
BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

WASHINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES

September 1, 2020

The regular meeting of the Borough Council of Washington, Warren County, New Jersey was held via ZOOM live stream at 7:00 P.M.

Roll Call: Conry, Cox, Duchemin, Noone, Norris, Valle and Higgins.

Also Present: Matthew Hall, Manager
Laurie A. Barton, Borough Clerk
Leslie Parikh, Attorney

Mayor Higgins led everyone in the flag salute.

Mayor Higgins read the following statement into 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 Express Times-Warren County Edition and posted on bulletin board, borough website and Facebook stating the time, place and purpose of the meeting as required by law.”

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mel Thiel, BID Executive Director, gave the following report:

1. Festival if officially canceled, vendors will be refunded their money and everyone involved will be notified.
2. Farmers Market still ongoing until September.
3. Hometown Halloween still on but Hometown Holiday tree lighting up in the air due to concerns of crowds over 500 people.
4. Tree lighting, a decision will be made at end of September.
5. A ribbon cutting grand opening was held for a couple of businesses in town.
6. Next ribbon cutting will be held September 19th at 4pm at a new restaurant where Celestine's used to be.

Councilwoman Valle thanked Ms. Thiel for all the hard work to create a wonderful festival each year.

Manager Matt stated that it's a watch and see for Hometown Holiday. Operation Toy Train has been canceled. Ms., Thiel inquired if the borough can have its own toy drive. Manager Hall stated that yes operation toy drive still on but the train is canceled.

Mayor Higgins asked for a motion supporting the BID Directors decision on canceling this year's festival.

Motion

Motion made by Noone and seconded by Conry to support the BID Directors decision on canceling the festival in the borough, all were in favor.

Spencer Nicholson, Washington Recreation Comm., inquired about the Recreation ordinance on tonight's agenda. Asked if this could be pushed off for a couple of months.

Sonia Ron, asked about paving in the borough, adding that half of the street on Park Avenue is paved down the middle.

Dirk Higgins, Fire Chief, Washington Fire Dept., had the following to report:

1. The fire department will be holding its own 9/11 memorial similar to the one in NYC with lights beaming upwards at the borough's memorial.
2. Location of the memorial is at the entrance to Warren County Community College right off Route 57.
3. The fire department received a few grants in the amount of \$2,000 and \$10,000 which will be used for turn out gear and \$173,000 which will be used to help pay for the cost of new air packs.
4. The fire department will be selling for a fund raiser, maps of the borough in conjunction with the annual town wide yard sales. The map will indicate where people are selling things. Hard copies will sell for \$2 and an online version is free.

Name inaudible, asked if there will be a paving schedule available that can be looked at.

Hearing no public comment, motion made by Norris and seconded by Conry to close the public portion, all were in favor.

MINUTES

Motion made by Noone and seconded by Conry to approve the following minutes;

July 21, 2020

August 4, 2020

August 20, 2020

Roll Call: Conry, Cox, Duchemin, Noone, Norris and Higgins.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 1 Valle (August 20th)

Motion passes.

ORDINANCES 2nd reading

Motion made by Conry and seconded by Cox to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2020-11, all were in favor.

Hearing no public comment, motion made by Conry and seconded by Duchemin to close the public hearing, all were in favor.

Motion made by Conry and seconded by Duchemin to approve Ordinance 2020-11.

Councilwoman Cox inquired about the following:

Section 4 and 5 what does it mean as far as public works employee title job classification getting extra compensation.

Why is borough giving \$3000 for employee medical coverage and added to negotiate better and stop paying the employees incentives.

Roll Call: Conry, Cox, Duchemin, Noone, Norris, Valle and Higgins.
 Ayes: 6 Nays: 1 (Cox)
 Motion passes.

ORDINANCE 2020-11
AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON AMENDING THE SALARY
ORDINANCE FOR CERTAIN POSITIONS AND ADDING CERTAIN TITLES AS FOLLOWS

WHEREAS, pursuant to changes to state minimum wage requirements, various collective bargaining agreements, and the reorganization of certain positions, it has become necessary to adjust certain salary ranges and add various titles;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, that the following salary range(s) be amended under “Schedule A – Full-Time Classified”:

<u>SCHEDULE A – FULL-TIME CLASSIFIED</u>									
<u>POSITION TITLE</u>								<u>SALARY OR WAGE RANGE</u>	
Clerk 1 (NC) Shared Services Stipend								\$7,500	AN

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, that the following salary range(s) be amended under “Schedule C – Unclassified Service”:

<u>SCHEDULE C – UNCLASSIFIED SERVICE</u>									
<u>POSITION TITLE</u>								<u>SALARY OR WAGE RANGE</u>	
Municipal Department Head								\$5,000 - \$90,000	AN

SECTION 1. Salaries herein shall be payable at the rate fixed in equal installments twice a month. Wages shall be payable twice a month. Any annual salary may be re-calculated to an hourly wage for any position unless restricted by collective bargaining agreement. Any and all fees received by officials and employees of the Borough of Washington shall be paid unto the municipality.

