**TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON**
**GLOUCESTER COUNTY**
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**
**OCTOBER 8, 2025**
**6:00 P.M.**

Councilman Mr. Del Borrello called the meeting to order at 6:10 P.M. in the council room located at 523 Egg Harbor Road, Sewell, New Jersey. Mr. Del Borrello delivered the Sunshine Notice and safety awareness notices.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
Councilman Mr. Del Borrello led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**
Township Clerk Ms. Ciallella took roll call. Councilmembers Mr. Brown, Mr. Harris, Ms. Pasqualone, Mr. Yerkes and Mr. Del Borrello were present. Mayor DellaPia, Business Administrator Mr. Russo and Attorney Mr. Rooney were present.

**PRESENTATIONS**
- Director of Public Works Frank Altamuro gave an update on leaf collection.

Loose leaf collection begins October 27th. This is for leaves only, no sticks, branches, etc. This does not affect regular trash collection. Leaves at the street will be picked up the day after your regular trash day. No leaf collection on Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and the day after Thanksgiving. Please check our website for the make up dates. Public Works Department is working hard on issues regarding missed trash or missed bulk pick up. As a reminder, do not place plastic bags in the recycling can because the Township is fined for this. Fines in August totaled $5,400 and September totaled $5,200. If you are unsure what is recyclable, throw it out in your regular trash. Violators will be fined. The trash yard will be open the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Leaves do not go in the recycling can, only grass clippings and branches. If you have a stormwater drain near your home, please keep leaves 10' away for proper drainage.

- Mayor and Council recognized Gloucester County Teacher of the Year Sandy Fitzpatrick of Birches Elementary School. Sandy Fitzpatrick spoke about her dream to be a kindergarten teacher becoming reality.
- Mayor and Council recognized retiring Crossing Guards Catherine Hankins (21 years of service) and Nancy Pierznik (14 years of service). Catherine Hankins noted that they loved the job and love and care about the children of Washington Township.
- Council President Del Borrello read aloud a Proclamation for Italian - American Heritage Month that Mayor and Council will present to Bob Pantano at a later date.
- Councilwoman Pasqualone, along with Mayor and Council, presented Alyssa Raymond with a Proclamation for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Alyssa Raymond thanked Mayor and Council and spoke about the need for early detection as it saved her life.
- Councilman Brown, along with Mayor and Council, presented Amanda Esposito with a Proclamation for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Amanda Esposito thanked Mayor and Council and gave a moving speech about her journey with domestic violence and her mission with Compass Revival Project advocacy services.
- Councilman Harris, along with Mayor and Council, presented Glendy Perez with a Proclamation for Hispanic Heritage Month. Glendy and her daughter Naomi spoke about their store, Calenda Mexican Store, located in Echo Plaza at 309 Fries Mills Road, Suite 19. Stop by and try their homemade ice cream and many other items.

▪ High School Juniors Paige Sawyer, Avery Kraus and Brandon Fitzpatrick spoke about their involvement in Washington Township High School Interact Club. Interact helps those in need with their Trunk or Treat, Red Cross blood drive and their 5th annual Turkey Trot which raises money for families in need as well as make a donation to CHOP Research Center. They are currently collecting items to create care packages for cancer patients undergoing chemo. There is a box in the lobby of the Municipal Building for donations of chapstick, tissues, lotion, hand sanitizer, juice boxes, pretzels, peanut butter crackers, puzzle books and cards of encouragement.

**APPROVAL OF THE BILL LIST**

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to approve the October 8, 2025 Bill List. Mr. Brown motioned. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Mr. Harris, Ms. Pasqualone, Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Brown and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for September 24, 2025. Mr. Brown motioned. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Mr. Harris, Ms. Pasqualone, Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Brown and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes.

**ORDINANCES**

**O020-2025 ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 260 SECTION 14 ENTITLED "PARKING PROHIBITED AT ALL TIMES ON CERTAIN STREETS"**

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to open to the public Ordinance O020-2025. Mr. Yerkes motioned. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Mr. Harris, Ms. Pasqualone, Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Brown and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes.

No one wished to speak.

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to close to the public Ordinance O020-2025. Mr. Yerkes motioned. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Mr. Harris, Ms. Pasqualone, Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Brown and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes.

