

**BOROUGH OF WESTWOOD
PUBLIC MEETING OF THE MAYOR & COUNCIL
AUGUST 18, 2015 MINUTES
MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
101 Washington Avenue
7:00 PM Executive Closed Session/8:00 pm Public Session**

1. Opening of the Meeting:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Birkner at 7:00 pm. Mayor Birkner then read the Open Public Meetings Law Statement: "This meeting which conforms with the Open Public Meetings law, Chapter 231, Public Laws of 1975, is a regular Borough Council meeting. Notices have been filed with our local official newspapers and posted on the municipal bulletin board."

2. Roll Call:

Mayor Birkner – Present
Councilmember Owens – Present
Councilmember Montana – Present
Councilmember Miller – Absent
Councilmember Grefrath – Present
Councilmember Bicocchi - Present
Council President Arroyo – Present
Borough Attorney Huntington – Present
Interim Administrator Kezmarsky - Present
Borough Clerk Hughes – Present

Committee Assignments:

Public Properties
Health & Recreation
Fire & Ambulance
Finance, Administration & Capital Projects
Land Use
Police & Emergency Management

3. Resolution #15 - 175: Executive Closed Session

Motion to adopt Resolution #15-175: Council President Arroyo Second: Councilmember Owens
Roll Call: Councilmember Owens - Yes Councilmember Montana - Yes
 Councilmember Miller – Absent Councilmember Grefrath - Yes
 Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes Council President Arroyo – Yes

4. Reopen the Meeting:

Motion to reopen the meeting: Councilmember Grefrath Second: Council President Arroyo
Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the affirmative. The time was 8:05 pm.

5. Roll Call II:

Mayor Birkner – Present / Councilmember Owens – Present / Councilmember Montana – Present /
Councilmember Miller – Absent / Councilmember Grefrath – Present / Councilmember Bicocchi -
Present / Council President Arroyo – Present / Interim Administrator Kezmarsky - Present /
Borough Attorney Huntington – Present / Borough Engineer Senkevich – Present / Borough Clerk
Hughes - Present

6. Flag Salute

Council President Arroyo gave the invocation. Mayor Birkner led those present in the salute to the flag.

**7. Approval of Minutes: February 10, February 17, March 3, March 7, March 17, March 24,
March 31, April 7**

Motion to Adopt Minute of February 10: Councilmember Grefrath Second: Councilmember
Bicocchi
Roll Call: Councilmember Owens - Yes Councilmember Montana - Abstain

Councilmember Miller – Absent
Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes

Councilmember Grefrath - Yes
Council President Arroyo – Yes

Motion to Adopt Minute of February 17, March 3, March 7, March 17, March 24 and March 31:

Councilmember Grefrath Second: Councilmember Owens

Roll Call: Councilmember Owens - Yes Councilmember Montana - Yes
Councilmember Miller – Absent Councilmember Grefrath - Yes
Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes Council President Arroyo – Yes

Motion to Adopt Minute of April 7: Councilmember Grefrath Second: Councilmember Owens

Roll Call: Councilmember Owens - Yes Councilmember Montana - Yes
Councilmember Miller – Absent Councilmember Grefrath - Yes
Councilmember Bicocchi – Abstain Council President Arroyo – Yes

8. Oath of Office - Officer Ryan Casey

9. Proclamations for 20 Year of Service - Hutchinson, McClutchy, McNiff

10. Westwood Recreation Boys 13U Baseball Champions Certificate Presentation

11. Reports of Committees and Officials:

A) Mayor's Report

a) Energy Strong Project

Mayor Birkner gave an update on the status of the PSEG Energy Strong project paving. There are still a few roads that will be done under the Borough's 2015 paving project. Mayor Birkner commended the Police Department for their coordination of the project. He commented that the fresh black pavement will eventually fade and look like the existing gray pavement.

b) Woodcliff Lake Dam Project

Mayor Birkner reported on his visit to the Woodcliff Lake Dam with a United Water representative to check the status of the project to fortify and reconstruct the dam. This was a necessary project to reconstruct the old earthen dam to provide safety for those downstream. The expected completion date is December 2015. Mayor Birkner said despite his support for the project he remains absolutely opposed to the 95 foot elevation and committed to having the DEP, county and state officials join in insisting on a 91 foot elevation for the reservoir.