SECTION 2. Any salary and wage ordinance adopted prior to the adoption of this ordinance with provisions inconsistent with the provisions of Section 1 of this ordinance shall, to the extent of any inconsistency and only to the extent of the inconsistency, be repealed.

SECTION 3. In the event the position becomes vacant or no figure is listed, then the figures noted in the column with the heading "salary or wage range" shall be utilized by the appointing authority and any salary or wage paid within this range shall be deemed appropriate and valid.

SECTION 4. A public works employee who works eight hours in one day out of title in a job classification with a higher salary or wage range shall be entitled to additional compensation for that day at the rate of his or her current rate of pay plus ten (10) percent.

SECTION 5. An employee who has medical coverage under a spouse's health benefit plan (not including the NJ SHEBP) and waives participation in the Borough of Washington health benefits program shall be compensated at the rate of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000) PER ANNUM pro-rated to compensate the employee for only those pay periods when the Borough is no longer obligated to make health benefit payments.

SECTION 6. Any employees to be paid a stipend for CPWM shall have the stipend added to their base salary (pensionable earnings) to be paid twice per month. Any other stipends shall be paid twice a month, but are considered extra compensation and are not to be included in the base salary for pension purposes.

SECTION 7. The rates contained herein shall become effective immediately.

Motion made by Conry and seconded by Duchemin to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2020-12, all were in favor.

Hearing no public comment, motion made by Noone and seconded by Conry to close the public hearing, all were in favor.

Motion to re-open the public hearing by Valle and seconded by Norris, all were in favor.

Rita (last name inaudible), softball coach, stated she has been a coach for several years. It would be detrimental to get rid of the sports program in the borough. Stated that she hopes the youth sports programs stay in town.

Spencer Nicholson, Recreation Commissioner, wanted to make sure that council is aware that the commission is mostly newer members, where three of the members joined at the same time.

Craig Geller, Recreation Commissioner, stated that the new member haven't had a chance to turn things around, but added he is not placing blame on anyone.

Wayne (last name inaudible) inquired about soccer fields and who is responsible for registration.

Hearing no further public comment, motion made by Conry and seconded by Valle to close the public hearing, all were in favor.

Motion made by Noone and seconded by Conry to approve Ordinance 2020-12.

Roll Call: Conry, Cox, Duchemin, Noone, Norris, Valle and Higgins.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 1 (Valle)

Motion passes.

ORDINANCE 2020-12

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING § 3-55.1 ET SEQ. OF THE ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON

WHEREAS, the Borough of Washington Council (“Borough Council”) has evaluated the continued need for a Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has determined that there is no longer a need for a Recreation Commission and that it would be in the best interests of the Borough to establish a Recreation Committee to effectively oversee the recreational needs of the residents of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council is now desirous of dissolving the Recreation Commission and establishing in its place a Recreation Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, as follows:

Section 1

Article VIIIA of the Borough Code is amended to read as follows: “Recreation Committee”

Article VIIIA §3-55.1 to §3-55.10

Article VIIIA §3-55.1 to §3-55.9 of the Borough Code is repealed in its entirety, and the following is adopted in its place and stead as follows:

§ 3-55.1 Committee created; title; membership; term; vacancies;

A. Pursuant to the authority vested in the Committee of the Borough of Washington,

there is hereby established a Recreation Committee to be known as the "Borough of Washington Recreation Committee" which shall consist of at least five (5) members, but not more than nine (9) members, as determined and appointed by the Mayor upon the advice and consent of the Borough Council, one of whom shall be a member of the Borough Council and one of whom shall be a member of the Board of Education. All members of the Borough of Washington Recreation Committee shall be residents of the Borough of Washington. The members of said Recreation Committee shall serve without compensation.

