

**Township of Washington
Gloucester County
Council Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2017
7:00 P.M.**

Council President Nick Fazzio called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M. in the Council Room located at 523 Egg Harbor Road, Sewell, New Jersey. The flag salute followed. Mr. Fazzio delivered the Sunshine notice and the safety awareness video and cell phone notices.

Township Clerk Leo Selb took a roll call vote. Councilmembers Donato, Fazzio, Longfellow, Pasqualone, Perry were present. Township Solicitor Mr. Platt, Business Administrator Mr. Gonter and Mayor Gattinelli were present.

Mayor Gattinelli presented Eagle Scout Jason Hamilton Thorpe with a PROCLAMTION.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Fazzio asked for a motion to enter into Executive session R127-2017 for litigation. Mr. Perry motioned. Mr. Longfellow seconded. All in favor. Entered at 7:10pm

Mr. Fazzio asked for a motion to return from executive session. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Ms. Donato seconded. All in favor. Reentered Public Portion at 7:40pm.

APPROVAL OF THE BILL LIST

Mr. Fazzio asked for a motion to approve the March 22, 2017 bill list. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Ms. Donato seconded. All voted yes.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Fazzio asked for a motion to approve the March 22, 2017 Minutes. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Ms. Donato seconded. Ms. Donato, Ms. Pasqualone and Mr. Perry voted yes. Mr. Fazzio recused himself. Mr. Longfellow abstained.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Mr. Fazzio asked for a motion to approve the March 22, 2017 Executive Session Minutes. All voted yes. Mr. Fazzio recused himself.

PRESENTATION

Mayor Gattinelli presented to Council Budget address.

RESOLUTIONS

R117-2017 RESOLUTION TO INTRODUCE THE 2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Mr. Longfellow motioned. Ms. Donato seconded. All voted yes.

R118-2017 RESOLUTION AWARDDING A CONTRACT TO SOUTH STATE, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$861,671.75 FOR WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP 2016 ROAD PROGRAM –PHASE II

Mr. Perry motioned. Mr. Longfellow seconded. All voted yes. Mr. Fazzio abstained.

R119-2017 RESOLUTION AWARDDING A CONTRACT TO SOUTH STATE, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$131,428.30 FOR NJDOT-RECONSTRUCTION OF STAGECOACH ROAD

Mr. Longfellow motioned. Mr. Perry seconded. All voted yes. Mr. Fazzio abstained.

R120-2017 RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO R. MOSLOWSKI EXC. INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$87,118.00 FOR LAKE AVENUE EROSION/STABILIZATION

Ms. Donato motioned. Mr. Perry seconded. All voted yes. Mr. Fazio abstained.

R121-2017 RESOLUTION APPROVING RELEASE OF A CASH BOND FOR 1 ATLAS COURT

Mr. Longfellow motioned. Mr. Fazio seconded. All voted yes.

R122-2017 RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR BANKING SERVICES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON-Republic Bank

Mr. Platt thanked Robin Sarlo and Colette Bachich for their hard work with the RFP process.

Mr. Longfellow motioned. Ms. Donato seconded. All voted yes.

R123-2017 RESOLUTION DESIGNATING DEPOSITORY FOR MUNICIPAL FUNDS

Mr. Longfellow motioned. Ms. Donato seconded. All voted yes.

R124-2017 RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE LEASE OF PROPERTY OWNED BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON KNOWN AS 339 SALINA ROAD, SEWELL, NJ 08080, BLOCK 20 LOT 3

Mr. Longfellow motioned. Ms. Donato seconded. All voted yes.

R125-2017 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR LAWN SERVICES

Ms. Donato motioned. Mr. Longfellow seconded. All voted yes.

R126-2017 RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR FY2016 NJDOT TRUST FUND RECONSTRUCTION OF BETHEL MILL ROAD

Mr. Perry motioned. Mr. Longfellow seconded. All voted yes. Mr. Fazio abstained.

R128-2017 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENTRY INTO THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT IN LITIGATION INVOLVING TIMOTHY ANTANASSI V. TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON

Mr. Perry motioned. Mr. Fazio seconded. Mr. Longfellow, Mr. Perry, Mr. Fazio and Ms. Donato voted yes.

