

 **TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON**
BURLINGTON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE VIA CONFERENCE CALL
May 5, 2020 * 7:00 P.M.

Meeting was called to Order followed by the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.
The Township Clerk read the Sunshine Notice Statement.

Sunshine Notice: This meeting is called pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Law. 1) Posting a copy of the Annual Meeting Schedule on the bulletin board in the Municipal Complex and emailing a copy to the Atlantic City Press and Burlington County Times and all those requesting copies on January 14, 2020. 2) Posting a copy of the agenda on the bulletin board at the Municipal Complex. 3) Filing a copy of the agenda in the office of the Township Clerk at the Municipal Complex. 4) Forwarding a copy of the agenda to the Atlantic City Press and the Burlington County Times 5) Forwarding a copy of the agenda to each person who requested copies of the regular meeting schedule. All the above posting, filing & mailing have taken place on May 1, 2020.

Call of the Roll: Committeeman Gadd, Deputy Mayor Seybold and Mayor James.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 7, 2020 – Regular Minutes

May 1, 2020 – Emergency Minutes

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Seybold, seconded by Committeeman Gadd.

Roll Call: Gadd, Seybold, James

Ayes: 3 Nays:

ORDINANCES

SECOND READING – PUBLIC HEARING

2020-01 – ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK

Township Clerk Hoffman asked if there were any public comments on this ordinance.

Public portion on this ordinance was closed as there were no public comments.

Motion made by Committeeman Gadd, seconded by Deputy Mayor Seybold.

Roll Call: Gadd, Seybold, James

Ayes: 3 Nays:

2020-02 – ORDINANCE AMENDING & SUPPLEMENTING PART II, CHAPTER 450 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON – PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

Township Clerk Hoffman asked if there were any public comments on this ordinance

Solicitor Coleman stated that the Mayor had asked to amend this Ordinance and it was modified.

Barbara Cavileer – River Road – What is this ordinance about?

Solicitor Coleman explained the Ordinance to the public.

Barbara Cavileer – How will this be enforced?



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Mayor James – By the Code Enforcement Officer or the State Police.

Doug Melegari – Were there any problems, complaints in the past. The Business Owner there said that there wasn't.

Mayor James – I received complaints from our residents.

Committeeman Gadd – Jet skis have been using this area for parties.

Teri Giercyk – What about signs and no one has enforced anything?

Samantha (couldn't hear her last name) – River Road – This doesn't address a nuisance. We have discussed this with an attorney and we want a complete ordinance & address these issues before it's adopted, this is unconstitutional.

Solicitor Coleman – Is this the lawyer's opinion or yours? Who is your attorney?

Samantha – He doesn't want his name mentioned.

Amy Howell – Lower Bank Road – From our prospective, there were no issues or problems.

Doug Melegari – Is there a permit for the beach?

Solicitor Coleman – No permit for beach, but for parking.

Committeeman Gadd - One thing in the ordinance should be deleted, under Section 1, Article VI "or by oar or sail" should be deleted.

Solicitor Coleman – In light of the comments from the public, I would suggest that we table this ordinance until the next meeting on June 9, 2020.

Motion made by Committeeman Gadd, seconded by Deputy Mayor Seybold to TABLE the above Ordinance until 6/9/2020.

Roll Call: Gadd, Seybold, James

Ayes: 3

Nays:

2020 ADOPTION OF BUDGET
PUBLIC HEARING

Township Clerk Hoffman asked if there was any public comments on the 2020 Budget.

There were no public comments.

Resolution # 2020-28 – Resolution Authorizing Adoption of the 2020 Municipal Budget
Motion made by Deputy Mayor Seybold, seconded by Committeeman Gadd.

Roll Call: Gadd, Seybold, James

Ayes: 3

Nays:

Resolution # 2020-29 – Self-Examination of Municipal Budget

Motion made by Committeeman Gadd, seconded by Deputy Mayor Seybold.

Roll Call: Gadd, Seybold, James

Ayes: 3

Nays:

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APPROVAL OF BILLS

Motion made by Committeeman Gadd, seconded by Deputy Mayor Seybold.

Roll Call: Gadd, Seybold, James

Ayes: 3 Nays

REPORTS

Engineer – River Road paving will start mid-May; storm water information has been submitted and all is up to date.

Solicitor – I got a call from Ted Baker, attorney from Cumberland County concerning the Verizon appeal. Do we want to continue with this appeal?

Mayor James – We want to continue with the appeal.

Solicitor Coleman – Ok, I'll tell him and I have worked on a few matters with the Mayor.

Township Clerk Hoffman – I'd like to thank Kristen for all her work on the budget.

CFO - Thank you and I have nothing.

Township Clerk – The day to day operations of the office; submitted a proposal from Trash Pro for trash bidding services; quote on electronic speed signs, quote on new website and quote on updated phone service which includes new phones at a reduced savings and an upgraded internet.