- B. The Recreation Committee shall annually designate one of the members to serve as Chairman and presiding officer of the Recreation Committee. The terms of office of the first Recreation Committee members shall be for one, two or three years and thereafter, the terms of office of Recreation Committee members shall be for staggered three year terms. The members of the Recreation Committee shall serve at the will of the Borough Council. Borough Council may remove any member of the Recreation Committee with or without cause, upon written notice and after a hearing at which the member shall be entitled to be heard in person by the Borough Council.
- C. The Recreation Committee may adopt bylaws for its administration and establish rules and regulations for its activities; provided, however, that such bylaws, rules, and regulations shall be subject to the approval of the Borough Council.
- D. A vacancy on the Recreation Committee occurring otherwise than by expiration of a term shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as an original appointment.

§ 3-55.2 Powers, Duties and Activities

The Recreation Committee shall provide for recreational opportunities for the residents of the Borough of Washington. The Recreation Committee shall make nonbinding recommendations to the governing body as to community events, as well as with respect to enhancements and improvements to any Borough owned property for recreational activities. These nonbinding recommendations may consist of fundraising, operations, crowd control, costs and other activities related to the management of community recreational events or projects. The Recreation Committee shall also perform the following functions:

- A. In conjunction with and under the supervision of Borough Manager, supervise methods and arrangements for the proper maintenance and care of the lands and improvements on the Borough Recreation fields and parks and all structures thereon now or hereafter owned by the Borough.
- B. Advise the Borough Manager in the coordination of programs, the development of new initiatives, and the management of existing programs
- C. Recommend to the Borough Council a schedule of fees and charges to be made for the use of playground or recreational places for utilizing facilities, use of purchase of equipment and uniforms, participating in organized sports and activities and for such other purposes

as may be deemed reasonable and proper by the Borough Council.

- D. Maintain communications with recreational organizations in order to coordinate the use of facilities, and establish consistent policies and cooperation among various groups.
- E. Develop guidelines for the recreational use of playgrounds and recreational facilities in the Borough, consistent with rules governing the use thereof as may be adopted from time to time by the Mayor and Borough Council.
- F. Encourage and plan special entertainment activities for all the citizens of the Borough throughout the year.
- G. Maintain communication with other municipal bodies to minimize duplication of efforts and to foster joint programs.
- H. The Recreation Committee may make recommendations to the Borough Manager as to the establishment of any new staff positions it deems necessary for the successful operation of the Borough's recreation programs. The responsibility for the hiring of such employees shall be vested with the Borough Manager. Any such employees shall be under the immediate supervision of the Borough Manager.
- I. The Recreation Committee shall in all respects operate in accordance with the administrative procedures and regulations of the Code of the Borough of Washington. However, the Recreation Committee and its members shall have no power to take any action on behalf of the Borough of Washington or to take any other action, other than what is set forth within this subsection.
- J. The Recreation Committee shall also study such matters as may be referred to it by the Manager and/or Mayor and Borough Council and shall report its findings and conclusions thereon in writing to the Governing Body as soon as reasonably possible.

§ 3-55.3 Records, Annual Report and Appropriation of Funds

- A. The Recreation Committee shall keep records of its meetings and activities and shall make an annual report to the Borough Council.
- B. In November of each year, the Recreation Committee and the Recreation Leader/Director shall prepare and submit to the Borough Manager a proposed budget for the Borough's recreation program.
- C. In considering the recommendations made by the Recreation Committee, the Borough Council and/or Manager, as appropriate, shall have the full and complete authority and power to expend the monies raised and/or designated for recreational purposes.

Section 3

The previously established Recreation Commission of the Borough of Washington is

hereby deemed eliminated and dissolved, and all offices and membership in same which have been created are hereby revoked and dissolved. Any authority or power any person, or persons, had or was otherwise authorized by the existence of the Recreation Commission is hereby revoked.

Section 4

This ordinance shall take effect immediately after passage.

Section 5

The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged to be unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

RESOLUTIONS

Motion made by Conry and seconded by Duchemin to adopt Resolution 2020-122.

Roll Call: Conry, Cox, Duchemin, Noone, Norris, Valle and Higgins.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

RESOLUTION 2020-122

A RESOLUTION TO VOID CHECK

WHEREAS, check #4214 was written 7/22/20 on the Washington Borough's General Capital Account in the amount of \$2,025.00 and made payable to Tri-State Weatherstripping, LLC 655 Winding Brook Lane, Califon, NJ 07830 and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer's office was made aware that this check was issued to the wrong address and was not received and requested the check be replaced and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, State of New Jersey hereby authorizes the Treasurer to stop payment and replace the aforementioned check.

