

**Township of Washington  
Gloucester County  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
May 8, 2019  
7:00 P.M.**

Council President Mr. Perry called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M., in the council room located at 523 Egg Harbor Road, Sewell, New Jersey. Mr. Perry delivered the Sunshine Notice and the safety awareness notices. He asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Ciallella, Township Clerk took roll call vote. Councilmembers Mrs. Dougherty, Ms. Pasqualone, Mrs. Williams, Mr. Longfellow, and Mr. Perry were present. Mayor Gattinelli, Mr. Platt and Mr. Gonter were present.

**MAYORAL PRESENTATIONS**

Mayor Gattinelli presented the Washington Township Tornadoes Special Olympics Basketball Team with a Proclamation.

Mayor Gattinelli presented a Proclamation to Eagle Scout Ryan Craig.

**PRESENTATION**

Nancy Mozzachio gave an Economic Development Update for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter.

**APPROVAL OF BILL LIST FOR MAY 8, 2019**

Mr. Perry asked for a motion to approve the May 8, 2019 bill list. Mrs. Dougherty motioned. Mr. Longfellow seconded the motion. All voted yes.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR APRIL 24, 2019**

Mr. Perry asked for a motion to approve the April 24, 2019 minutes. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Mrs. Dougherty seconded. There was no discussion. All voted yes.

**APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE MINUTES FOR APRIL 24, 2019**

Mr. Perry asked for a motion to approve the Executive Minutes for April 24, 2019. Mrs. Williams motioned. Mr. Perry seconded. All voted yes.

**ORDINANCES**

**O013-2019 ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 285 OF THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CODE ENTITLED "ZONING"**

Mr. Perry asked for a motion to open to the public participation on Ordinance O013-2019. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Mrs. Williams seconded. All was in favor. No one from the public wished to speak on Ordinance O013-2019. Mr. Perry asked for a motion to close to the public participation on Ordinance O013-2019. All was in favor. Mr. Perry asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance O013-2019. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Mr. Perry seconded. All voted yes.

**O017-2019 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMIT AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

Mr. Perry asked for a motion to introduced Ordinance O017-2019. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Mrs. Dougherty seconded. All voted yes. Ms. Pasqualone voted NO.

**0018-2019 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED EXPENSES IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON FOR 2019**

Mr. Perry asked for a motion to introduce Ordinance 0018-2019. Ms. Dougherty motioned. Mr. Longfellow seconded. All voted yes.

**2019 BUDGET ADDRESS**

Mayor Gattinelli gave a brief synopsis of 2019 budget as follows:

*Dear Members of Council and Residents of the Township of Washington:*

*{Budget}*

*The following is a status of the 2019 Washington Township Municipal Operating and Capital Budgets. I am pleased to announce that the 2019 budgets I have presented will have a slight REDUCTION in municipal property taxes for 2019. Due to a modest increase in appropriations and the anticipated increase in revenues due to redevelopment and economic development in the Township, the introduction of the 2019 Municipal Budget allows for the Township to reduce the 2019 tax rate. This, in turn, will lower the local purpose tax for every Township household. All of this will be achieved with an INCREASE in service to our residents.*

*In order to achieve this, my administration, through extensive work with our department heads, has worked diligently to make sure all operational revenues and appropriations are consistent with the needs of our residents. A detailed cost-benefit analysis of each situation was considered where there was an adjustment in appropriations.*

*As in previous years, a reasonable amount of surplus was used to balance the budget. However, due to the amount of surplus in reserve and the efficiency in managing operations in 2019, it is anticipated the amount of surplus used will be regenerated thereby maintaining the surplus to a prudent governmental standard under generally accepted accounting principles and best practices.*

*Adoption of the 2019 municipal budget is anticipated to take place during the Council Meeting on June 5, 2019.*

*Resident involvement and transparency within my administration is extremely important. This is why, in addition to our two Open Public Budget Meetings, we decided to provide small group budget meetings, for a more personal experience to hear ideas from our residents. When I first announced our weekly small group budget meetings two years ago, we designated various times for these meetings to accommodate the hours in which our residents work. To accommodate our residents who work during the day, we added multiple small group budget meetings in the evenings. The purpose of holding these meetings is to connect on a more personal level with our residents and to have constructive dialogue to positively move the town forward on local taxes, budget and resident needs in order for us to consider these ideas before and after proposing the budget.*

*{Communication Channels}*

*Additional efforts to increase communication between the residents and my Administration are reflected in our social media outlets. We frequently update our website, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram accounts, as we know people like to digest their news across many media platforms. I am*

