

**120th
REORGANIZATION MEETING OF THE MAYOR & COUNCIL
BOROUGH OF WESTWOOD, NEW JERSEY
COMMUNITY CENTER
55 JEFFERSON AVENUE
JANUARY 2, 2014**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Birkner called the 120th Reorganization Meeting of the Mayor and Council to order at 7:00 PM and 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. FLAG SALUTE AND INVOCATION:

The Colors were presented by the Westwood Police Reserves Color Guard.

The invocation was delivered by Father Barbieto.

3. COUNCILMEMBERS - ELECT:

Robert Miller was administered his Oath of Office as Member of the Council for a three year term by Mayor Birkner, Jr. Term expiring 12/31/16. Councilmember Miller thanked his family and supporters. At the conclusion of his remarks, Councilmember Miller took his seat on the dais.

Robert Bicocchi was administered his Oath of Office as Member of the Council for a three year term by Mayor Birkner, Jr. Term expiring 12/31/16. Councilmember Bicocchi thanked his family and supporters. At the conclusion of his remarks, Councilmember Bicocchi took his seat on the dais.

4. ROLL CALL

Mayor Birkner - present
Councilmember Arroyo - present
Councilmember Bicocchi - present
Councilmember Grefrath - present
Councilmember Miller - present
Councilmember Sciara - present
Councilmember Waneck - present
Borough Administrator Hoffmann - present
Borough Clerk Hughes - present

5. PRESENTATION TO OUTGOING COUNCILMEMBER:

Mayor Birkner asked former Councilmember Ingrid Quinn to join him for a presentation. Former Councilmember Quinn addressed the audience.

6. APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH PROFESSIONALS

Resolution #14-1: Appointment of Borough Attorney

Motion: Councilmember Arroyo Second: Councilmember Bicocchi

Roll Call: Councilmember Arroyo – Yes Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes
 Councilmember Grefrath – Yes Councilmember Miller – Yes
 Councilmember Sciara – Yes Councilmember Waneck – Yes

Resolution #14-2: Appointment of Borough Engineer

Motion: Councilmember Grefrath Second: Councilmember Miller

Roll Call: Councilmember Arroyo – Yes Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes
 Councilmember Grefrath – Yes Councilmember Miller – Yes
 Councilmember Sciara – Yes Councilmember Waneck – Yes

Resolution #14-3: Appointment of Various Borough Professionals

Motion: Councilmember Waneck Second: Councilmember Sciara

Roll Call: Councilmember Arroyo – Yes Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes
 Councilmember Grefrath – Yes Councilmember Miller – Yes
 Councilmember Sciara – Yes Councilmember Waneck – Yes

<u>Position</u>	<u>Firm</u>	<u>Designee</u>
Borough Auditor	Lerch, Vinci & Higgins	Gary Vinci, RMA
Risk Manager	Burton Agency	Robert Kanwisher
Public Defender		Christopher Leyden, Esq.
Prosecutor		Edward G. Johnson, Esq.
Bond Counsel	Gluck & Walrath, LLP	Christopher Walrath, Esq.
Labor Attorney		Raymond Wiss, Esq.
Comm. Appraiser	McNerney & Associates	Robert McNerney
In Rem	Pellegrino & Feldstein, LLC	Michael Pellegrino, Esq.
Resid. Appraiser	Appraisal Systems, Inc.	Rick DelGuercio
Historic Consultant	G. Dietrich Consulting	Gregory Dietrich

7. MAYOR'S DESIGNATION OF COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2014

Mayor Birkner announces the following Council Committee appointments for 2014:

<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>LIAISON</u>	<u>DEPUTY LIAISON</u>
Finance, Admin. & Cap. Projects	Peter Grefrath	Cynthia Waneck
Fire & Ambulance	John J Sciara	Peter Grefrath
Police & Emergency Mgt.	Ray Arroyo	Robert Miller
Land Use	Robert Bicocchi	Ray Arroyo
Public Properties	Cynthia Waneck	Ray Arroyo
Health & Recreation	Robert Miller	Robert Bicocchi