Ms. Pasqualone voted no.

R129-2017 RESOLUTION APPROVING TRI-PARTITE TRAFFIC SIGNAL AGREEMENT

Mr. Fazio asked for a motion to table R129-2017. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Mr. Fazio seconded. All voted yes.

R130-2017 RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO PUBLIC PORTIONS AT WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETINGS

Mr. Perry motioned. Mr. Longfellow seconded. Discussion among councilmembers and the Township solicitor.

Mr. Fazio commented that he is not in favor of this resolution. Ms. Pasqualone commented that she agrees with most of the points, she disagrees with the item #1 and feels it should be amended.

Ms. Pasqualone made a motion to table R130-2017. Mr. Fazio seconded. Ms. Donato, Mr. Longfellow and Mr. Perry voted no. Ms. Pasqualone and Mr. Fazio voted yes.

Mr. Longfellow motioned for R130-2017 with amendment to item #1; which was after Council meetings add "must treat each other,". Ms. Donato motioned. All voted yes. Ms. Pasqualone voted no.

Ms. Pasqualone motioned to amend item #6. Mr. Fazio seconded. Ms. Donato, Mr. Longfellow, Mr. Perry and Mr. Fazio voted no. Ms. Pasqualone voted yes.

Mr. Fazio asked for motion with amendments to item #1. Mr. Perry motioned. Mr. Longfellow seconded. All voted yes. Ms. Pasqualone voted no.

Mr. Fazio asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add Resolution 131-2017. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Ms. Donato seconded. All in favor.

R131-2017 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE LAND CONSERVANCY OF NEW JERSEY TO UPDATE THE OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN FOR WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

Mr. Longfellow motioned. Mr. Fazio seconded. All voted yes.

ORDINANCES

005-2017 ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 179 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON ENTITLED "PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND HOUSING STANDARDS"

Mr. Fazio asked for a motion to un-table 005-2017. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Mr. Perry seconded. All voted yes.

Mr. Fazio asked for a motion to open to the public. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Ms. Donato seconded. All voted yes. Bob Alvarez-Resident, stated that he feels this Ordinance should be passed because the state has not instituted proper maintenance direction to the people and feels this would be beneficial to the Township. Mr. Platt stated that he would contact zoning officer to make a report on vacant properties. Daniel Coughlin Resident, asked who this does this Ordinance pertain too? Brought up vacant properties and how it is bringing current neighborhoods down. Mr. Platt stated that this applies to all properties and that the Construction official requested that this be added to our code for abandoned and vacant properties as housing standards. Mr. Fazio asked for a motion to close to the public. Mr. Longfellow motioned. All in favor.

Mr. Longfellow motioned. Ms. Donato seconded. All voted yes.

006-2017 ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 260-25 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON ENTITLED "STOP INTERSECTIONS"

Mr. Fazio asked for a motion to adopt 006-2017. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Ms. Donato seconded. All voted yes. The hearing on this Ordinance will take place on May 10, 2017.

007-2017 PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED EXPENSES IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP, APPROPRIATING \$5,828,900 THEREFOR, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$5,537,455 IN GENERAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE THE SAME.-Introduction Only

Mr. Fazio asked for a motion to adopt 006-2017. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Ms. Donato seconded. All voted yes. The hearing on this Ordinance will take place on May 10, 2017

008-2017 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK-Introduction only

Mr. Fazio asked for a motion to adopt 008-2017. Mr. Perry motioned. Mr. Longfellow motioned. All voted yes. Ms. Pasqualone abstained. The hearing on the Ordinance will take place on May 10,2017

OLD BUSINESS

Councilmembers had nothing to report. Mr. Longfellow brought up the hiring process and is looking forward to working out a new process.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmembers had nothing to report. Mr. Fazio reported that the Historic Commission clean-up day is April 22, 2017 @ 9:00 a.m., at the Old Stone House, volunteers are needed.