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance O020-2025. Mr. Brown motioned. Mr. Yerkes seconded the motion. Mr. Harris, Ms. Pasqualone, Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Brown and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes.

**O021-2025 ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 246 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON ENTITLED "TOWING"**

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to open to the public Ordinance O021-2025. Mr. Brown motioned. Ms. Pasqualone seconded the motion. Mr. Harris, Ms. Pasqualone, Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Brown and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes.

No one wished to speak.

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to close to the public Ordinance O021-2025. Mr. Brown motioned. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. Mr. Harris, Ms. Pasqualone, Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Brown and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes.

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance O021-2025. Mr. Brown motioned. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. Mr. Harris, Ms. Pasqualone, Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Brown and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes.

**O022-2025 ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY NEGOTIATION OR EMINENT DOMAIN OF REAL PROPERTY DESIGNATED AS PART OF BLOCK 193, LOTS 2 AND 2.01 ON THE TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON**

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to introduce Ordinance 0022-2025. Mr. Yerkes motioned. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Mr. Harris, Ms. Pasqualone, Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Brown and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes. Public Hearing and Adoption will take place on October 22, 2025.

**RESOLUTIONS**

Motion for **Resolution R231-2025 - RESOLUTION FOR THE GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION OF THE ANNUAL AUDIT** to remain on the table. Mr. Brown motioned. Mr. Yerkes seconded the motion. Mr. Harris, Ms. Pasqualone, Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Brown and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes.

**The following Resolutions were part of the consent agenda and only required a vote for all listed. Township Clerk Ciallella read each one by title.**

**R255-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR SNOW PLOWING SERVICES FOR THE 2025-2026 SEASON**

**R256-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SURPLUS TOWNSHIP PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE THROUGH GOVDEALS.COM PUBLIC ONLINE AUCTION**

**R257-2025 RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FOR THE AGGRESSIVE DRIVING GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF $2,520.00**

**R258-2025 RESOLUTION REQUESTING APPROVAL OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS FOR THE RECREATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF $450,000.00**

**R259-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS**

**R260-2025 RESOLUTION CANCELLING TAXES FOR MATTHEW RYAN LaBENZ TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN, BLOCK 198.09 LOT 22, 408 TIMOTHY TERRACE, EFFECTIVE AUGUST 19, 2025**

**R261-2025 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING GUARANTEES AND ENGINEERING INSPECTION ESCROW FROM FETCH FAMILY PET RESORT, 284 DELSEA DRIVE, SEWELL, NJ 08080, BLOCK 32 LOT 1.02, PROJECT #WATPX25102, ESCROW #0208, BOND #8257 AND #8258**

**R262-2025 RESOLUTION ACCEPTING GUARANTEES AND ENGINEERING INSPECTION ESCROW FROM GREEN VINE DISPENSARY, 301 DELSEA DRIVE, SEWELL, NJ 08080, BLOCK 35 LOT 22, PROJECT #WATPX25103, ESCROW #0205, BOND #8259, #8260 AND #8261**

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to approve Resolution R255-2025 through R262-2025. Mr. Yerkes motioned. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Mr. Harris, Ms. Pasqualone, Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Brown and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes.

**OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS / REPORTS**

- **Mr. Harris** – Recognized Amanda Espositio and was very moved by her words, strength, bravery and helping others. ◈ This Monday at 6:00 PM at Joe Micucci Field is the Pink Pep Rally Battle of the Teams Cheer for a Cure. Come out for the fun! ◈ The Shred Event is October 25th at the Municipal Building. ◈ Thank you to the students of Interact. Please support them and their events.
- **Mr. Yerkes** – The Veterans Day service will be November 11th at 11:00 AM. Please come out to honor our Veterans. ◈ High School Band Director Calvin Spencer, organized a dinner for Veterans

on October 26th at 5:00 PM with a musical to follow at 7:00 PM. Township Veterans are invited to attend. ◈ We were assessed over $10,000 in fines for putting plastic bags in with recycling. This is waste of taxpayer dollars that could be used for something else. Please do not put plastic bags in recycling. ◈ The Fightin' Phils play tonight at 9:00 PM. Let's hope for win!