Motion made by Noone and seconded by Duchemin to adopt Resolution 2020-123.

Roll Call: Conry, Cox, Duchemin, Noone, Norris, Valle and Higgins.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

RESOLUTION 2020-123
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOT EXCEEDING \$2,987,500
BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, IN THE
COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF WARREN, NEW JERSEY, AS
FOLLOWS:

Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren (the “Borough”), entitled: “Bond ordinance providing for the improvement of various roads in and by the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, New Jersey, appropriating \$1,210,000 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$1,031,000 bonds or notes of the Borough for financing such appropriation”, finally adopted on September 1, 2020 (#2019-18, formerly #2018-10), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$1,031,000 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough, entitled: “Bond ordinance providing for the acquisition of a new fire pumper truck by the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, New Jersey, appropriating \$500,000 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$465,000 bonds or notes of the Borough for financing such appropriation”, finally adopted on September 1, 2020 (#2019-19, formerly #2018-11), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$465,000 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough, entitled: “Bond ordinance providing for the acquisition of a new fire command vehicle by the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, New Jersey, appropriating \$38,000 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$16,000 bonds or notes of the Borough for financing such appropriation”, finally adopted on September 1, 2020 (#2019-06), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$16,000 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough, entitled: “Bond ordinance providing for the acquisition of a new street sweeper by the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, New Jersey, appropriating \$250,000 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$237,500 bonds or notes of the Borough for financing such appropriation”, finally adopted on June 18, 2019 (#2019-14), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$237,500 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

Pursuant to a bond ordinance of the Borough, entitled: “Bond ordinance providing for the acquisition of new dump trucks by the Borough of Washington, in the County of Warren, New Jersey, appropriating \$1,300,000 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$1,238,000 bonds or notes of the Borough for financing such appropriation”, finally adopted on October 1, 2019 (#2019-26), bond anticipation notes of the Borough in a principal amount not exceeding \$1,238,000 shall be issued for the purpose of temporarily financing the improvement or purpose

described in Section 3 of said bond ordinance, including (to any extent necessary) the renewal of any bond anticipation notes heretofore issued therefor.

All bond anticipation notes (the “notes”) issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the treasurer, the chief financial officer or the acting chief financial officer of the Borough (the “Chief Financial Officer”), provided that no note shall mature later than one year from its date. The notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the Chief Financial Officer and shall be signed and sealed by officials and officers of the Borough in any manner permitted by N.J.S.A. §40A:2-25. The Chief Financial Officer shall determine all matters in connection with the notes issued hereunder, and the Chief Financial Officer’s signature upon the notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of N.J.S.A. §40A:2-8. The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the notes at not less than par from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price. The Chief Financial Officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body of the Borough at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the notes hereunder is made. Such report must include the principal amount, interest rate and maturities of the notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

Any note issued pursuant to this resolution shall be a general obligation of the Borough, and the Borough’s faith and credit are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and interest on the notes and, unless otherwise paid or payment provided for, an amount sufficient for such payment shall be inserted in the budget and a tax sufficient to provide for the payment thereof shall be levied and collected.

The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to do all other matters necessary, useful, convenient or desirable to accomplish the delivery of the notes to the purchasers thereof as promptly as possible, including (i) the preparation, execution and dissemination of a Preliminary Official Statement and Final Official Statement with respect to the notes, (ii) preparation, distribution and publication, if necessary, of a Notice of Sale with respect to the notes, (iii) execution of a Continuing Disclosure Undertaking, with respect to the notes in accordance with Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission and (iv) execution of an arbitrage and use of proceeds certificate certifying that, among other things, the Borough, to the extent it is empowered and allowed under applicable law, will do and perform all acts and things necessary or desirable to assure that interest paid on the notes is not included in gross income under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

All action heretofore taken by Borough officials and professionals with regard to the sale and award of the notes is hereby ratified, confirmed, adopted and approved.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion made by Conry and seconded by Valle to adopt Resolution 2020-124.

Roll Call: Conry, Cox, Duchemin, Noone, Norris, Valle and Higgins.
Ayes: 7 Nays: 0
Motion passes.