REPORTS

Mr. Longfellow reports - Earth day festivities are moving right along, anyone interested can find information online and also reported that the Community Garden is now open. **Ms. Pasqualone** reports Sports Advisory Board-Soccer 14th Annual Easter Classic April 15th, 200 teams participating,

during the event they will be having a food drive to support Mother's Cupboard. Soccer program has partnered with PADD to bring awareness to distracted driving. Softball's opening day ceremony will be Saturday, April 22nd at 8 am at location #9 in Washington Lake Park, there will be a parade and speakers. Lacrosse has Brewster's Ice Cream night coming up, details to follow. The Board of Education had three (3) presentations that took place at their last meeting; Thomas Jefferson Elementary School introduced a new Kindergarten Program, Hoagie Sale raised \$53,000 for families in need, adoption of the school budget is scheduled for April 26th at 7 p.m. The next Economic Development meeting will be held on May 3rd at 6 p.m. **Mr. Perry** had nothing to report. **Mr. Fazzio** reports that the Old Stone House 9th Annual Classic Car Show will be held on Saturday April 29th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., music, baskets and classic cars will be on display. **Ms. Donato** reports that April 8th she did a ride along with Officer Freitag for the Distracted Driving Grant from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. during that time they ticketed eleven (11) drivers for either texting or holding phone up to their ear while driving, the Grant is going very well. Just a reminder to please keep your eyes on the road. On April 15th PADD is having 5th Annual walk at Washington Lake Park at 9 a.m., anyone interested can register online at PADD.com.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Fazzio asked for a motion to open to the public. Mr. Perry motioned. Mr. Longfellow seconded. All in favor.

Bob Abbott- 195 Fries Mill Road- thanked the Mayor and Council for giving a proclamation to Jason Thorpe means a lot to the Veterans. Also thanked the Mayor for the designated parking spots for combat Veterans. **Jerry Keer**-Whitman Square. Asked where we stand with the petitions for the salary ordinance? Also, asked when will the paving of Stage Coach Road begin? Township Clerk responded that we are going forward in the process and it will take as long as it takes. Stagecoach Rd is going to start soon. **Bob Alvarez** Resident- He thanked the Mayor on the update with the budget. Asked what is the definition of CAP bank? The CFO stated that CAP bank means directly applied to the tax levy CAP. The budget will be read as title only, however full budget can be viewed online for anyone interested. **Mary Behm**- Dew Court Resident-disappointed on the vote for Resolution 130-2017. **Giancarlo D'Orazio** -11 Buckingham Court-commented on the time limit for public speaking-feels the time limit is unjustified. Asked if other towns had time limit on public speaking? What are the legal fees for the Tarasavich case? How does one obtain executive minutes? Township Clerk advised the release of executive session minutes would have to be done by resolution with Council approval and then an OPRA request may be submitted. Township Solicitor stated that other towns have time limits on public speaking. **Ginny Murphy** -53 Goodwin Parkway-Questioned 005-2017-what is the municipal CAP? **Daniel Coughlin**- New Birch Rd-How much does an average snow storm cost the Township? Does the business administrator have the authority to sign his own check? What is our bond rating? And what is annual debt service? Is there training in the workplace? Township Solicitor stated that the cost of an average snow storm is about \$50,000 approximate. The CFO advised the Bond rating is AA2 and annual debt service is 2.525 million dollars. The Solicitor advised the business administrator cannot sign his own checks. The township is in the process of putting together training for current employees. **Frank Cianci**-Twin Ponds-Ask what is the update on the previous Business Administrator possible litigation. Feels the Township should have refresher courses for employees. Thanked the Mayor for not raising taxes. Township Solicitor stated that they do not have an update just yet and training courses are in progress.

Mr. Fazzio asked for a motion to close to the public. Mr. Longfellow motioned. Mr. Fazzio seconded. All in favor

OPEN PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING-Special Meeting

Will be held Thursday, April 27, 2017 @ 5:30p.m. at the Municipal Building located at 523 Egg Harbor Rd, Sewell, NJ 08080, with Department Heads present.

Ms. Donato motioned. Ms. Pasqualone seconded. All voted yes.

ADJOURN

Mr. Fazzio asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Pasqualone motioned. Mr. Longfellow seconded. All voted yes. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M