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*BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY*

*WASHINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES*

*December 7, 2021*

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

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

Also Present: Matthew Hall, Manager  
Laurie A. Barton, Borough Clerk  
Tarra St. Angelo, Attorney

Absent: Duchemin

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 the borough website and Facebook stating the time, place and purpose of the meeting as required by law.”

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Robin Klimko, Marble St., inquired about property markings on Wandling and Shabbecong.

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

**ORDINANCES 2<sup>nd</sup> reading**

Motion made by Cox and seconded by Norris to open the public hearing for Ordinance 2021-11 all were in favor.

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

Motion made by Norris and seconded by Cox to adopt Ordinance 2021-11

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**ORDINANCE 2021-11**  
**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF WARREN,**  
**STATE OF NEW JERSEY, CHANGING THE NAME OF THE PARK CURRENTLY**  
**KNOWN AS “POCKET PARK” A/K/A BLOCK 24 LOT 24**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the provisions of **N.J.S.A. 40:67-1(k), et seq.**, the governing body of a municipality may make ordinances to provide for the changing of names of streets or parks within the municipality; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Washington wishes to honor the service of veterans; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the Borough of Washington has proposed that the park currently known as “Pocket Park” a/k/a Block 24 Lot 24 be named “Veterans’ Park”;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington to rename the park currently known as “Pocket Park” a/k/a Block 24 Lot 24 “Veterans’ Park:

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that § 64-4 shall be added to **Chapter 64, Parks, Borough** of the code of the Borough of Washington:

Those park lands of the Borough of Washington located upon the parcel known as Block 24 Lot 24 shall be named “Veterans’ Park.”

**RESOLUTIONS**

Motion made by Conry and seconded by Noone to adopt Resolution 2021-132

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2021-132**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF BALANCE IN ESCROW  
ACCOUNT AND RETURN OF CASH MAINTENANCE BOND TO NOVAK HOME  
IMPROVEMENTS COMPANY HELD IN TRUST BY THE BOROUGH OF  
WASHINGTON**

**WHEREAS**, Novak Home Improvements Company has requested the return of the balance remaining in escrow that was deposited in the Street Opening Account for engineering inspection fees for Street Opening Permit #2018-30, a sidewalk replacement project for 66 Park Avenue;

**WHEREAS**, an additional \$1,000.00 was also deposited into the Street Opening Accounting as a “Cash Maintenance Bond”;

**WHEREAS**, Kevin Smith, Borough Engineer, has noted that the street opening work was completed and the one-year maintenance period has passed. He further noted that any remaining escrow and/or maintenance guarantees can be released.

**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 Municipal Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue a check to Novak Home Improvements Company in the amount of \$1,001.00, which represents \$1.00 remaining engineering inspection escrow and \$1,000.00 cash maintenance bond; payable from the Developer’s Escrow – Street Opening Account.

Motion made by Heinrich and seconded by Conry to adopt Resolution 2021-133

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2021-133**

**FORM 1B**

**WHEREAS**, the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

**WHEREAS**, The Borough Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has applied for funding to the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Warren,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough of Washington, County of Warren, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Borough Council does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the Franklin/Mansfield/Washington Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2023 in the amount of:

DEDR	\$2,476.00
Cash Match	\$619.00
In-Kind	\$1,857.00

2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

Motion made by Conry and seconded by Norris to adopt Resolution 2021-134

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2021-134**

**AMENDING RESOLUTION 2021-123**

**APPOINTING RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT 2022**

**WHEREAS**, \_\_\_\_\_ Washington Borough \_\_\_\_\_ (hereinafter "Local Unit") has joined the Statewide Insurance Fund (hereinafter "Fund"), a joint insurance fund as defined in N.J.S.A. 40A:10-36 *et seq.*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bylaws require participating members to appoint a Risk Management Consultant, as those positions are defined in the Bylaws, if requested to do so by the "Fund"; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Unit has complied with relevant law with regard to the appointment of a Risk management Consultant; and

**WHEREAS**, the "Fund" has requested its members to appoint individuals or entities to that position; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the governing body of "Local Unit", in the County of \_\_\_\_\_ Warren \_\_\_\_\_ and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Washington Borough \_\_\_\_\_ (Local Unit) hereby appoints \_\_\_\_\_ Skylands \_\_\_\_\_ its Risk Management Consultant.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ Manager \_\_\_\_\_ (*authorized representative of the public entity*) and Risk Management Consultant are hereby authorized to execute the Risk Management Consultant's Agreement for the year 2022 in the form attached hereto.