Code Enforcement – Nothing to Report

OEM – I have getting supplies from the county and weekly conference call with the County on the virus.

Committee:

Committeeman Gadd – With regards to the website, did they get the go ahead?

Township Clerk Hoffman – Yes.

Committeeman Gadd – I would think one sign would be enough. How long before we can get them?

Township Clerk Hoffman – 3 months to get them and the price is for 2.

Committeeman Gadd – I'll talk with you further on the signs. We sent out a mailing for the Food Pantry and its located in front of the Municipal Building, this is for the residents. I want to thank the person who did all this. I took care of one trash issue and where are we with the Senior Building?

Township Clerk Hoffman – We haven't heard from the State.

Solicitor Coleman – Are the improvement from the insurance money?

Committeeman Gadd – Yes.

Solicitor Coleman – I don't think we need the State's approval for the insurance funds.

Committeeman Gadd – We need to get the repairs done.

Solicitor Coleman = With regards to the Food Pantry shelter; how is it set up?



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Committeeman Gadd – I'll send you a picture.

Solicitor Coleman – I don't want the accountability for the Township.

Committeeman Gadd – The only involvement for the Township is having the shelter here.

Deputy Mayor Seybold – Public Works – Assisted State Police with traffic control on Route 542; graveled 3 roads in Jenkins; gravel on Lance Run Road; went to Lowe's in EHT to buy Asphalt patch & patched roads; picked up trash; sharpened chain saws; high winds and rain, removed tree limbs

Note: As most of the Township Residents are aware of Route 542 was paved. I would like to give a thank you to Martin Barrett, Vice President of Barrett Paving for his generous donation of approximately 50 ton of asphalt millings worth approximately \$1,000 that will be used on Township dirt roads. I think it would be a nice gesture if our Township would sent Mr. Barrett a Thank you letter for his generous donation.

Robert Mattern has cut the grass but we haven't been billed yet.

I have a question for Kevin – Will any more of River Road be paved?

Engineer Dixon – Arawak stated that they were trying to work all sections together.

Deputy Mayor Seybold – What is happening with the parking lot at the Municipal Building?

Engineer Dixon – There are some County issues that need to be addressed.

Mayor James – Working on various matters – Virus, OEM, Solicitor, Vector Security upgrade. Met with the State Police about enforcement. Washington Township is the only municipality with no cases of the virus.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Please state your name & address for the record)

Members of the public are invited to submit comments during the public comment portion of this meeting. The Committee, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, will not publicly discuss personnel matters and may choose not to respond to comments made by members of the public during this portion of the meeting; however, the Committee will give all comments appropriate consideration and will refer all individual complaints to the Township Administrator or appropriate Township Representative for resolution. Each citizen will be allotted up to three (3) minutes to speak, in order to allow everyone an opportunity to express their opinions or concerns.

Kathy Gitto – River Road – The food pantry is full and I'll be dropping off food to the residents who can't get the Municipal Building. We have been documenting everything for this project.

Barbara Cavileer – River Road – Thanks to the OEM for getting us supplies. What are we doing with Comcast, with this help our residents?

Township Clerk Hoffman – This is for internet and phones for the Municipal Building and while it will lower our cost, Comcast is not expanding service.

Barbara Cavileer – Are we purchasing or leasing the radar signs?

Township Clerk Hoffman – Purchasing them and the will need to be charged.

Barbara Cavileer – Did you consider solar?



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Township Clerk Hoffman – We did, but they are more money and with our area, we have too many trees.

Barbara Cavileer – What will this do for us?

Township Clerk Hoffman – The signs will collect data and we can share the data with the State Police. With the data perhaps the State Police will help with traffic enforcement..

Committeeman Gadd – I’m going to give the data to the State Police.

Doug Melegari – I had difficulty hearing, did you approve the website, trash and phones?

Township Clerk Hoffman – Yes and I have requested a purchase order for those items..

Doug Melegari – What are the prices?

Township Clerk Hoffman – I’ll send them to you.

Doug Melegari – What does the Township have to repair on the Senior Center?

Township Clerk Hoffman – Pipes burst during the winter as a result there will be repairs to the rest of the building for the township use now that the State has been notified of our request to continue to lease the building.

Doug Melegari – What about the chimney?

Township Clerk Hoffman – That is a separate issue.

Doug Melegari – With the problem with your addresses, how are the case of COVID 19 being counted.

David Simpson – OEM – The dispatcher would transfer it to Burlington County.

Doug Melegari – What about walk-ins?

David Simpson – The same.

Doug Melegari – What about the juvenile center?

David Simpson – Nothing has come to my attention, but I will ask this week.

Samantha – River Road – When will River Road be paved?

Township Clerk Hoffman – Mid May and we don’t have an exact date.

No one else wishing to be heard the public portion was closed.

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ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Committeeman Gadd, seconded by Deputy Mayor Seybold the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Roll Call: Gadd, Seybold, James

Ayes: 3

Nays:

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen D. Hoffman
Township Clerk