8. RESOLUTION DESIGNATING COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT FOR 2014

Councilmember Sciara thanked Mayor Birkner for his work on determining the Council liaisons. He said the Council had their own preferences, which he read into the record:

<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>LIAISON</u>	<u>DEPUTY LIAISON</u>
Finance, Admin. & Cap. Projects	Peter Grefrath	Cynthia Waneck
Fire & Ambulance	John J Sciara	Robert Miller
Police & Emergency Mgt.	Ray Arroyo	John J Sciara
Land Use	Robert Bicocchi	Ray Arroyo
Public Properties	Cynthia Waneck	Peter Grefrath
Health & Recreation	Robert Miller	Robert Bicocchi

Councilmember Grefrath
Environmental Committee
Technology Committee

Councilmember Waneck
Shade Tree Committee
Website Committee

Councilmember Miller
Local Assistance Board
Library Board

Councilmember Arroyo
Parking Authority

Councilmember Bicocchi

Historical Commission

Councilmember Sciara
Heritage Society

Resolution #14-4: 2014 Council Liaisons

Motion: Councilmember Sciara Second: Councilmember Arroyo

Roll Call: Councilmember Arroyo – Yes Councilmember Bicocchi – Abstain
 Councilmember Grefrath – Yes Councilmember Miller – No
 Councilmember Sciara – Yes Councilmember Waneck – Yes

9. SELECTION OF COUNCIL PRESIDENT FOR 2014

Resolution #14-5: Nomination of 2014 Council President

Councilmember Sciara nominated Councilmember Waneck as President of the Borough Council for the year 2014. Councilmember Grefrath seconded the nomination.

Roll Call: Councilmember Arroyo – Yes Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes
 Councilmember Grefrath – Yes Councilmember Miller – Yes
 Councilmember Sciara – Yes Councilmember Waneck – Abstain

10. PUBLIC FORUM:

Motion to open the Public Forum: Councilmember Bicocchi Second: Councilmember Arroyo

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

No member of the public wished to speak.

Motion to close the Public Forum: Councilmember Miller Second: Councilmember Sciara

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

11. BUDGET MEETINGS:

Mayor Birkner announced that the preliminary work has been done on the 2014 Municipal Budget, and a schedule of Budget Meetings will soon be published in the official Borough newspaper and posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and Borough website. Tentatively, line-by-line budget review meetings will be held on February 11th and 25th.

11. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Birkner announced that the Resolutions listed on the Consent Agenda would be enacted with one motion. Copies of all Resolutions were available to any person upon request. Any Councilmember who wished to remove any Resolution(s) to be voted upon had the opportunity to do so at this time and said Resolution(s) would be moved and voted upon separately.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Resolutions #14-6 through #14-29: Councilmember Grefrath

Second: Councilmember Sciara

Roll Call: Councilmember Arroyo – Yes Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes
 Councilmember Grefrath – Yes Councilmember Miller – Yes
 Councilmember Sciara – Yes Councilmember Waneck – Yes

Resolution Titles

14-6 OFFICIAL ELECTRONIC MEDIA
14-7 TEMPORARY BUDGET
14-8 MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2014
14-9 DEPOSITORIES OF FUNDS
14-10 AUTHORIZATION OF PAYMENT SIGNATORIES FOR 2014
14-11 FACSIMILE SIGNATURES ON CHECKS
14-12 ESTABLISHMENT OF INT. RATES ON DELINQUENT TAXES & ASSESS.
14-13 ADOPTION OF PETTY CASH & CREDIT CARD POLICIES