Name of Entity: \_\_\_\_\_ Washington Borough \_\_\_\_\_

Motion made by Conry and seconded by Noone to adopt Resolution 2021-135

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2021-135**

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT BETWEEN COMMUNITY ANIMAL CONTROL LLC, AND THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON.**

**THIS AGREEMENT**, made this 1st day of January, 2022 between The Borough of Washington having its principal place of business at 100 Belvidere Avenue, Washington, New Jersey 07882 and hereinafter referred to as the “Municipality”; and Community Animal Control, LLC having its principal place of business at 43 Schooley’s Mountain Road, Long Valley, New Jersey 07852 hereinafter referred to as the “Contractor”;

**WITNESSED:**

**WHEREAS**, the Municipality requires professional animal control services

**WHEREAS**, the Municipality requires animal control services under a shared service agreement with the following additional municipalities.

- Belvidere Township
- Franklin Township, Warren County
- Hackettstown
- Harmony Township
- Lopatcong Township
- Mansfield Township
- Oxford Township
- Pohatcong Township
- Washington Township, Warren County
- Washington Township, Morris County
- White Township

**WHEREAS**, the Contractor is available to perform the necessary services for the Municipality and has the expertise and staff to provide these services

**WHEREAS**, The Municipality desires the Contractor to undertake professional services as outlined in Schedule A

**WHEREAS**, said services are professional in nature and are therefore excluded from the Bidding Laws of the State of New Jersey

**NOW, THEREFORE**, in consideration of the promises and the mutual covenants, conditions and agreements contained herein, the parties hereto agree that the Contractor shall provide the services outlined in the proposal attached hereto as Appendix A.

Motion made by Conry and seconded by Cox to adopt Resolution 2021-136 & 137

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2021-136**

**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 December 6, 2019 to Bala Partners LLC, PO Box 303, Pottersville, NJ 07979, in the amount of \$4,835.46 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2018 in the name of Cottage Industries, LLC as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 97 N Lincoln Ave., Block 16 Lot 11.01, which sale was evidenced by certificate #19-00010 and

**WHEREAS**, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 11-16-21 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Sunnyside Title Agency claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by Bala Partners LLC by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$25,203.65 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #19-00010.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 7th day of December, 2021 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to Bala Partners, LLC, PO Box 303, Pottersville, NJ 07979 in the amount of **\$25,203.65** (This consists of \$25,203.65 Certificate Amount redeemed).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 16 Lot 11.01 from the tax office records.

**RESOLUTION # 2021-137**

**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 7, 2021 to Bala Partners LLC, PO Box 303, Pottersville, NJ 07979, in the amount of \$173.60 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2020 in the name of Rodriguez, Gernaro B/Coronel, Adria as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 71 Jackson Ave., Block 37 Lot 12, which sale was evidenced by certificate #21-00024 and

**WHEREAS**, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 11-15-21 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Palak Patel claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by Bala Partners LLC by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$2,090.49 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #21-00024.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 7th day of December, 2021 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to Bala Partners, LLC, PO Box 303, Pottersville, NJ 07979 in the amount of **\$3,290.49** (This consists of \$2,090.49 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$1,200.00 Premium).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 37 Lot 12 from the tax office records.

Motion made by Cox and seconded by Conry to adopt Resolution 2021-138

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2021-138**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF THE CASH MAINTENANCE BOND TO KAREN A. REVELLO HELD IN TRUST BY THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON**

WHEREAS, Karen A. Revello has requested the return of funds remaining in escrow that were deposited in the Street Opening Account for engineering inspection fees for Street Opening Permit #2020-20 and a cash maintenance bond in the amount of \$1,000.00 for a project at 5 Valley View Terrace;

WHEREAS, there are no remaining funds for engineering inspection fees;

WHEREAS, the \$1,000.00 cash maintenance bond remains as a deposit in the Street Opening account;

WHEREAS, Kevin Smith, Borough Engineer, has noted that the roadway restoration is in good condition and the Maintenance Guarantee can be released and also there is no charge for the final inspection he conducted.

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 Municipal Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue a check to Karen A. Revello in the amount of \$1,000.00, which represents the cash guarantee maintenance bond; payable from the Developer's Escrow – Street Opening Account.