*grateful to be able to write a column in the Washington Township Sun newspaper each week to give updates on what is happening around the town and what we are doing to improve Washington Township. My administration continues to look for ways to communicate more effectively and efficiently with our residents, using channels in which they are most comfortable and familiar with. We are also available via phone, email, and personal meetings. I have stressed with Township employees the importance of responding efficiently to all requests as I understand and appreciate the time and effort it takes for residents to bring questions, issues and ideas to our attention.*

*{Human Resources}*

*In terms of increasing the level of service we provide to our residents, we have worked diligently to ensure our work environment is strictly professional at all times. To reinforce this and to minimize potential lawsuits, we have created an official Human Resources Department. We continue to schedule ongoing quarterly reviews of all department heads to evaluate year-to-date goal tracking and performance. Additionally, in 2017 we began conducting drug screening and criminal background checks for all potential new hires to Washington Township to ensure our employees are fit to serve the public. We also have mandatory Anti-Sexual Harassment seminars and Customer Service trainings for all Township employees.*

*{Economic Development}*

*I continue to work closely with the Economic Development Committee to develop plans to bring in new businesses and retain existing businesses. We are excited to build upon the services and products our town has to offer. We are looking to make the process of bringing business to Washington Township efficient on business owners and developers. Our Economic Development Consultant, Nancy Mozzachio continues to meet with individuals interested in purchasing the abandoned properties on Route 42. On March 13, she hosted a Roadshow Tour of these properties where many brokers, realtors, and potential buyers were able to tour these buildings and learn the specifics of each property. Additionally, she continues to meet with Township business owners to introduce them to our Shop Washington Township Program which benefits both the merchants and the residents of Washington Township. Nancy continues to network and meet with business owners who may be interested in bringing new business to the Township. She also just hosted our second successful Women's Entrepreneur and Women Owned Businesses event on May 6th at Rowan University. My administration is willing to put in the necessary work so that we can help Washington Township grow and be a business-friendly town.*

*{Cost Savings Initiatives}*

*Our Shop Washington Township Program continues to grow the number of participating merchants, as well as the amount of residents who are signing up for this program. The purpose of this program is for residents to shop local and support our local merchants while also receiving third quarter annual property tax rebates. It will also increase revenues to local businesses by encouraging customer loyalty to businesses within Washington Township. We currently have about 35 participating businesses in the Shop Washington Township Program. Be sure to visit [propertytaxcard.com](http://propertytaxcard.com) to view the list of participating merchants. You may also pick up a Shop Washington Township card at the Municipal Building. They are available in every department with instructions on how to register your card. Prior to my administration, there was no formal vehicle fleet replacement and accountability plan in place. At my direction, beginning in 2017, the Business Administrator has been working with the department heads from Public Works, Zoning and Construction as well as the Chief of Police to put together a formal plan. This plan involves reducing insurance payments by eliminating obsolete and unused vehicles between the departments. This cost reduction plan will also allow for reducing the fleet size, selling specific*

vehicles to recoup funds and create efficiency, so we are using our resources wisely.

*{Capital Improvements}*

*There will be several Capital improvements throughout the Township this year. The 2019 Capital Budget includes improvements such as the purchasing of 13 new fully-fitted police vehicles, along with completing Police Administration Building improvements. We will also continue the continuation of the records retention initiative for the Clerk's Office software and equipment to restructure retention of permanent records. Also, the restoration and re-opening of Washington Lake which will include the addition of walking and bike paths which will once again be available for residents to utilize. Additionally, there will be improvements made to the Washington Lake Park playground, along with the addition of an ADA compliant swing so that all children of all abilities can have a place to play. Also being enhanced at Washington Lake Park, will be the tennis courts and roller hockey rink for all to enjoy. Finally, you will notice our Bike Share Program kiosk where residents will be able to rent a bike to use in Washington Lake Park, free of charge.*

*{School Safety}*

*My administration has worked closely with the Washington Township School Administration and the Washington Township Police Department to ensure the safety of our students and school staff. We have increased the police presence within the schools by increasing the number of School Resource Officers. Safety in our Township, especially within the schools, is a top priority for my administration. We will continue to keep up police presence for the safety of our students and teachers. Finally, I would like to thank all members of Council and the residents of Washington Township for your continued support. Thank you to the many individuals who have reached out to me directly to offer their thoughts and constructive ideas to better our community. We appreciate your patience as we listen to your concerns and find different ways to move the Township forward. We strive every day to keep Washington Township a great place in which to live, work, and raise a family.*

THANK YOU.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**R106-2019 RESOLUTION FOR SELF EXAMINATION OF BUDGET**

Mr. Perry asked for a motion to approve R106-2019. Mrs. Williams motioned. Mr. Longfellow seconded. There was no discussion. All voted yes.

**R107-2019 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INTRODUCED 2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET TO BE READ BY TITLE ONLY**

Mr. Perry asked for a motion to approve R107-2019. Mrs. Dougherty motioned. Mr. Longfellow seconded. There was no discussion. All voted yes.

