

**BOROUGH OF WESTWOOD  
WORK MEETING OF THE MAYOR & COUNCIL  
FEBRUARY 4, 2020 MINUTES  
MUNICIPAL COMPLEX  
101 Washington Avenue  
7:30 pm 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 – Absent  
Councilmember Collins – Present  
Councilmember Dell – Present  
Councilmember Hodges – Present  
Councilmember Murphy – Present  
Council President Montana - Present  
Borough Attorney Kool – 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 - 34: Executive Closed Session I**

**Motion to Approve Resolution #20-46:** Councilmember Collins Second: Councilmember Murphy

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

**4. Reopen the Meeting:**

**Motion to reopen the meeting:** Councilmember Murphy Second: Councilmember Dell

Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the affirmative. The time was 8:00 pm.

**5. Roll Call II:**

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

**6. Flag Salute**

Mayor Arroyo led those present in the salute to the flag.

**7. Reports by Borough Professionals:**

**A. Engineer’s Report**

**1) Biweekly Report**

Dr. Boswell reviewed the biweekly report, a copy of which is attached.

**2) Pistol Range Remediation**

Mr. Kezmarsky said the State is looking for the Borough's plan for the pistol range site. He asked Dr. Boswell if there were plans designed for a bocce court as previously discussed by the Governing Body. Dr. Boswell said they can provide a conceptual plan. Mr. Kezmarsky asked the Council if they were still in favor of a bocce court. Councilmember Murphy said there would be minimal damage to it if there was flooding. Mayor Arroyo and Dr. Boswell said everyone likes bocce. Councilmember Dell asked if the grant was flexible regarding the use. Dr. Boswell said the grant is for remediation, not specifically for the use.

**3) Title V Permit**

Council President Montana asked Dr. Boswell to clarify the Title V permit for gasoline throughput. Dr. Boswell said it pertains to the number of trucks coming in to fill up.

**4) Landfill**

Council President Montana asked if any of the necessary DEP conversations about the landfill discussed in a previous closed session had occurred yet. Dr. Boswell said they did. There needs to be a meeting with those at a high enough level to make a decision.

**5) Brookside Basketball Court**

Dr. Boswell advised that the Brookside basketball court project is shut down for winter. Council President Montana asked if there will be lighting. Dr. Boswell said no, and Mr. Senkevich said that is for the future.

**6) 425 Kinderkamack**

Mayor Arroyo asked if the BCUA had sent out to bid the project at 425 Kinderkamack. Dr. Boswell will find out.

**B. Administrator's Report**

**1) Gasoline Usage**

Mr. Kezmarsky said he is doing an analysis of gas use by vehicle to determine where the increase related to the Title V permit is coming from. He thinks it is a result of vehicles idling at PSEG work sites.

**8. Items for Discussion:**

**A. 84 Washington Avenue Presentation by HPC**

Councilmember Dell introduced Lauren Letizia, Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission, and Camille Sasena, Vice Chair, to talk about 84 Washington Avenue. Ms. Letizia reviewed the history of the house. She noted that the historic preservation clause in the Developer's Agreement with the bank that owns the property is expiring March 1, 2020. She discussed a proposal for the Borough to purchase the property and potential uses. Ms. Letizia believes a 501c3 stewardship lease from the Borough is a best option. Ms. Sasena explained the concept of heritage tourism. Questions from the Governing Body included accessibility; capacity; use; value; grant funding; and whether there are similar properties and uses in other municipalities. It was noted that while as of March 1, 2020 the bank is no longer obligated to preserve the building, they cannot just wreck it. It was determined that Governing Body members should send their questions to Mr. Kezmarsky for compilation.

**Motion to open Agenda/Public Forum for comments on 84 Washington Ave:** Councilmember

Murphy Second: Councilmember Dell

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

Bob Hibler, Borough Historian – remarked that Westwood is a unique place to live and visit. This property is part of a necklace, another pearl in the strand, along with the historic plaques on the buildings downtown.

**Motion to close Agenda/Public Forum:** Councilmember Murphy Second: Councilmember Dell

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

### **B. Councilmember Accessibility to Community**

Council President Montana asked if there was interest in a “Coffee with the Council” outreach. Mr. Kezmarsky confirmed there is money in the budget. Council President Montana suggested holding it in March and again in May. The consensus was yes.

### **C. Local Government Week**

Councilmember Dell discussed the April 19-25<sup>th</sup> Local Government Week initiative sponsored by the League of Municipalities. She reviewed potential events and dates.. Council President Montana said it could tie into the Coffee with Council event. It was determined that all should submit their ideas to Councilmember Dell.