Motion made by Conry and seconded by Heinrich to adopt Resolution 2021-139, 140, 141 & 142

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2021-139**

**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 7, 2021 to FIG CUST

FIGNJ19 LLC, P.O. Box 54226, New Orleans, LA 70154, in the amount of \$651.13 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2020 in the name of Torres, Sandra M as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 15 West Carlton Ave, Block 19 Lot 5, which sale was evidenced by Certificate #21-00015 and

**WHEREAS**, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 11-8-21 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Fay Servicing on behalf of Lereta Tax Service claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by FIG CUST FIGNJ19 LLC by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$729.15 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #21-00015.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 7th day of December, 2021 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to FIG CUST FIGNJ19 LLC, P.O. Box 54226, New Orleans, LA 70154 in the amount of **\$3,229.15** (This consists of \$729.15 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$2,500.00 Premium).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 19 Lot 5 from the tax office records.

#### **RESOLUTION 2021-140**

#### **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 22, 2020 to NJSL 301, LLC 650 E. Palisades Ave. STE 2 #258, Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632, in the amount of \$336.15 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2019 in the name of Trimmer, Jack R Sr. as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 127 West Washington Ave., Block 99 Lot 6.01, which sale was evidenced by certificate #20-00040 and

**WHEREAS**, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 11-16-21 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 NJSL 301, LLC by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$1,301.55 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #20-00040.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 7th day of December, 2021 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to NJSL 301, LLC, 650 E. Palisades Ave. STE 2 #258, Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632 in the amount of **\$1,501.55** (This consists of \$1,301.55 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$200.00 Premium).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 99 Lot 6.01 from the tax office records.

#### **RESOLUTION 2021-141**

#### **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 7, 2021 to Bala Partners LLC, PO Box 303, Pottersville, NJ 07979, in the amount of \$173.31 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2020 in the name of Hammel, Scott G & Patricia as supposed owners, and in said assessment and sale were described as 68 Youmans Ave., Block 82 Lot 3, which sale was evidenced by certificate #21-00039 and

**WHEREAS,** the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 11-9-21 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Trident Abstract claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by Bala Partners LLC by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$934.50 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #21-00039.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** on this 7th day of December, 2021 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to Bala Partners, LLC, PO Box 303, Pottersville, NJ 07979 in the amount of **\$2,134.50** (This consists of \$934.50 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$1,200.00 Premium).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 82 Lot 3 from the tax office records.

RESOLUTION 2021-142

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 7, 2021 to Bala Partners LLC, PO Box 303, Pottersville, NJ 07979, in the amount of \$335.17 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2020 in the name of Mueller, Elizabeth L as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 80 Park Ave., Block 83 Lot 4, which sale was evidenced by certificate #21-00041 and

**WHEREAS,** the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 11-17-21 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, PHH Mortgage claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by Bala Partners LLC by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$4,710.48 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #21-00041.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** on this 7th day of December, 2021 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to Bala Partners, LLC, PO Box 303, Pottersville, NJ 07979 in the amount of **\$16,410.48** (This consists of \$4,710.48 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$11,700.00 Premium).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 83 Lot 4 from the tax office records.

Motion made by Conry and seconded by Heinrich to adopt Resolution 2021-143

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2021-143**

**GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON SHADE TREE COMMISSION  
AND  
THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
BY AND FOR  
THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**GRANT IDENTIFIER UCF-2021-WBSTC-00042-RP**

**WHEREAS**, the governing body of Washington Borough Shade Tree Commission desires to further the public interest by obtaining a grant from the State of New Jersey in the amount of approximately \$20,000.00 to fund the following project:

**Resiliency Planning – Washington Boro Resiliency Planning Grant 2021**

**THEREFORE**, the governing body resolves that Matthew Hall or the successor of the office of Manager is authorized (a) to make application for such a grant, (b) if awarded, to execute a grant agreement with the state for a grant in the amount not less than \$0 and not more than \$20,000.00 and (c) to execute: \*

\*any amendments thereto which do not increase the Grantee's obligations.

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council authorizes and hereby agrees to match 20% of the Total Project Amount, in compliance with the match requirements of the agreement. The availability of the match for such purposes, whether cash, services, or property, is hereby certified.

Up To 88% of the match will be made up of in-kind services (if allowed by grant program requirements and the agreement).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Grantee agrees to comply with all applicable Federal, State, and municipal laws, rules, and regulations in its performance pursuant to the agreement.

Motion made by Cox and seconded by Conry to adopt Resolution 2021-144

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2021-144**

**A RESOLUTION TO REFUND TAX MONIES PER TAX COURT APPEAL**

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector has received a Tax Court Judgement received in 2021 for the years 2019 and 2020 for the property listed below:

<b><u>BLOCK</u></b>	<b><u>LOT</u></b>	<b><u>NAME OF OWNER/ PROPERTY LOCATION</u></b>	<b><u>YEAR</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>
101	7	Washington Auto Brokers 309 W. Washington Avenue	2019 2020 Total	4,639.30 7,368.30 12,007.60

Refund payable to: Jennifer R. Jacobus, Trustee for Washington Auto Brokers, 201 Littleton Road, Suite 100, Morris Plains, NJ 07950.