**R108-2019 RESOLUTION TO INTRODUCE THE 2019 TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON BUDGET**

Mr. Perry asked for a motion to approve R108-2019. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Mrs. Williams seconded. All voted yes. There was a discussion to move the June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting up to June 5<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Perry asked for a motion to moved the meeting from June 12 to June 5<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Perry motioned. Mrs. Williams seconded. All voted yes. Mr. Platt asked the Township Clerk to advertise the change.

**The following Resolutions are by consent agenda and only require a vote for all listed.**

**Ms. Pasqualone asked if Resolution R116-2019 could be removed from the consent agenda and voted upon separately. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Mr. Perry Seconded. All voted yes.**

## RESOLUTIONS

- R109-2019** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS
- R110-2019** RESOLUTION APPROVING LARGE GATHERING APPLICATION FOR WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MINUTEMEN MARCHING BAND BOOSTERS
- R111-2019** RESOLUTION RETURNING \$200 CASH SECURITY BOND FOR PEDDLERS LICENSE TO THE BONDING AGENT DEAN SPANN
- R112-2019** RESOLUTION AWARDDING A CONTRACT FOR WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP 2018 ROAD PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS-PHASE I PROJECT 08-18-T-378 TO GWP ENTERPRISES, INC.
- R113-2019** RESOLUTION AWARDDING A CONTRACT FOR WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP 2018ROAD PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS-PHASE II PROJECT 08-18-T-378 TO LEXA CONCRETE, LLC
- R114-2019** RESOLUTION AWARDDING A CONTRACT FOR WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP 2018 ROAD IMPROVEMENTS-LUPUS LANE PROJECT 08-18-T-378 TO SOUTH STATE INC.
- R115-2019** RESOLUTION AWARDDING A CONTRACT FOR WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP EMERGENCY GENERATOR IMROVEMENTS (2019 CDBG) PROJECT 08-18-T-383 TO RONALD JANNEY ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR, INC.
- R117-2019** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER TO PROVIDE FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT
- R118-2019** RESOLUTION CANCELLING TAXES FOR TYLER KERN, A TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN, BLOCK 80.01, LOT 75, 3 MICHELE COURT, EFFECTIVE APRIL 29, 2019

Mr. Perry asked for a motion to approve consent agenda for Resolutions R109-2019 to R115-2019 and R117-2019 to R118-2019. Mrs. Williams motioned. Mrs. Dougherty seconded. There was no discussion. All voted yes.

**R116-2019** RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2019 FIREWORKS DISPLAY AND AWARDDING A CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,500.00 TO SCHAEFER FIREWORKS, INC.

Ms. Pasqualone asked if this went out on RFP. Mr. Platt stated that because we have a Qualified Purchasing Agent we did not have to go out on RFP, this qualified only for quotes. Mr. Perry asked for a motion to approve R116-2019. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Mr. Perry seconded. All voted yes.

## OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Council members have nothing to report.

## REPORTS

**Ms. Pasqualone**-had nothing to report. **Mrs. Dougherty**-Memorial Day event will be held at Veterans Park. **Mrs. Williams**- May is mental health awareness month, the National Alliance on Mental Illness organization will be hosting a free event in Atkinson's Park Pavilion on May 9<sup>th</sup>, if anyone is looking for more information, they can go to NAAMI.org. **Mr. Longfellow**-Washington Township Green Team

received a grant and has many events scheduled for Super Saturday. **Mayor Gattinelli**- Super Saturday is May 11<sup>th</sup> at Washington Lake Park. Mayor Congratulated the 9 Officers that received awards. Thanked everyone that came out for Battle of the Badges Blood Drive and announced that the Police Department was the winner. Also thanked everyone involved.

**Mr. Perry**-Walmart/Sam's club is sponsoring the 6<sup>th</sup> annual National Campaign to fight against hunger, anyone interested can go on [feedamerica.org/Walmart](http://feedamerica.org/Walmart) to make donations.

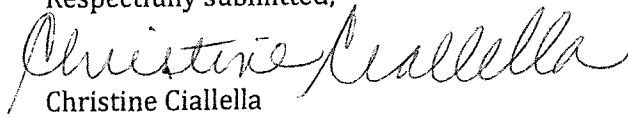
**Public Participation:**

Mr. Perry asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public. Ms. Pasqualone motioned. Mrs. Dougherty seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. No one from the public wished to speak. Mr. Perry asked for a motion to close the meeting to the public Mr. Longfellow motioned. Mrs. Williams seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

**ADJOURMENT**

Mr. Perry asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Pasqualone motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Longfellow seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:44. The next Council meeting is scheduled for May 22, 2019 at 7p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Christine Ciallella  
Township Clerk



Joe Perry  
Council President