RESOLUTION 2020-124

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING 2020 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH (HGA) HEYER GRUEL & ASSOCIATES PROFESSIONAL SERVICE FOR MUNICIPAL PLANNING CONSULTANTS FOR THE BOROUGH'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Washington has a need to contract the services of a Municipal Planning Consultants as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 or 20.5 as appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent has certified that the costs of this contract may or will exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated term of this contract is one (1) year or at the discretion of the Borough Council; and

WHEREAS, for budgetary purposes, the Borough Council of the Borough of Washington would like to have this contract reflect a *not-to-exceed* amount of the 2020 adopted budget amount, excluding any escrow related services and;

WHEREAS, (HGA) Heyer Gruel & Associates has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Washington in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit (HGA) Heyer Gruel & Associates from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract, and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer will certify to the Borough Clerk the availability of funds on an as-needed basis at the time when the Borough needs the services provided by (HGA) Heyer Gruel & Associates.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Washington to enter into a contract with (HGA) Heyer Gruel & Associates as described herein; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that notice of this appointment will be published as required by law within ten days of the passage of this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer and (HGA) Heyer Gruel & Associates.

Motion made by Conry and seconded by Duchemin to adopt Resolutions 2020-125 and 2020-126.

Roll Call: Conry, Cox, Duchemin, Noone, Norris, Valle and Higgins.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

RESOLUTION #2020-125

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 13, 2017 to JU Solo 401K Trust, 42 Huntington Rd, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920, in the amount of \$545.32 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2016 in the name of Rush, Anthony A. supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 182 Broad St. - Rear, Block 88 Lot 11, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #17-00030; and

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 8-20-20 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Anthony Rush, 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 \$901.25 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #17-00030.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 1st day of September 2020 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 \$901.25** (This amount consists of \$901.25 Certificate Amount redeemed).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 88 Lot 11 from the tax office records.

RESOLUTION #2020-126

RESOLUTION FOR REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE 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 December 6, 2019 to Borough of Washington, 100 Belvidere Avenue, Washington, NJ 07882 in the amount of \$1,273.97 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year of 2018 and in the name of Rush, Anthony A. as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 182 Broad Street Rear, Block 88 Lot 11, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #19-00032.

WHEREAS, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 8-20-2020 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Anthony Rush claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by Borough of Washington, and last above mentioned, by paying to the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$3,561.44, which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #19-00032.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 1st day of September, 2020 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren authorizes the Mayor to sign Certificate #19-00032 for cancellation.

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 88 Lot 11 from the tax office records.

Motion made by Conry and seconded by Noone to adopt Resolution 2020-127.

Roll Call: Conry, Cox, Duchemin, Noone, Norris, Valle and Higgins.
Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

RESOLUTION #2020-127

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADJUSTMENT OF
A BOROUGH'S SEWER SERVICE CHARGE
DUE TO DISCONNECTION FROM THE SEWER SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, according to the Treasurer's records, borough properties located at 16-18 N. Jackson Avenue and 160 E. Washington Avenue were disconnected from the Washington Borough Sewer system on August 6, 2020 and;

WHEREAS, the quarterly sewer invoice was being billed without interruption for the 2020 billing cycle and;

WHEREAS, the Borough Treasurer's office has received a written notification from Sewer Plant Manager, Kevin Shoudt that the sewer lines were capped off. It was confirmed that the properties at 16-18 N. Jackson Avenue and 160 E. Washington Avenue were disconnected from the Washington Borough Sewer system. The homes and business will be demolished in order to start the construction of the CVS building. The business will be reconnected to the main sewer line upon completion.

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 adjust the sewer account #853-0 and #856-0 with a zero balance which reflects the amount due at the time the sewer connection was capped.

<u>BLOCK/LOT</u>	<u>PROPERTY OWNER/ PROPERTY LOCATION</u>	<u>FINAL BAL. AFTER CAP</u>
26/5	Gary Taylor 16-18 N. Jackson Avenue	\$ 0.00
26/8	Krauszer's Food Stores 160 E. Washington Avenue	\$ 0.00

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 adjust sewer balance on the above property location.

Motion made by Conry and seconded by Duchemin to adopt Resolution 2020-128.

Roll Call: Conry, Cox, Duchemin, Noone, Norris, Valle and Higgins.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

RESOLUTION 2020-128

**GRANT APPLICATION
SOUTH LINCOLN AVENUE SECTION 2**

Approval to submit a Grant application and execute a grant agreement with the New Jersey Department of Transportation for the South Lincoln Ave Section 2 Resurfacing project.