- **Mayor DellaPia** – Congratulations Sandy Fitzpatrick! We are lucky to have her in our district. Congratulations to the retiring crossing guards! Thank you for keeping our kids safe! ◈ Recognized Paige and her friends! It is refreshing to see young people getting involved in the community. ◈ He attended the grand opening of Heart and Paw Veterinarian and Animal Hospital. ◈ The Historic Commission did a great job at their fall festival. ◈ The first podcast episode was filmed. The name of the podcast is Beyond the Welcome Sign; we want to give insight about what happens in our town. ◈ October 17th is the Spirit Parade and Homecoming festivities at the High School. Come out and support the students!
- **Mr. Brown** – It was an emotional night. Domestic violence is something both he and Chief Gurcsik deal with. Please support Amanda with this cause. ◈ Check the Fire Department's website for Fire Prevention Month activities. Please be sure to change your battery when you change your clocks. ◈ In Library news - Dan Lieb will be discussing New Jersey Shipwrecks on October 18th at 1:00 PM. There is a paranormal presentation on October 28th. There is a World War II Veteran presentation on November 8th. Advanced registration is required for these events.
- **Mr. Del Borrello** – Alyssa, Sandy and Amanda are inspiring member of our community! Be sure to stop by Palmisano's to try the Sandy Fitzpatrick sandwich. ◈ There is a candlelight tour coming up at the Olde Stone House Village. ◈ On October 21st at 7:00 PM there is a ceremony to honor the 26th anniversary of Corporal Steve Levy's passing. ◈ Duffield's has a corn maze to benefit Cole Fitzgerald's family on October 18th. ◈ Congratulations retiring office Sergeant Kevin Convery! ◈ The Washington Township Police Honor Guard performed at the last Eagles game. ◈ He recently toured BestWork Industries for the Blind. They have a factory where they sew. He also attended a fundraiser where you eat blindfolded so you can experience what it is like to be blind. ◈ The Food Truck and Music Festival will be held Saturday, October 11th from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM in Washington Lake Park. There will be food trucks, live music, vendors, kids activities and more! Come out and join the fun! ◈ The Municipal Building will be closed on Monday, October 13th in observance of the Columbus Day/Indigenous People Holiday. ◈ Vehicle theft is on the rise! Please be sure to lock your car doors every night and take your keys/fob inside your house with you. If you suspect suspicious activity, please contact the police. ◈ Please visit our website for information and updates about the new trash and recycling collection process effective June 30, 2025. ◈ The Margaret E. Heggan Library offers many events. Please check their website for information on Heggan Happenings! ◈ All dogs in the Township are required to be registered and vaccinated. Please stop in the Clerk's Office to register your dog. ◈ The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 4th. The deadline to register to vote is October 14th. Forms can be obtained online or in the Clerk's Office. The secure drop boxes are open throughout the county.
- **Mayor DellaPia** asked **Council President** for a moment of silence for the passing of Jerry Dasti, Washington Township's Affordable Housing Attorney.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public. Mr. Yerkes motioned. Ms. Pasqualone seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the members present.

- **Maxine Cangelose**, 911 Whitman Drive – Would like people to be required to clean up their properties and be held accountable with fines.
- **Mr. Rooney** explained due process which takes time. The goal is to bring people into compliance. Suggested Maxine reach out to the Township with specifics.

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to close the meeting to the public. Mr. Brown motioned. Ms. Pasqualone seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the members present.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Del Borrello stated Council will be going into Executive Session regarding litigation which will last about 60 minutes and action may be taken. Motion was made by Mr. Yerkes to approve **R263-2025 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION** for Litigation – Martino Cartier v. Washington Township. Ms. Pasqualone seconded the motion. Mr. Harris, Ms. Pasqualone, Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Brown and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes

Executive Session was entered into at 7:37 PM.

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to exit Executive Session at 8:28 PM. Mr. Brown motioned. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. Mr. Harris, Ms. Pasqualone, Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Brown and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The next Council meeting is scheduled for October 22, 2025 at 6:00 PM. Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Brown motioned. Mr. Harris seconded the motion. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Ciallella, RMC/CMR
Township Clerk

Peter Del Borrello, III
Council President