

**BOROUGH OF WESTWOOD
PUBLIC MEETING OF THE MAYOR & COUNCIL
APRIL 19, 2022 MINUTES
8:00 PM PUBLIC MEETING
101 WASHINGTON AVENUE
WESTWOOD, NEW JERSEY 07675**

1. Opening of the Meeting:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Arroyo at 8:00 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– Greco - Absent
Councilmember Hodges – Present
Councilmember Montana – Present
Council President Dell - Present
Borough Attorney Kool - Present
Deputy Borough Administrator Hughes – Present
Borough Planner Boswell - Present
Borough Planner Sneickus - Present
Deputy Borough Clerk Vadovic – Present

Committee Assignments:

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

3. Flag Salute

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

4. Approval of Minutes: March 15, 2022 Executive Closed Session, March 15, 2002 Public Meeting; March 22, 2022 Special Meeting; April 5, 2022 Executive Closed Session, April 5, 2022 Work Meeting

Motion to Approve Minutes: Council President Dell Second: Councilmember Collins

Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi - Yes Councilmember Hodges – Yes
 Councilmember Collins – Yes Councilmember Montana – Yes recusal of April 5, 2002
 Councilmember Greco – Yes Council President Dell - Yes

5. Public Hearing: Jake Voorhis Park Trust Fund Municipal Program for Park Development Grant Funding

Mayor Arroyo asked Grant Writer Fred Rella to speak on the Park Improvement Grant. Fred Rella stated that the grant would be used to replace the basketball courts at Jake Voorhis Park which are 25-30 years old and in dire need of repair/replacement. The proposal is to replace the three existing basketball courts that are on one large asphalt surface with two new courts on one asphalt surface. The cost of the new basketball courts are estimated to cost \$140,000. The Borough of Westwood would be requesting 50% of this cost or \$70,000 to be contributed through the Park Improvements Grant. The grant application is due to Bergen County no later than May 6, 2022.

Motion to open Public Hearing: Councilmember Bicocchi Second: Councilmember Collins
Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the Affirmative.

No one came forward to speak.

Motion to close Public Hearing: Councilmember Montana Second: Councilmember Bicocchi
Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the Affirmative.

**6. Resolution #22 -108: Trust Fund Application Municipal Endorsing Resolution for Jake Voorhis
Park Basketball Courts Project**

Motion to Approve Resolution #22-108: Councilmember Collins Second: Councilmember Hodges

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

7. Certificates of Achievement: Westwood Recreation 5th Grade Boys Travel Basketball Team

Mayor Arroyo congratulated the Westwood Recreation 5th Grade Boys Travel Basketball Team for winning the Championship. He stated that there were no egos on the team and that all of the boys won by working together as a team. Councilmember Bicocchi assisted Mayor Arroyo in presenting the boys with the Certificates of Achievement.

8. Proclamation: Arbor Day

Mayor Arroyo and Councilmember Collins presented Fred Rella who is a member of the Shade Tree Committee with a Proclamation for Arbor Day.

9. Engineer's Report

1) Biweekly Report

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

10. Reports of Committees and Officials, As Needed:

A) Mayor's Report

Mayor Arroyo reported that “we dodged a bullet” last Thursday with the flooding. Only minor flooding conditions due to the heavy rains that were in the area. He would like to thank OEM Coordinator Darren Blankenbush who was out both nights keeping an eye on the water levels as well as the Police Department who were also keeping an eye out.

B) Council President's Report

Council President Dell stated that next month is Volunteer Month. Volunteering is what makes a difference in Westwood.

C) Council Liaison & Committee Reports

1) Finance, Administration and Capital Projects: BD

Council President Dell is happy to announce that there is a new addition to the Payroll staff and that the finance office is now fully staffed for the first time in 2 years. She congratulated the personnel committee

for making this happen. Councilmember Dell also reported that the new finance system is still being transferred over but things are going well.

The Westwood Chamber of Commerce recently selected their new Board Members. There are also a few ribbon cutting events coming up which still have to be finalized. The Memorial Day Parade will be returning back this year with the kick off at Fireman's Park at 10am, and a Ceremony at 11am at Veteran's Park. More details will be coming.

April 30th will be the town wide garage sale, stay tuned for more details on that.

Historic Preservation Commission is very excited as Bill Martin will be coming to the next meeting as a speaker. Also Council President Dell is excited to report that Matt Corso is the recipient of the Historic Preservation Commission Award from Bergen County for his preservation on the Lafayette Avenue Colonial House that was built in 1923.

Councilmember Dell reported that the heritage Society will combine with the Historic Preservation Commission for the unveiling of the historical markers of the 1932 Train Station.

Pride Day will also be resuming this year, more information to come.

2) Fire and Ambulance: AG

Councilmember Greco reported that the Senior Advisory Committee has fully booked all of their planned Lunch and Learns in various different restaurants in town, and also has three trips coming up soon.