B) Engineer's Report

1) Biweekly Report

Mr. Senkevich reviewed the biweekly report, a copy of which is attached.

2) First & Elm/2014 Road Paving

Mr. Senkevich reviewed the bids for the First & Elm project and recommended awarding to DLS Contracting.

3) 2015 Road Paving

Mr. Senkevich explained that because the 2014 road paving came in so low, it might be possible to

award all the alternates for the 2015 road paving project by using the extra money in the 2014 bond. He recommended waiting to award until the next meeting so the CFO can look into it.

C) Council Liaison & Committee Reports

1) Finance, Administration and Capital Projects:

a) Bus Stops

Councilmember Grefrath announced that the Freeholders passed the resolution establishing the bus stops on Broadway and Third Avenue. The Borough's ordinance to codify the stops is on the consent agenda. Councilmember Grefrath greatly appreciates everyone's help.

b) Finance Update

The Finance Committee met on July 29th to review the five year projection plan prior to its presentation on August 25.

The CFO has received a complimentary letter regarding the summer intern Tyler Kocher. Councilmember Grefrath thanked Mr. Kocher for taking on all assignments with a positive, cheerful attitude.

c) Administrator Search

Councilmember Grefrath advised that the Administrator search committee will meet on August 27th to finalize the job description for presentation to the Council at the September meeting.

2) Fire and Ambulance:

Councilmember Grefrath noted he will be attending the Board of Fire Officers meetings in Councilmember Miller's place.

3) Health and Recreation:

a) Health Department Update

Councilmember Montana advised that the Board of Health adopted ordinances regarding e-cigarettes, and raising the age for nicotine sales to 21.

b) Recreation Update

Councilmember Montana commented that the summer concerts were very well attended. The summer movies have begun and are also being well-attended. He thanked the sponsors without whom the Recreation Department would not be able to run these programs. Mayor Birkner added that residents hang out after the concerts and movies and enjoy themselves. People from all over the tri-state area come for some of the bands. The programs show off Westwood, and the businesses love it.

c) Shade Tree

Councilmember Montana announced that there are still a few shade trees available for planting in the right-of-way. Two of the four species that have been planted in the past are being offered, to maintain continuity. Residents can call the DPW to request a tree on a first come, first served basis.

4) Land Use:

a) Construction Update

Councilmember Bicocchi advised that the projects on Kinderkamack are moving along well. Plans have been received for the hospital emergency room, and permits will be issued shortly. The Construction Department is dealing with property maintenance issues.

5) Police and OEM:

a) Generator

Council President Arroyo gave a quick history of the grant for a generator at the Community Center. A resolution on the consent agenda will authorize the agreement with FEMA to reserve the money for \$100,000 towards a generator, without obligating the Borough to use the grant.

6) Public Properties:

No report.

D) Attorney's Report

Mr. Huntington advised he will be meeting with the Borough Planner tomorrow to further develop the COAH plan.

E) Administrator's / Clerk's Report

Mayor Birkner commended Mr. Kezmarsky for handling the affairs of the Borough on a daily basis. He is expeditious, thorough and efficient. The learning curve is high but Mayor Birkner said Mr. Kezmarsky had tackled it head on and he appreciates it.

12. Agenda/Public Forum:

Motion to open Agenda/Public Forum: Councilmember Bicocchi Second: Council President Arroyo

Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the Affirmative.

No one wished to be heard.

Motion to close Agenda/Public Forum: Councilmember Bicocchi Second: Council President Arroyo

Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the affirmative.