14-14	ESTABLISHMENT OF PETTY CASH FUND
14-15	ESTABLISHMENT OF PETTY CASH FUND FOR RECREATION
14-16	ESTABLISHMENT OF PETTY CASH FUND FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
14-17	DEPOSITORY OF ATTENDANCE RECORDS
14-18	APPOINTMENT OF ASSESSMENT SEARCH OFFICER
14-19	APPOINTMENT OF TAX SEARCH OFFICER
14-20	MAGISTRATE'S ORDER DESIGNATING VIOLATIONS CLERK
14-21	APPOINTMENT TAX ASSESSOR / ATTORNEY - TAX APPEALS
14-22	2014 MUNICIPAL HOLIDAYS
14-23	OFFICIAL BOROUGH NEWSPAPERS
14-24	\$20.00 CHARGE FOR PAYMENTS MADE WITH INSUFFICIENT FUNDS
14-25	\$5.00 CHARGE FOR TAX ACCOUNT REPORTS TO SEARCH COMPANIES
14-26	TAX SALE COSTS
14-27	CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN 2014
14-28	MUTUAL AID – PASCACK VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENTS
14-29	AUTHORIZATION OF A FEE FOR ISSUANCE OF DUPLICATE TAX SALE CERTIFICATES

12. ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS AND DESIGNATIONS TO VARIOUS MUNICIPAL OFFICES:

Robert Hoffmann – Affirmative Action Compliance Official, B-MED, B-MEL & JIF Official
 Karen Hughes - Assessment Search Officer, Local Ethics Official
 Denise Holmes - Deputy Borough Clerk
 Letitia Candeloro - Court Administrator
 Elizabeth Kraus - Deputy Court Administrator
 Rick Woods - Recycling Coordinator, Clean Community Coordinator
 Sharon Blehl - Right-To-Know Coordinator, Bloodborne Pathogens Coordinator
 Stefanie Stokes – Tax Search Officer
 Robert Hibler - Borough Historian

Mayor Birkner invited all appointees to the dais. Judge Karch administered the Oaths of Office.

13. APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS

The appropriate Council Liaison announced the following appointments:

Board of Health

Betsy Beckman, 3 Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/16
 Lee Tremble, 3 Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/16
 Teresa Lardaro, Alt #1, 2 Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/15
 Fumi Sugahara, Alt. #2, Unexp. Term, Expiring 12/31/14
 Councilmember Robert Miller (Council Liaison)

Recreation Advisory Board

John Toale, 3 Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/16
 Jody Murphy, Unexp. Term, Expiring 12/31/14
 Angelo Pira, 3 Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/16
 Ruth Nass, Alt #1, 3 Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/16
 Kevin Corcoran, Alt #2, Unexp Term, Expiring 12/31/14
 Councilmember Robert Miller (Council Liaison)

Library Board of Trustees

Michael Violano, 5 Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/18
 Dr. Jim Sheerin, School Supt., Annual Expiring 12/31/14
 Felicia Brockner, School Alternate, Annual Expiring 12/31/14
 Councilmember Robert Miller (Council Liaison)

Westwood Municipal Alliance (Annual Term)

Gary Buchheister, Annual Expiring 12/31/14

Local Assistance Board

Councilmember Robert Miller (Council Liaison)

Technology Committee

Councilmember Peter Grefrath (Council Liaison)

Environmental Advisory Committee

Christine Blaney, 3Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/16

Scott Viapiano, Unexp. Term, Expiring 12/31/14

Boniface Kiamue, Unexp. Term, Expiring 12/31/15

Councilmember Peter Grefrath (Council Liaison)

Westwood Parking Authority

Joseph Green, 5 Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/18

Councilmember Ray Arroyo (Council Liaison)

Website Committee

Councilmember Cynthia Waneck (Council Liaison)

Shade Tree Committee

Sheryl Scherba, 5 Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/18

Councilmember Cynthia Waneck (Council Liaison)

Safety Committee - (Annual Appointments)

Darren Blankenbush, Safety Delegate

Gary Buchheister, Alternate Delegate

Richard Woods, Member

Armand Marini, Member

Sylvia Kokowski, Member

William Haffler, Fire Department Member

Denise Holmes, Member

Christine Compesi, Member

Barbara Constantine, Member

Jack Sauer, Member

Martha Urbiel, Member

Sgt. Matthew McClutchy, Member

Robert Hoffmann, Member/Borough Administrator

Heritage Society

Councilmember John J Sciara (Council Liaison)

Historic Preservation Commission

Edmund Choinski, Class C, 4 Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/17

Julia Delyannis, Class C, 4 Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/17

Dulce Acevedo Mateo, Alt. #1, 2 Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/15