Councilmember Greco reports the Historic Preservation Commission is very close to completing and launching the Walking Tour but the Historical Society has some discrepancies with the information. Council President Dell invited the Historical Society to the next Historic Preservation Commission meeting to possibly resolve some of the issues.

Councilmember Greco reports that the Fire Department is excited about their new fire truck which is being ordered. There will be a party for the out-going Chief within the next month. Councilmember Greco reports that the fire department responded to 18 calls in the last month, with two trainings for a total of 375 man hours.

The Westwood Ambulance Corps will be having an Open House on April 22nd, 2022 from 11am -3pm, a Volunteer Fair on April 27th at 7pm. During EMS week the Ambulance Corps will also have the Conrad's truck at their department on June 17th. Councilmember Greco reports that the new rig will be arriving at the end of June and that the ambulance corps is hoping to showcase it at their Carnival in July.

Councilmember Greco also reports that the ambulance corps may have to start looking into a paid daytime crew in the future with the help of the Borough.

Councilmember Greco also wanted to publicly thank 6 First Responders which included 2 Police

Officers who helped perform CPR on a man who was brought back to life thanks to their efforts. He also wanted to thank Brian Kronewitter who was driving and jumped out of his car to stop a resident from driving over a live wire.

3) Health and Hospital: CH

Councilmember Hodges reports that the Health Department has two candidates for the open position and will hopefully be hiring by next week.

Northwest Bergen is urging people 50 and older to get the second COVID booster. The Paramus clinic and pharmacies are offering this dose.

April 26th Northwest Bergen and HUMC will be having an Advanced Directive Planning Class. More information will be posted on the website.

Councilmember Hodges reports that the Parking Authority took the first steps to dissolve the Parking Authority and to make it a Utility.

The contract for the electronic vehicle stations is currently with the Borough Attorneys and the target date for the stations to be installed is still June.

4) Land Use: CM

Councilmember Montana reports that the Watershed Cleanup went very well and thanked two children that were in the audience for attending and helping.

The Library Memorial Garden will be having a ribbon cutting on either May 21st or May 22nd with more details to come.

Councilmember Montana reports that the History Portal on the Library's Website will be launching this week. There will also be Poetry readings every month at the Library.

5) Police and OEM: EC

Councilmember Collins spoke about the new proposed Ordinance for routing changes.

The Police Department assisted with two fundraisers this past month and Councilmember Collins is very appreciative for their help.

Alumni Recovery Walk is this Sunday April 24th. A Walk to Remember begins at 10am and ends at 2pm. Councilmember Collins stated that there is a lot of involvement in this event including The Bergen County Prosecutors Office and Assemblywoman Holly Schepisi.

Shade Tree will be planting an Easter Red bud Tree at Gritman Park on April 30th at 10am. There will also be 60 saplings that need to be planted and all are welcome.

6) Public Works and Recreation: RB

Councilmember Biccocchi thanked everyone who participated in the Easter Egg Hunt and thanked the Easter Bunny for attending.

The Community Center new kitchen is well under way.

Councilmember Biccocchi reports that there are still some preschool openings for next year. For more information visit the website.

Effective May 4th there will be no more plastic bags given out in stores.

Councilmember Biccocchi reported that there were two dead trees in Veterans Park that were taken down but will be replaced by two new ones thanks to the Shade Tree Committee.

D) Attorney's Report

Borough Attorney Kool reported that next month there will be an Ordinance introduced to dissolve the Parking Authority and simultaneously adopt an Ordinance for it to become a Utility of the Borough.

E) Administrator / Clerk's Report

Borough Clerk Hughes reported that she went to visit the Five and Dime Brewery. She stated that they received a tour and the facility is beautiful. The reason for the meeting was to hash out some concerns, and will be a work in progress as it is new to everyone.

11. Agenda/Public Forum:

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

No one came forward to speak.

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

12. Ordinances for Introduction/Adoption

Ordinances for Introduction

22-11 An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 375 Vehicles and Traffic

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance #22-11 entitled "An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 375 Vehicles and Traffic" is hereby introduced by title; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby directed to advertise said ordinance with a May 17th, 2022 hearing date in the official newspaper according to law.

Motion to pass the ordinance on First Reading: Councilmember Collins Second: Council President Dell

Roll Call: Councilmember Biccocchi - Yes Councilmember Hodges – Yes

Councilmember Collins – Yes Councilmember Montana – Yes
Councilmember Greco – Yes Council President Dell - Yes

22-12 An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 59 Police Department

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance #22-12 entitled “An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 59 Police Department” is hereby introduced by title; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk is hereby directed to advertise said ordinance with a May 17th, 2022 hearing date in the official newspaper according to law.

