

**BOROUGH OF WESTWOOD
PUBLIC MEETING OF THE MAYOR & COUNCIL
JANUARY 21, 2020 MINUTES
MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
101 Washington Avenue
7:30 pm Executive Closed Session /8:00 pm Public Session**

1. Opening of the Meeting:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Arroyo at 7:30 pm. 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 Dell – Present
Councilmember Hodges – Present
Councilmember Murphy – Present
Council President Montana - Present
Borough Attorney Huntington – Present
Borough Administrator Kezmarsky - Present
Borough Clerk Hughes – Present

Committee Assignments:

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

3. Resolution #20- 39: Executive Closed Session

Motion to Approve Resolution #20-39: Councilmember Dell Second: Councilmember Murphy

Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi - Yes Councilmember Hodges – Yes
 Councilmember Collins – Yes Councilmember Murphy - Yes
 Councilmember Dell – Yes Council President Montana – Yes

4. Reopen the Meeting:

Motion to reopen the meeting: Councilmember Bicocchi Second: Councilmember Murphy

Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the affirmative. The time was 8:15 pm.

5. Roll Call II:

Mayor Arroyo – Present / Councilmember Bicocchi – Present / Councilmember Collins – Present /
Councilmember Dell - Present / Councilmember Hodges – Present / Councilmember Murphy -
Present / Council President Montana - Present / Borough Administrator Kezmarsky - Present /
Borough Attorney Huntington – Present / Borough Engineer Senkevich – Present / Borough Clerk
Hughes – Present

6. Flag Salute

Councilmember Dell gave the invocation. Mayor Arroyo led those present in the salute to the flag.

7. Proclamation – 2020 Census

8. Reports of Committees and Officials:

A) Mayor’s Report

1) Bylaws Revisions

Mayor Arroyo asked Mrs. Hughes to review the proposed bylaws changes. Revisions include

redefining the order of business for work sessions; eliminating the line-by-line budget meeting; prohibiting the use of electronic communication during meetings; and clarifying the language on several existing items.

a) Resolution #20 -40: Adoption of 2020 ByLaws

Motion to Approve Resolution #20-40: Council President Montana Second: Councilmember Murphy

Roll Call: Councilmember Biccocchi - Yes Councilmember Hodges – Yes
Councilmember Collins – Yes Councilmember Murphy - Yes
Councilmember Dell – Yes Council President Montana – Yes

B) Council President's Report

1) 2020 Goals and Objectives

Council President Montana said he will be meeting with all the Councilmembers to discuss their three most critical goals and objectives for 2020. He would like to focus on no more than three to five critical objectives and support each other to make them happen.

2) Vaping

Council President Montana lauded Governor Murphy for banning the sale of flavored vaping materials effective April 20th. Legislation to increase penalties for sales to minors was not passed. He asked the Governing Body for consensus to encourage the Legislature to draft new legislation. The Governing Body agreed.

C) Engineer's Report

1) Biweekly Report

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

2) Mill Street Project

Council President Montana asked if drainage work comes under the grant for Mill Street. Mr. Senkevich said yes, it includes drainage, curb and sidewalk work, and handicapped cuts. PSE&G will do the paving on Mill Street. Mr. Morris pointed out that the work will include drainage at Seventh and Mill Streets.

3) Ponding on Berkeley Ave

Councilmember Collins pointed out ponding that occurs on Berkeley Ave.

4) Landfill

Mr. Senkevich advised that there is no date yet for a meeting with the DEP. Mayor Arroyo said prior to the meeting he would like to meet with Dr. Boswell, Council President Montana, and Councilmember Collins to go over what will be discussed so everyone is on the same page. Mr. Senkevich suggested Frank Rossi attend the meeting as well.

D) Council Liaison & Committee Reports

1) Finance, Administration and Capital Projects: BD

a) Finance

Councilmember Dell announced that the Finance Committee will meet one more time before providing the budget to the Council.

b) Historic Preservation Commission

Councilmember Dell reported that the Historic Preservation Commission's latest initiative is a Pride in Place award program. The application is on the Borough website and is due by March 2nd. The HPC has asked for time at the May Council Meeting to commend the award winners. Councilmember Dell is looking forward to the 84 Washington house walk through being rescheduled.

2) Fire and Ambulance: JM

a) Fire Department

Councilmember Murphy reported that she attended the Fire Department's holiday dinner, and is looking forward to more formal meetings. She is meeting with the Fire Marshal to discuss his 2020 goals.

b) Ambulance Corps

Councilmember Murphy recapped the annual Ambulance Corps installation dinner. She noted their meetings are the same night as the Mayor and Council so she will meet with them outside of that.

c) Shade Tree Committee

Councilmember Murphy announced that the Shade Tree Committee has a new Chair, Fred Rella. She pointed out a form on the Shade Tree page of the Borough website for requesting a tree, which is planted between the street and sidewalk and requires a hold harmless. She and Councilmember Collins met with Mayor Arroyo to discuss Shade Tree and the DPW working together to plant more trees. Additional discussions will include appointing someone from the DPW to the Shade Tree Committee. Councilmember Murphy is looking forward to speaking with Council President Montana about a Shade Tree and Environmental Committee collaboration.