### **D. Boards and Committees – RA**

Mayor Arroyo explained that he had asked Mr. Kezmarsky and Mrs. Hughes to think about the apparatus of government in order to streamline appendages working in silos to reduce redundancies and duplicate efforts. He noted Mr. Kezmarsky will have a heightened role in his administration, bridging between the silos to save on duplication of efforts. Mayor Arroyo pointed out the organizational and flow charts in the agenda book and welcomed comments from the Council.

## **9. Agenda/Public Forum:**

**Motion to open Agenda/Public Forum:** Councilmember Murphy Second: Councilmember Collins

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

Pastor Rodney Haverman on behalf of the Westwood Stigma Free Committee – discussed the goals for the Stigma Free Committee in 2020. Pastor Haverman asked the Governing Body to determine whether the Stigma Free Committee falls under the Borough’s auspices and can have a budget, or whether it is entitled to fundraise. Mayor Arroyo asked the Borough Attorney to look into the matter.

**Motion to close Agenda/Public Forum:** Councilmember Dell Second: Councilmember Murphy

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

## **10. Ordinances for Introduction**

**20-3 Bond Ordinance To Authorize the Fairview Avenue Improvements In, By And For The Borough Of Westwood, In The County Of Bergen, State Of New Jersey, To Appropriate The Sum Of \$244,000 To Pay The Cost Thereof, To Authorize The Issuance Of Bonds To Finance Such Appropriation And To Provide For The Issuance Of Bond Anticipation Notes In Anticipation Of The Issuance Of Such Bonds.**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Ordinance #20-3 entitled “Bond Ordinance To Authorize the Fairview

Avenue Improvements In, By And For The Borough Of Westwood, In The County Of Bergen, State Of New Jersey, To Appropriate The Sum Of \$244,000 To Pay The Cost Thereof, To Authorize The Issuance Of Bonds To Finance Such Appropriation And To Provide For The Issuance Of Bond Anticipation Notes In Anticipation Of The Issuance Of Such Bonds.” 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 Collins Second: Councilmember Dell

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

#### **11. Resolutions as Consent Agenda:**

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. Resolutions h-j were added at this time.

##### Consent Agenda:

- a) **Resolution #20 - 47: Bill List & Statement of Cash**
- b) **Resolution #20 - 48: Authorizing Refund of Taxes Due to Tax Court Judgement**
- c) **Resolution #20 - 49: Authorizing Bid Process for the Community Center Kitchen**
- d) **Resolution #20 - 50: Authorizing Copier Lease Under State Contract #40467G-2075**
- e) **Resolution #20 - 51: Authorizing Preparation of Plans and Specifications, Bidding, and Construction Inspection for the Old Hook Road Sidewalk Improvement Project**
- f) **Resolution #20 - 52: Authorizing Preparation of Plans and Specifications, Bidding, and Construction Inspection for the 2020 Road Resurfacing Program**
- g) **Resolution #20 - 53: Approval of Ms. Trimachi’s Request to Consume Alcoholic Beverages on Public Property for the Westwood Regional Middle School PSO Military Bridge Fundraiser**
- h) **Resolution #20 - 54: Hiring of Per Diem Dispatchers**
- i) **Resolution #20 - 55: Hiring of Crossing Guard**
- j) **Resolution #20 - 56: Appointment of Public Agency Compliance Officer**

**Motion to Approve Resolutions #20-47 through #20-56:** Councilmember Dell Second: Councilmember Collins

Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi - Absent  
Councilmember Collins – Yes  
Councilmember Dell – Yes  
Councilmember Hodges – Yes, with recusal on invoices #19-02204, 19-02205, and 19-02203.  
Councilmember Murphy - Yes  
Council President Montana – Yes

#### **12. Resolution #20 - 57: Executive Closed Session II**

**Motion to Approve Resolution #20-57:** Councilmember Bicocchi Second: Councilmember Collins

Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi - Absent Councilmember Hodges – Yes  
Councilmember Collins – Yes Councilmember Murphy - Yes

Councilmember Dell – Yes Council President Montana – Yes

**13. Reopen the Meeting:**

**Motion to reopen the meeting:** Council President Montana Second: Councilmember Murphy  
Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the affirmative. The time was 10:23 pm.

**14. Adjournment:**

**Motion to adjourn:** Council President Montana Second: Councilmember Murphy  
Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the affirmative.  
The time was 10:23 pm.

Attest:

*(signed) Karen Hughes*  
Karen Hughes, RMC, Borough Clerk  
Proofed by: Stefanie Stokes, Tax Collector