Eric Gsellmeier, Alt. #2, Unexp. Term, Expiring 12/31/14

Councilmember Robert Bicocchi (Council Liaison)

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Guy Hartman, 4Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/17

Chris Montana, 4Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/17

Christopher Owens, 4Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/17

Wayne Harper, Alt. #1, Unexp. Term, Expiring 12/31/14

Marc Truscio, Alt. #2, 2 Yr Term, Expiring 12/31/15

Councilmember Robert Biccocchi (Council Liaison)

Planning Board

William Martin, Class II, Annual Expiring 12/31/14
Jaymee Hodges, Class IV, 4 Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/17
Phillip Cerruti, Class IV, 4 Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/17
Ann Costello, Class IV, Unexp. Term, Expiring 12/31/16
Keith Doell, Alt. #1, 2 Yr. Term, Expiring 12/31/15
Yash Risbud, Alt. #2, Unexp. Term, Expiring 12/31/14
Councilmember Robert Biccocchi, Class III (Council Liaison)

14. SWEARING IN OF ALL APPOINTEES

Motion to Accept All Appointees: Councilmember Miller Second: Councilmember Biccocchi

Roll Call: Councilmember Arroyo – Yes Councilmember Biccocchi – Yes
 Councilmember Grefrath – Yes Councilmember Miller – Yes
 Councilmember Sciara – Yes Councilmember Waneck – Yes

Mayor Birkner invited all appointees to the dais. Judge Karch administered the Oaths of Office.

15. APPOINTMENT AND SWEARING IN OF POLICE RESERVES

Mayor Birkner invited the 2014 Police Reservists to the dais to be administered their Oaths of Office.

Mayo Credle, Capt.	Damon Vincenty
John Brobson, Lt.	Kenroy Morrison
Michael Amoruso, Sgt.	Michael Gil
Donna Heil	Shaun Walsh
Shawn Yates	Elena Pietrocco
Arnold Luna	Joseph Latino
P.O. Niko Pieratus, Liaison Officer	

16. OATHS OF OFFICES, AMBULANCE CORPS OFFICIALS

Mayor Birkner invited Captain Steve Wolf to the dais to be sworn into office by Judge Karch.

Mayor Birkner invited 1st Lt. Kevin Brennan and 2nd Lt. Ruth Lang to the dais to be administered their Oaths of Office by Judge Karch.

17. OATHS OF OFFICE, FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

Mayor Birkner invited 2014 Fire Chief James Charles Mawdsley, Deputy Chief James Voorhis, Senior Captain William Haffler, Captain Kevin Woods, 1st Lt. Michael Griffin, 2nd Lt. Brian Kronewitter, 3rd Lt. Steven Fatovic and 4th Lt. Brian Wicenski to the dais to be administered their Oaths of Office by Judge Karch.

18. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

a) CERT/CART Graduates

Mayor Birkner acknowledged the individuals who received CERT/CART certification: CERT - Christopher Miras, Pauline Mavridis, Christopher Morgan, Mayo Credle Jr. , Damon Vincenty, Beth Holmes, Janet Dunn, Matt D'Elia, Nick Ariemma; CART - Christopher Morgan.

b) Presentation to Outgoing Fire Chief JayMee Hodges

Mayor Birkner and Fire Department liaison Councilmember Sciara presented Ex-Chief Hodges with a certificate. Ex-Chief Hodges addressed the audience.

c) Volunteer Emergency Services Hall of Fame:

Mayor Birkner and Councilmember Sciara presented certificates to Tyler Kademian, Westwood Volunteer Fire Department and Kathleen McGuire, Westwood Volunteer Ambulance Corps; and Mayor Birkner and Councilmember Miller presented the certificate to Damon Vincenty, Westwood Police Reserves, in

acknowledgement of their induction into the Volunteer Emergency Services Hall of Fame. Each of these recipients was nominated by their peers in recognition of outstanding service.

19. MAYOR'S REMARKS

Text of the Mayor's speech is attached.

20. BENEDICTION

Reverend Pranschke delivered the Benediction.

21. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn: Councilmember Sciara Second: Councilmember Miller
Voice Vote: All those present vote in the affirmative. The time was 8:25 PM.

Attest:

(signed) Karen Hughes

Karen Hughes, RMC

Borough Clerk

Proofed by: Denise Holmes, Deputy Clerk

Westwood – 2014

Councilmembers elect :

Miller

It is my privilege to extend a warm welcome back and congratulations on his re-election to Council member Miller. It was an honor for me to be asked to administer the oath of office as he begins his third term on the Westwood Borough council. We have served together for the past six years, and have worked with the common goal of governing with the best interests of Westwood. In six years we have both agreed and disagreed with each other on issues in the borough, and I believe that our exchange of ideas and willingness to advance our common thoughts and explore our differing opinions are the makings of good government. I am very proud of the accomplishments we have made during our service together, and even more proud of developing a friendship that will far outlast our time as elected officials.

Bicocchi

It is my further privilege of welcoming a new member to the governing body.

Involved for many years in service to the Westwood community, Rob Biccocchi is a very welcome addition on the dias. Rob has served for a number of years on both the Planning and Zoning Boards and has been involved with several of the youth programs in the borough. His assignment as liaison to ~~the~~ our land use boards will be a challenge as we assess proposed development projects on some key properties that will shape the future of our business district, ^{while maintaining} with a very sharp focus on the Municipal Master Plan. I very much look forward to working together with Rob in the years to come.

Ingrid Quinn

At this time, I would like to take a moment to thank outgoing Councilwoman Ingrid Quinn who has stepped down from the borough council. In the six years that I have had the honor of serving with Ingrid, I can truly say that she has served Westwood with a compassion for our residents, ~~and~~ an understanding of the needs of our community, and a genuine love of Westwood. Westwood is indeed a better place because of Ingrid's involvement and service. I am proud to have served with her, and I wish her and her family all the best as she begins a new chapter in her life.

Mayors Report

I think that Councilman Miller and Councilwoman Quinn will agree that the past six years have gone by in what was seemingly a blink of an eye. The three of us joined the Westwood governing body together six years ago, and I am very proud of the accomplishments and improvements in the borough during that time. It has most certainly been an honor to represent the residents of Westwood, and an absolute privilege to serve with the members of this governing body, the municipal staff, all of the volunteer organizations, and each of the fine individuals that demonstrate daily why Westwood is the outstanding community that it is widely recognized to be.

Every ^{presents new} ~~year there are~~ challenges, every year there are goals and objectives, and every year there are accomplishments both large and small. 2013 was certainly no different, and looking to 2014, challenges that lie ahead will be met by building on the progress of our previous year, much of which is measured by the accomplishments of our borough employees.

No gains worthy of mention could ever be achieved without the talented and dedicated staff of the Borough. This great team of

professionals that strive for excellence as the standard operating procedure in the Borough of Westwood.

As elected officials it is our job to provide our staff with the tools necessary for them to be successful and perform the vital services that our residents rely on. They are the face of Westwood, and they provide the municipal services that keep our town running smoothly.

Starting with the administrative staff, our employees go above and beyond on a daily basis to make sure that Westwood works.

Anyone that spends any time in Borough Hall during the day will quickly recognize that our Clerk's office is the Borough's general information office and is the first resource our residents turn to in every possible situation. They are indeed the heartbeat of Borough Hall.

Our Administrator runs the day to day operations of the Borough making sure that Westwood is running properly. Westwood is lucky to have one of the best in the State and he has been so recognized by his peers throughout New Jersey. Aside from all of the large operational responsibilities of the administrator, to me the greatest successes are the things that go

unnoticed on a daily basis. The small details, and the interaction with our residents, serving to make sure their questions are answered, and needs met every time they come in the door or call on the phone with a problem or a question.

Each and every one of our municipal services is based on the sound principles of customer service based management. All of our employees whether from our Building Department or Board of Health, to the Recreation ^{Club} or Social Services Department, or our Library, recognize that our residents are our customers. We have an extremely professional staff and I am proud of the work they do every day to ensure that our residents needs are met.