**WHEREAS**, due to Court Judgement Dockets #010392-2019 and #012928-2020 the assessed value for the improvement has been reduced from 495,000 to 360,000 which changes the amount of taxes due thus creating an overpayment; 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, to hereby authorize the Tax Collector to refund the above tax overpayment.

Motion made by Norris and seconded by Conry to adopt Resolution 2021-145

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2021-145**

**AUTHORIZING BUDGET TRANSFERS**

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000.00 IN THE SEWER UTILITY

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 Borough 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 2021 Budget in the amount of \$10,000.00 in the Sewer Utility as follows:

	FROM	TO
Sewer Utility		
Other Expenses		10,000.00
Sewer Utility		
Salaries and Wages	10,000.00	

Motion made by Norris and seconded by Noone to adopt Resolution 2021-146

Roll Call: Conry, Cox, Heinrich, Noone, Norris and Higgins.  
Ayes: 6 Nays: 0  
Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2021-146**

**AUTHORIZING BUDGET TRANSFERS**

**FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,000.00 IN THE SOLID WASTE UTILITY**

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 Borough 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 2021 Budget in the amount of \$8,000.00 in the SOLID WASTE Utility as follows:

	FROM	TO
Solid Waste Utility		
Other Expenses		8,000.00
Solid Waste Utility		
Salaries and Wages	8,000.00	

Motion made by Norris and seconded by Conry to adopt Resolution 2021-147

Roll Call: Conry, Cox, Heinrich, Noone, Norris and Higgins.  
 Ayes: 6 Nays: 0  
 Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2021-147**

**RESOLUTION**

**AUTHORIZING BUDGET TRANSFERS**

**FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$41,700.00 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 Borough 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 2021 Budget in the amount of \$36,700.00 in the Current Fund as follows:

	FROM	TO
Finance and Administration		
Other Expenses		500.00
Municipal Clerk		
Other Expenses		2,500.00
Insurance		
General Liability Other Expenses		2,500.00
Employee Group Insurance	6,700.00	
General Administration		
Salaries and Wages		1,600.00
Tax Collector		
Salaries and Wages		8,000.00
Emergency Management		
Salaries and Wages		100.00
Shared Services-Clerk		
Salaries and Wages		2,000.00
Shared Services-Financial Administration		
Salaries and Wages		1,500.00
Building and Grounds		
Other Expenses		10,000.00
Water		
Other Expenses		8,000.00
Code Enforcement		
Salaries and Wages	35,000.00	
Engineering Services-Shared Service		5,000.00

\$36,700.00

\$41,700.00

Motion made by Norris and seconded by Conry to adopt Resolution 2021-148

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2021-148**

**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 December 7, 2021 to Bala Partners LLC, PO Box 303, Pottersville, NJ 07979, in the amount of \$421.87 for taxes or other municipal liens assessed for the year 2020 in the name of Hall, Paris as supposed owner, and in said assessment and sale were described as 65 N Jackson Ave., Block 37 Lot 15, which sale was evidenced by certificate #21-00025 and

**WHEREAS**, the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of the Borough of Washington, do certify that on 11-29-21 and before the right to redeem was cut off, as provided by law, Paris Hall claiming to have an interest in said lands, did redeem said lands claimed by Bala Partners LLC by paying the Collector of Taxes of said taxing district of Washington Borough the amount of \$1,191.50 which is the amount necessary to redeem Tax Sale Certificate #21-00025.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, on this 7th day of December, 2021 by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren to authorize the Treasurer to issue a check payable to Bala Partners, LLC, PO Box 303, Pottersville, NJ 07979 in the amount of **\$2,891.50** (This consists of \$1,191.50 Certificate Amount redeemed + \$1,700.00 Premium).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Tax Collector is authorized to cancel this lien on Block 37 Lot 15 from the tax office records.

Motion made by Norris and seconded by Cox to adopt Resolution 2021-149

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2021-149**

**A RESOLUTION TO REFUND OVERPAYMENT**  
**ON 2021 REAL ESTATE TAXES**

**WHEREAS**, according to the Tax Collector's records, there is an overpayment of \$1,564.24

on 2021 4th Quarter Regular Taxes paid on property located at 84 Lenape Trail, also known as Block 101 Lot 15.20, and in the name of Zachary Schiavo; and

**WHEREAS**, Elizabeth Schiavo and Corelogic Tax Service had both paid the 4th Quarter 2021 property taxes, resulting in the overpayment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector has been resolving the matter of tax overpayments and has received a written request from Corelogic Tax Service that the overpayment be refunded to them in order to forward the funds to the property owner, Zachary Schiavo.

