BOROUGH OF WESTWOOD
WORK MEETING OF THE MAYOR & COUNCIL
JANUARY 18, 2022 MINUTES
MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
101 Washington Avenue
6:30 pm Public Session

1. Opening of the Meeting:
The meeting was called to order by Mayor Arroyo at 6:30pm. Mayor Arroyo 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 Arroyo – Present
Councilmember Bicocchi – Present
Councilmember Collins – Present
Councilmember Greco
Councilmember Hodges – Present
Councilmember Montana – Present
Council President Dell - Present
Borough Attorney Huntington – Present
Borough Attorney Kool – Present
Borough Administrator Ayer - Present
Deputy Borough Clerk Hughes – Present

3. Flag Salute
Mayor Arroyo led those present in the salute to the flag.

4. Motion to Suspend Regular Order of Business
Motion to Suspend Regular Order of Business: Council President Beth Dell Seconded: Chris Montana
Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi - Yes Councilmember Collins – Yes
Councilmember Greco – Yes Councilmember Hodges - Yes
Councilmember Montana – Yes Council President Dell – Yes

5. Items for Discussion:

a) Government 101 Refresher: Mayor Arroyo tabled this discussion to the next work meeting on February 1, 2022 due to the absence of Borough Clerk Hughes.

b) 2022 Goals: Mayor Arroyo stated that he would like to continue the progress the Council has made over the past couple of years to progress into the years to come. The Mayor also discussed the fact that he does not want to give up on locations for the pump track. Mayor Arroyo also discussed how long term inflation could hurt the residents ability to pay taxes and that he would like to continue working on the budget with that in mind as he does not want all the good that has been done over the past 7 years to be lost. Councilmember Collins stated that she does not want everything to be cut out of the budget, but that additional grant writers could possibly help specifically with our biggest parts of the budget. Mayor Arroyo stated that it will change the broader perspective with digital grant writers. Councilmember Montana stated that it may cost a little more to have grant writers, but the possibility of getting a better percentage back will help the Borough.

c) Capital Projects: Council President Dell stated that the capital budget will be brought up tonight so that
the Borough can bid earlier for road projects to hopefully get a cheaper price with inflation and construction prices rising. Mayor Arroyo stated we may be surprised by future prices when the bids come back.

d) Fire Prevention Fees and Inspector: Councilmember Greco spoke about possibly increasing the fire inspection fees across the board to help offset costs for other personnel to help with the work load. Borough Attorney Huntington stated that there may be a statute to not have fire inspections every year, and he will look into that.

6. Agenda/Public Forum:
Motion to open Agenda/Public Forum: Councilmember Murphy Second: Councilmember Bicocchi
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: Councilmember Collins
Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the affirmative.

7. Resolution #22-35: Executive Closed Session at 7:02pm
Motion to Approve Resolution #22-35: Council President Dell Second: Councilmember Bicocchi
Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi - Yes Councilmember Collins – Yes
Councilmember Greco – Yes Councilmember Hodges - Yes
Councilmember Montana – Yes Council President Dell – Yes

Attest:

Jean-Marie Vadovic, Deputy Borough Clerk
Proofed by: Karen Hughes, RMC, Borough Clerk