2016, #78-2016 and #79-2016 were moved on a motion made by Noone, seconded by Conry and approved.

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

Resolution #80-2016 Granting Permission for Fireworks Display

RESOLUTION #80-2016

**RESOLUTION GRANTING PERMISSION FOR A
FIREWORKS DISPLAY IN THE
BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Common Council of the Borough of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey that permission is hereby granted to Washington Celebrates America Inc. have a **Fireworks Display** in the Borough of Washington at 9:00 P.M., **Monday, July 4, 2016** with a **Rain Date of Sunday, July 10, 2016**.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough Council has agreed to name Washington Celebrates America Inc. as additional insured for the following events to be held in the Borough of Washington.

Orange Crate Derby – Qualification Races Saturday July 2, 2016

Location: Broad St. and Borough Park Entrance

Orange Crate Derby – Monday July 4, 2016; Rain Date Saturday July 9, 2016

Location: Broad St. and Borough Park Entrance

Parade – Monday July 4, 2016; Rain Date Sunday July 10, 2016

Location: Rt. 31 and Broad St. to Belvidere Ave. to Carlton Ave. to N. Prospect

Fireworks – Monday July 4, 2016; Rain Date Sunday July 10, 2016

Location: Warren Hills Middle School Athletic Field

BE IT RESOLVED, that a true copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Labor and Industry, Trenton, NJ, together with a copy of the required Certificate of Liability Insurance pending all other required approvals.

Resolution #80-2016 was moved on a motion made by Conry, seconded by Thompson and approved.

Council Discussion:

Councilman Higgins noted that this resolution is granting permission for the Orange Crate Derby, fireworks, parade, rain dates and names Washington Celebrates America as an additional insured for the events.

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

Ayes: 5, Nays: 0

Abstain: (1) Higgins

Motion Carried

VOUCHERS:

Deputy Mayor Heinrich entertained a motion to approve the vouchers and claims in the amount of \$1,747,442.09

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

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

RECAP:

Acting Clerk Kilduff stated that Municipal Engineer Bloom will obtain further details in regards to the Safe Routes to School grant including the matching amount and the timeframe. Manager Blanchard will correct page twenty of the April 05, 20 Meeting Minutes. Manager Blanchard will check the availability of the fire hall for May 11th or May 12th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm for a Streets Committee meeting advertised as a special meeting. Manager Blanchard will also check to make sure the residents of Gardeners Court were notified about the construction that is starting tomorrow and that the homeowners are responsible for their own laterals if so found.

COUNCIL REMARKS:

Councilman Higgins asked if the New Jersey American Water project on Jackson Avenue was going on to Church Street. Municipal Engineer Bloom replied that he will follow up but that he was not aware of any work being done on Church Street. Councilman Higgins added that he believes the residents in the area were not notified that the work was going to be done overnight. Municipal Engineer Bloom replied that the project was coordinated through the Department of Transportation and some aspects of the job were required to be completed at night. Councilman Higgins also added that there will be a Streets Committee meeting on May 9th at 10:00 am.

Councilwoman Klimko commented that there was a lot of heavy equipment stored in the area behind Taylor Street School. Municipal Engineer Bloom replied that the New Jersey American Water Company worked out an arrangement with the property owner to store the equipment there. Councilwoman Klimko added that there is a lot of activity during the night hours and feels the residents in that area were also not notified of the work being done. Municipal Engineer Bloom will look into if the project is in violation of the Borough's noise ordinance.

Councilman Thompson noted that there are a lot of holes in the road on Broad Street and it needs to be patched. Deputy Mayor Heinrich replied that he will remind Manager Blanchard to have Broad Street patched since it was brought up at the last meeting as well.

Councilwoman Noone thanked Mr. Bescherer for his work in contacting a property owner to have the property cleared of debris and abandoned vehicles.

Councilwoman Conry inquired about the status of the timeclocks since the Recreation Department will be opening the pool soon. Acting Clerk Kilduff will follow up with

Manager Blanchard in regards to the timeclocks. Councilwoman Conry also wished all the mothers a Happy Mother's Day this coming Sunday.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business, a motion was made by Higgins, seconded by Noone to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Ayes: 6, Nays: 0
Motion Carried

Deputy Mayor Michael Heinrich

Kristine Blanchard, RMC Borough Clerk