13. Ordinances of First & Final Reading:

Ordinances on Introduction

15-20 An Ordinance Of The Borough Of Westwood, In The County Of Bergen, New Jersey, Providing For The Acquisition Of Various Equipment For The Borough Fire Department And Appropriating \$70,000 Therefor And Providing For The Issuance Of \$66,500 In Bonds Or Notes Of The Borough Of Westwood To Finance The Same

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance #15-20 entitled "An Ordinance Of The Borough Of Westwood, In The County Of Bergen, New Jersey, Providing For The Acquisition Of Various Equipment For The Borough Fire Department And Appropriating \$70,000 Therefor And Providing For The Issuance Of \$66,500 In Bonds Or Notes Of The Borough Of Westwood To Finance The Same" is hereby introduced by title; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby directed to advertise said

ordinance with a September 15, 2015 hearing date in the official newspaper according to law.

Motion to pass the ordinance on First Reading: Councilmember Grefrath Second:

Councilmember Bicocchi

Roll Call: Councilmember Owens - Yes

Councilmember Miller – Absent

Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes

Councilmember Montana - Yes

Councilmember Grefrath - Yes

Council President Arroyo – Yes

15-21 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 375 Vehicles And Traffic, Article X Bus Stops

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance #15-21 entitled “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 375 Vehicles And Traffic, Article X Bus Stops” is hereby introduced by title; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby directed to advertise said ordinance with a September 15, 2015 hearing date in the official newspaper according to law.

Motion to pass the ordinance on First Reading: Councilmember Grefrath Second:

Councilmember Montana

Roll Call: Councilmember Owens - Yes

Councilmember Miller – Absent

Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes

Councilmember Montana - Yes

Councilmember Grefrath - Yes

Council President Arroyo – Yes

14. Presentation of Bills, Financial Reports and Resolutions:

Councilmember Grefrath asked if there were any resolutions to add to the Consent Agenda. He stated that any Councilmembers who wished to remove any Resolution(s) to be voted upon separately could do so at this time, otherwise the Consent Agenda would be enacted in one motion. Resolution k was removed at this time.

Resolutions as Consent Agenda:

a) **Resolution #15 - 176: Bill List & Statement of Cash**

b) **Resolution #15 - 177: Authorizing Refund of Taxes B2109 Lot 5.02**

c) **Resolution #15 - 178: Authorizing Refund of Taxes B811 L11**

d) **Resolution #15 - 179: Endorsement - CD Grant Application for Pascack Valley Meals on Wheels**

e) **Resolution #15 - 180: Renewal of 2015-2016 Liquor Licenses**

f) **Resolution #15 - 181: Status Change of Tax Assessor**

g) **Resolution #15 - 182: Authorizing A Shared Services Agreement Between the Borough of Westwood and County of Bergen for Flood Plain Protection Planning Services**

h) **Resolution #15 - 183: Authorizing Emergency Notification Provider**

i) **Resolution #15 - 184: Authorization to Purchase Radio Equipment Under State Contract**

j) **Resolution #15 - 185: Award of Contract For The 2015 NJDOT First Avenue and Elm Street Improvements and 2014 Road Resurfacing Program**

~~k) Resolution #15 - : Award of Contract for the 2015 Road Resurfacing Program~~

l) **Resolution #15 - 186: 2016-2017 CD Grant Endorsement - Thomas J. Riley Senior Center Corp.**

- m) Resolution #15 - 187: Authorizing Execution of Sub Grant Agreement for HMGP Grant Award for Generator**
- n) Resolution #15 - 188: Renewal of Membership in the Bergen County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund**

Motion to adopt resolutions #15-176 through #15-188: Councilmember Grefrath

Second: Councilmember Bicocchi

Roll Call: Councilmember Owens - Yes

Councilmember Montana - Yes

Councilmember Miller – Absent

Councilmember Grefrath - Yes

Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes

Council President Arroyo – Yes

15. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn: Council President Arroyo Second: Councilmember Bicocchi

Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the affirmative.

The time was 9:00 pm.

Attest:

(signed) Karen Hughes

Karen Hughes, RMC, Borough Clerk

Proofed by: Denise Holmes, Deputy Clerk