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

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

Ordinances for Adoption

22-8 An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 6 Boards, Committees and Commissions, Article VII Senior Citizen Advisory Committee

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance #22-8 entitled “An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 6 Boards, Committees and Commissions, Article VII Senior Citizen Advisory Committee” having hereby been read by title, shall have a hearing held on this date.

Motion to open the public hearing: Councilmember Greco Second: Councilmember Bicocchi

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

Public Comments: No comments.

Motion to close the public hearing: Councilmember Bicocchi Second: Council President Dell

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

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance known as #22-8 be passed on final reading and that a Notice of Adoption of said Ordinance be published in the official newspaper according to law.

Motion for final adoption: Councilmember Greco Second: Council President Dell

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

13. Presentation of Bills, Financial Reports and Resolutions:

Resolutions as Consent Agenda: The following resolutions may be enacted in one motion as a Consent Agenda. Councilmembers wishing to remove any Resolutions(s) to be voted upon separately may do so at this time, and said Resolution(s) will be considered separately.

- a) Resolution #22-109 : Bills List and Statement of Cash

- b) Resolution #22-110: Award of Bid for 2020 Community Development Block Grant for Kingsberry Avenue Rehabilitation Project
- c) Resolution #22-111: Authorizing Hiring Process For Per Diem Senior Van Driver

Motion to Approve Resolutions #22-109 through #22-111: Council President Bicocchi **Second:** Councilmember Collins

Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi - Yes Councilmember Hodges – Yes recusal on 22-0441
 Councilmember Collins – Yes Councilmember Montana – Yes
 Councilmember Greco – Yes Council President Dell - Yes

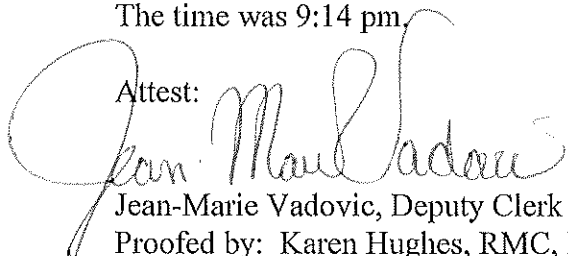
14. Adjournment:

Motion to Adjourn: Council President Dell **Second:** Councilmember Bicocchi

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

The time was 9:14 pm

Attest:



Jean-Marie Vadovic, Deputy Clerk

Proofed by: Karen Hughes, RMC, Borough Clerk

Agenda subject to change



M E M O R A N D U M

TO: The Honorable Mayor and Council

FROM: Stephen T. Boswell, Ph.D., P.E., LSRP

DATE: April 14, 2022

RE: Borough of Westwood
Status Report - For Meeting on April 19, 2022
Our File No. WW-794

WW-482 WESTVALE PARK

Our yearly groundwater sampling report for 2021 was finalized and submitted to the DEP.

WW-513 PISTOL RANGE REMEDIATION

The Borough's adopted ordinance, Ordinance #22-6, and other associated documents to address the minor subdivision and remediation of the police pistol range were submitted to the DEP.

WW-767 2021 ROAD PROGRAM

A schedule was requested from DLS Contracting for the completion of the punch list items.

WW-791 KINGSBERRY AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS

Bids were received on April 12, 2022. The apparent low bidder is AJM Contractors Inc. of Clifton, New Jersey, with a bid of \$118,565.00. Westwood was awarded a FY 2020-2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in the amount of \$146,000.00 for this project. The bids are under review by the Borough Attorney. A bid summary and award recommendation was provided to the Borough.

WW-792 FY 2022 NJDOT LOCAL AID AWARD
LAFAYETTE AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS, FROM RIDGEWOOD
ROAD TO CARDINAL LANE, AND ADAMS COURT

Plans were submitted to the NJDOT for their review and comments.

WW-795: FY 2021 NJDOT LOCAL AID AWARD
FAIRVIEW AVENUE, SECTION 2.

Comments were received from the NJDOT and have been addressed. A utility mark-out and a PSE&G as-built provides varying locations for their gas main. We would like to have a test pit excavated to determine the exact location for this main.

Fairview Avenue, Section 2, the FY 2021-2022 CDBG Barrier Free Curb Ramps Project and the Borough's 2022 Road Program will be bid as one project for economies of scale.

WW-796 FY 2021-2022 CDBG APPLICATION
BARRIER FREE CURB RAMPS

Plans are completed for this portion of work. We are waiting for the confirmation of the Fairview Avenue gas main before going out to bid.

WW-797 2022 ROAD PROGRAM

Plans are completed for this portion of work. We are waiting for the confirmation of the Fairview Avenue gas main before going out to bid. Veolia has started submitting road opening permits to the DPW to address the replacement of lead service connections in the Borough. Stratton Avenue, one of the roads to be resurfaced in 2022, has five (5) properties to be replaced. There are a total of three (3) other locations on streets to be resurfaced this year. Veolia plans to address these locations with their own crew(s) once the permits have been issued.

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