**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 \$1,564.24 payable to:

Corelogic  
Centralized Refunds  
P.O. Box 9202

Coppell, TX 75019-9760

*Resolution 2021-150 pulled from agenda*

Motion made by Conry and seconded by Norris to adopt Resolution 2021-151

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

**RESOLUTION 2021-151  
CANCELLING PROPERTY TAXES ON BLOCK 32, LOT 4 FOR  
THE YEAR 2020 AND 2021**

**WHEREAS**, Block 32 Lot 4 appears on the 2020 and 2021 tax records

WHEREAS, pursuant to a Resolution of the Borough of Washington Planning Board adopted on December 12, 2016, the Borough of Washington Planning Board approved an application for subdivision and a lot line adjustment which merged Block 32, Lot 4 with Block 32 Lot 3 and subdivided said lot into four lots (Block 24, Lots 3, 3.01, 3.02, and 3.03); and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-99, when property real or personal has been levied in error, the governing body of the taxing district may order and cause the tax record to be corrected; and

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

1. The Tax Collector of the Borough of Washington is hereby authorized and directed to cancel the 2020 and 2021 taxes for Block 32, Lot 4 and delete said lot from the tax rolls.

2. A certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Warren County Board of Taxation and the Tax Collector, Tax Assessor and Chief Financial Officer of Borough of Washington.

3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion made by Norris and seconded by Conry to adopt Resolution 2021-152

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

### **RESOLUTION 2021- 152**

#### **RESOLUTION BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF WASHINGTON TO APPOINT HOLLY ANN DOMINGUEZ AS TAX COLLECTOR EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 13, 2021**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Washington has a need for a Certified Tax Collector to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of the Tax Collector effective December 13, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, State Law requires every municipality in the State of New Jersey to have a licensed Tax Collector, and

**WHEREAS**, the Municipal Manager has recommended to the Mayor and Council the appointment of Holly Ann Dominguez as Certified Tax Collector at an annual salary of \$72,000;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Washington, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, appoint Holly Ann Dominguez to the position of Certified Municipal Tax Collector effective December 13, 2021

#### **VOUCHERS AND CLAIMS**

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

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

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Motion passes.

## **RECAP**

Manager Hall recapped the following:

- Discussion of the pathways

## **Motion**

Motion made by Cox and seconded by Norris, until further information regarding the pathway, process has to stop until council has clear cut idea of what is going on with the pathways and it is tabled until we get further information.

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

Ayes: 4 Nays: 2 (Heinrich and Noone)

Motion passes.

## **COUNCIL REMARKS**

Councilman Heinrich gave the following remarks:

- Congratulated the Manager on five years with the Borough

Councilwoman Cox gave the following remarks:

- Appreciated that the trails are being put on hold. Everyone is doing a good job. DPW is out and about.

Councilwoman Noone gave the following remarks:

- Will let Gary Pohorely know to be at next meeting

Councilman Norris gave the following remarks:

- Congratulated Manager on his five years with Borough. Prayers to the Trachin (sp) family.
- Thanked Police for incident at high school.
- Everyone doing a fantastic job and wished everyone to stay healthy and move forward.

Deputy Mayor Conry gave the following remarks:

- Thanked the Director of the BID for Santa Claus coming in and businesses staying open for the event.
- Thanked all the departments, Police, DPW, Council, Manager, Clerk and everyone for the jobs they are doing.

Mayor Higgins gave the following remarks:

- Holiday tree lighting went very well, a lot of people came out.
- The Toys for Tots with the train went very well.
- Next month the budget process starts
- Discussed a grant company that writes grants for municipalities.
- Solid waste collection review to start in January.

- December 7<sup>th</sup> marks a day that will live in infamy Pearl Harbor Day.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion made by cox and seconded by Conry to enter into executive session for possible litigation and contractual all were in favor.

**RESOLUTION**  
**AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act, P.L. 975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body wishes to discuss possible litigation and contractual. Minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes can be made public.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the public be excluded from this meeting.

Motion made by and seconded by to return to regular session at 8:26 p.m.

Ayes: 6: Nays: 0  
Motion Carried.

**ADJOURN**

Hearing no further business to come before Council, motion made by and seconded by to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 PM, all were in favor.

Laurie A. Barton, RMC  
Borough Clerk