3) Health and Recreation: CH

a) Board of Health

Councilmember Hodges reviewed the Board of Health reorganization meeting. They adopted a full meeting schedule but may cancel some as they go. The anti rabies clinic is January 25th at the train station.

b) Senior Advisory Committee

Councilmember Hodges reported that Mayor Arroyo attended the January 9th Senior Advisory Committee meeting to review the proposed changes to that ordinance.

c) Recreation

Councilmember Hodges reviewed the Recreation Advisory Committee reorganization meeting. Angelo Piro was appointed Chair. Winter program registration opened in early January and there is strong participation. 2020 goal for Recreation include expanding the SNAP program. Councilmember Hodges announced that Recreation is receiving two awards from the New Jersey Recreation and Parks Association. One is for the SNAP program, and the other is for the RecReport.

4) Land Use: RB

a) Land Use Boards

Councilmember Biccocchi reported on the reorganization meetings for Planning Board, where JayMee Hodges was reappointed as Chair, and Zoning Board, where William Martin was reappointed as Chair and also recognized as Volunteer of the Year.

b) Library

Councilmember Biccocchi said the new Library meeting room space is finished, with two formal and one informal space with technology. They are hosting a census meeting tonight. There will be an Author Event with a NY Times journalist about her book on the opioid epidemic on February 9th at 2 pm.

5) Police and OEM; Shared Services: CM

Council President Montana thanked Councilmember Collins for joining him last week at the presentation to the High School basketball team for their work with SNAP.

a) Environmental Committee

Council President Montana said the Environmental Committee will present to the Governing Body in either February or March at a work session to lay out expanded plans for Nugent Park. They will be inviting the area community as the plan will address flooding. There will need to be some funding and work by the Borough, but Council President Montana believes it is a well thought out plan over 2-3 years that will bring Nugent Park to a new level.

b) Police

Council President Montana said the Police Committee will be meeting with the PBA soon. He thanked Chief Pontillo and Officer Chris Horst for participating in the MLK service. There were a lot of bright souls and love at the event, which speaks to who the community is.

6) Public Properties: EC

a) DPW

Councilmember Collins is looking forward to a walk through of the DPW with Mr. Woods and Mr. Kezmarsky to view the equipment.

b) Lead Pipe Remediation

Councilmember Collins reported that she attended the hearing regarding a Suez rate increase relating to lead pipe remediation. She spoke as a resident on record that she does not agree they should raise rates. Council President Montana suggested a resolution opposing the rate increase.

E) Attorney's Report

No report.

F) Administrator's / Clerk's Report

1) JIF Training

Mr. Kezmarsky pointed out that the JIF training schedule had been distributed, noting that there will be an online version of the class. Council President Montana remarked that the Borough receives a \$250 insurance reduction per attendee.

9. Agenda/Public Forum:

Motion to reopen Agenda/Public Forum: Councilmember Bicocchi Second: Council President Montana

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

Gary Conkling, 406 Kinderkamack Rd – observed that the chemical that counteracts salt in water deteriorates the pipes. Mr. Conkling discussed short term rentals, suggesting that they be addressed to either allow or enforce the existing code, but there is no penalty right now. He doesn't believe ignoring Airbnbs is the way to go.

Motion to close Agenda/Public Forum: Councilmember Bicocchi Second: Council President Montana
Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the affirmative.

10. Ordinances for Introduction/Adoption

Ordinance for Introduction

20-1 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 243 Parks and Recreation Areas Schedule A Recreation Department Fees

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance #20-1 entitled “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 243 Parks and Recreation Areas Schedule A Recreation Department Fees” is hereby introduced by title; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby directed to advertise said ordinance with a February 18, 2020 hearing date in the official newspaper according to law.

Motion to pass the ordinance on First Reading: Councilmember Hodges Second: Councilmember Dell

Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi - Yes Councilmember Hodges – Yes
Councilmember Collins – Yes Councilmember Murphy - Yes
Councilmember Dell – Yes Council President Montana – Yes

20-2 An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 6 Article VII Senior Citizen Advisory Committee

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance #20-2 entitled “An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 6 Article VII Senior Citizen Advisory Committee” is hereby introduced by title; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby directed to advertise said ordinance with a February 18, 2020 hearing date in the official newspaper according to law.

Motion to pass the ordinance on First Reading: Councilmember Hodges Second: Councilmember Bicocchi

Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi - Yes Councilmember Hodges – Yes
Councilmember Collins – Yes Councilmember Murphy - Yes
Councilmember Dell – Yes Council President Montana – Yes

11. Presentation of Bills, Financial Reports and Resolutions:

Councilmember Dell asked if there were any resolutions to add to the Consent Agenda. She 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 e was added at this time.

Resolutions as Consent Agenda:

- a) **Resolution #20 - 41: Appointment to Library Board**
- b) **Resolution #20 - 42: Authorizing Advertising For Various Positions**

- c) **Resolution #20 - 43: Authorizing the Borough of Westwood Through The Westwood Police Department To Participate In The Defense Logistics Agency, Law Enforcement Support Office, 1033 Program To Enable The Westwood Police Department To Request And Acquire Excess Department Of Defense Equipment**
- d) **Resolution #20 - 44: Award of Contract Mill Street Improvement Project**
- e) **Resolution #20 - 45: Revising CFO Work Hours**

Motion to Approve Resolutions #20-41 through #20-45: Councilmember Dell Second: Councilmember Collins

Roll Call: Councilmember Bilocchi - Yes Councilmember Hodges – Yes
 Councilmember Collins – Yes Councilmember Murphy - Yes
 Councilmember Dell – Yes Council President Montana – Yes

12. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn: Councilmember Bilocchi Second: Councilmember Murphy

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

The time was 9:13 pm.

Attest:

(signed) Karen Hughes

Karen Hughes, RMC, Borough Clerk

Proofed by: Denise Holmes, Deputy Clerk