This year our Tax office has worked diligently to ensure the process of revaluation of all properties within the Borough has been carried out properly, ensuring that the new values more accurately reflect current market levels. Additionally, Despite the largest number of Tax appeals since 2004, our staff maintained a tax collection rate that remains among the best in Bergen County.

Our Municipal Court, Fire Prevention Bureau, Volunteer Ambulance Corps., Volunteer Fire Department, Police Reserves and Parking Authority continue to improve services to our residents, expanding programs, increasing revenue streams and maintaining public health and safety.

Our police department is ^{always} deserving of a special mention for all of the great work they do in maintaining a safe and secure municipality. They have again ^{completed} successfully their accreditation status and continue to operate under the specific requirements and prescribed standards that are considered the best practices in law enforcement. In 2013 we hired three new officers, and each has already had an impact in saving lives and keeping Westwood safe. I am proud of nine residents who became certified by the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management as members of the Community Emergency Response Team and the County Animal Response Team.

The CERT graduates trained in basic disaster response drills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, disaster psychology, terrorism awareness, and disaster medical operations. The CERT graduates will initially work under the direction of the Bergen County Office of Emergency Management and will be available to serve the Boroughs needs in a disaster or emergency through Westwood's Office of Emergency Management. I would just like to acknowledge the following individuals for their willingness to become involved, take the time to undertake the training, and volunteer their services to the people of Westwood.

Thank you Christopher Miras, Pauline Mavridis, Christopher Morgan, Mayo Credle, Jr., Damon Vincenty, Beth Holmes, Janet Dunn, Nick Auriema, and Matt D'Elia. *Great Job all of you - Thank you*

Never short on accomplishments is our amazing Department of Public Works. From routine maintenance of our parks, to the unexpected weather emergency, our DPW is the best in Bergen County. I am quite sure they will be busy tonite with the impending snow storm, and by tomorrow our streets will be clear and it will be business as usual in town.

I have recently received notice from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection that the Borough of Westwood has been so recognized as a leader in Environmental Stewardship in the State of New Jersey for its voluntary and proactive measures taken to go beyond compliance in an effort to improve the environment and ensure a sustainable future.

DPW responsible for much of the criteria recognized

We have already begun the 2013 budget process, with departmental budgets submitted for committee review. Our line-by-line review meetings have been scheduled with the finance committee and will continue this month.

Westwood maintains a AA Bond rating, a particularly significant accomplishment when viewed against the backdrop of the current economic climate. CFO Durene Ayer, Borough Administrator Robert Hoffmann, and our finance team are to be commended for all of the hard work they have put in to help make this possible and to keep our municipality on secure financial footing..

2013 saw the demolition of four homes purchased with FEMA and Green Acres funds. The four homes had suffered from severe repetitive losses due to flooding, and the properties were acquired by the borough and will remain green space in perpetuity.

One of the larger and most important infrastructure projects that Westwood has initiated in many years is now close to completion. The reconfiguration and modernization of the intersections and rail crossings along Broadway has been long overdue, and will serve to make traffic flow more efficiently through our downtown business district. Traffic has historically been a major issue around our downtown business district and the modernization at the intersections, railroad crossings and signalization improvements will help make our downtown safer for pedestrians and motor vehicles.

In May, I enjoyed one of the proudest moments that I have experienced during my term as mayor when I had the honor and privilege of welcoming Governor Christie to Westwood for the ribbon cutting at Hackensack University Medical Center at Pascack Valley.

The hospital opening ^{on June 1st} later ~~this year~~ was as important to Westwood as any other event in our history and it could not have been achieved without the support of our residents.

In closing, I would say that 2013 was a pretty good year in town. Major milestones were reached, projects large and small were undertaken, and Westwood continued to move forward.

I would again like to thank all of the municipal employees, volunteers, and elected officials that work hard every day to make Westwood special, and why our community is the dear home to so many. I thank you again for giving me the opportunity to serve as your Mayor. It truly is my privilege and my honor to be here.

Thank you and God Bless You.

Please get home safely everyone.

Governor Christie Has Ordered
a State of Emergency for
Tomorrow Morning