WHEREAS, Washington Borough, Warren County, New Jersey has given Washington Borough Engineer the approval to submit this grant on the behalf of the Borough of Washington,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Committee of the Borough of Washington formally approves the grant application for the above stated project,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as **MA-2021-South Lincoln Avenue Sec.2-Resurfacing-00670** to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Borough of Washington.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Borough of Washington and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

Motion made by Valle and seconded by Conry to adopt Resolution 2020-129.

Roll Call: Conry, Cox, Duchemin, Noone, Norris, Valle and Higgins.
Ayes: 7 Nays: 0
Motion passes.

RESOLUTION 2020-129

**A RESOLUTION TO REFUND OVERPAYMENT
ON 2020 REAL ESTATE TAXES**

WHEREAS, according to the Tax Collector's records, there is an overpayment of \$1,629.56 on 2020 3rd Quarter Regular Taxes paid on property located at 10 Alleger Street also known as Block 94 Lot 54, and in the name of Melissa LeClair; and

WHEREAS, the property owner, Melissa LeClair and Corelogic Tax Service had both paid the 3rd Quarter 2020 property taxes, resulting in the overpayment; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has been resolving the matter of tax overpayments and the property owner submitted a written request to receive a refund for the overpayment which caused the overage Block 94 Lot 54.

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 and Treasurer to refund the amount of \$1,629.56 payable to:

Melissa LeClair
10 Alleger Street
Washington, NJ 07882

Motion made by Conry and seconded by Duchemin to adopt Resolution 2020-130.

Roll Call: Conry, Cox, Duchemin, Noone, Norris, Valle and Higgins.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2020-130
RESOLUTION APPOINTING
DEPUTY MUNICIPAL CLERK AND DEPUTY LOCAL REGISTRAR**

WHEREAS in the absence or disability of the Municipal Clerk, the Deputy Clerk shall have all the powers of the Municipal Clerk and shall perform the functions and duties of the office.

WHEREAS, pursuant to **N.J.S.A. 26:8-17**, the Deputy Registrar shall serve a term of office of three years subject to the same rules and statutes regarding the term of office of the Registrar; and

WHEREAS, it is a requirement that each local Registrar office has a Deputy Registrar; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Washington ,
County of Warren, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. Susan Turner is hereby appointed as a Deputy Clerk and Deputy Registrar for a term commencing immediately as follows: Term being September 2, 2020 until September 2, 2023.
2. Susan Turner shall be compensated at a rate commensurate with current salary and any and all applicable stipends pursuant to the salary ordinance and shared service agreements of the Borough of Washington.
3. Copies of this resolution to be made available to State Registrar, Appointee, Borough Registrar and Finance Department.

VOUCHERS AND CLAIMS

Motion made by Conry seconded by Noone to pay vouchers and claims.

ROLL CALL: Roll Call: Conry, Cox, Duchemin, Noone, Norris, Valle and Higgins.
Ayes: 6 Nays: 1 (Cox)
Motion passes.

RECAP

Manager Hall recapped the following:

- Draft letter for solid waste services have Council look over and any changes let him know.
- Some of the buildings along route 31 and 57 are being taken down, project is moving along (CVS)
- Taco Bell project has stopped and there is no progress.

COUNCIL REMARKS

Councilman Norris gave the following remarks:

- Wished everyone a good Labor Day coming up.
- Spoke to Matt about organizations overlapping each other in the pocket park at the same time.
- Asked if the parking enforcer officer has certain hours to work. Asked when does he do the code enforcing.

Councilwoman Duchemin gave the following remarks:

- Stated that she hopes the recreation commission knows that the passing of the ordinance isn't a personal thing.
- Gave well wishes for parent's teachers and children starting school.

Councilwoman Noone gave the following remarks:

- Hope there will be some outreach to the current members of the Recreation commission to see if they would join the committee.

Mayor Higgins gave the following remarks:

- Recapped the meeting held with the BID Director, the Manager, Chief of Police and Prosecutor's office regarding the festival in the borough. It was a hard decision. The borough has very low Covid numbers and would like to keep it that way.
- Congratulated the fire department on their recent grants.
- Indoor dining allowed at 25%

- Gyms can reopen on Monday at 25%.
- Nothing personal with the Recreation commission, its what's best for the kids.

Mayor Higgins added one final comment and stated that council meetings are to conduct business and that he has never been called a name in a council meeting before. Mayor Higgins added that it is inappropriate and if anyone has anything they want to discuss can do so after this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, a motion was made by Conry seconded by Norris to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 pm.

Ayes: 7: Nays: 0
Motion Carried.

Mayor David Higgins

Laurie A. Barton, Borough Clerk