



**TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
GLOUCESTER COUNTY
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 10, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

Council President Mr. Del Borrello called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. in the council room located at 523 Egg Harbor Road, Sewell, New Jersey. Mr. Del Borrello delivered the Sunshine Notice and safety awareness notices.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Mr. Del Borrello led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Township Clerk Ms. Ciallella took roll call. Councilmembers Mr. Del Borrello, Mr. DellaPia, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Brown and Mr. Yerkes were present. Mayor Laurie Burns and Attorney Mr. Wright were present. Business Administrator Mr. Russo was absent.

PRESENTATIONS

- Mayor Burns and members of Council presented certificates of recognition to the Washington Township High School Girls Indoor Track Relay State Champions, members of the Wrestling Team and Boys Winter Track 2024 Indoor Track 55M Hurdle State Champion. Congratulations to these athletes!
- Mayor Burns and Council presented members of the Margaret E. Heggen Library staff with a Proclamation recognizing National Library Week. We encourage everyone to visit the library!

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST FOR APRIL 10, 2024

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to approve the April 10, 2024 bill list. Mr. Brown motioned. Mr. Yerkes seconded the motion. Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Brown, Mr. DellaPia and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR MARCH 27, 2024

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for March 27, 2024. Mr. DellaPia motioned. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Brown, Mr. DellaPia and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes.

ORDINANCES

0003-2024 ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON CODE CHAPTER 2 "ADMINISTRATION" ARTICLE IV "DEPARTMENT OF LAW"

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to introduce Ordinance 003-2024. Mr. Bennett motioned. Mr. Yerkes seconded the motion. Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Brown, Mr. DellaPia and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes. Public Hearing and Adoption will take place on April 24, 2024.

RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolutions were part of the consent agenda and only required a vote for all listed. Township Clerk Ciallella read each one by title.

R122-2024 RESOLUTION ADOPTING A NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964 AS AMENDED, IN CONNECTION WITH THE OPERATION OF THE TOWNSHIP SENIOR TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

R123-2024 RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A SEAT BELT POLICY/MOBILITY DEVICE SECUREMENT POLICY TO ASSURE MAXIMUM OPERATOR AND PASSENGER SAFETY

R124-2024 RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING TOWNSHIP POLICY FOR WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP SENIOR BUS PROGRAM ASSISTANCE FOR RIDERS

R125-2024 RESOLUTION AWARDED A BID TO THINK PAVERS HARDSCAPING, LLC FOR TWIN PONDS OUTFALL IMPROVEMENTS, PROJECT #08-18-T-430

R126-2024 RESOLUTION WAIVING THE TREE REPLACEMENT FEES FOR THE 100% AFFORDABLE SENIOR RENTAL PROJECT LOCATED ON BLOCK 113, LOTS 23, 24, AND 25 KNOWN AS BIRCHWOOD AT WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

R127-2024 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN CLOSING DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE 100% AFFORDABLE SENIOR PROJECT KNOWN AS BIRCHWOOD AT WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, BLOCK 113, LOTS 23, 24, AND 25

R128-2024 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN AN AMENDMENT TO THE PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES (“PILOT”) AGREEMENT FOR THE MILLSTREAM APARTMENTS PROJECT ON BLOCK 6 LOTS 2, 2.01, AND 3

R129-2024 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to approve Resolution R122-2024 through R129-2024. Mr. Brown motioned. Mr. DellaPia seconded. There was no discussion. Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Brown, Mr. DellaPia and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes.

OLD BUSINESS

Council members had nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Council members had nothing to report.

REPORTS

• **Mr. Bennett** – The Olde Stone House Village annual car show will be held on Saturday, April 27th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Come out and join the fun! It is their biggest fundraising event and a lot of fun! They are looking for volunteers for all events. ♦ Please slow down and follow the speed limit. You must come to a complete stop at all stop signs. ♦ We are looking for businesses and civic organization to get involved in the 4th of July Parade. Please contact Lisa Collins to sign up.

• **Mr. Brown** – On April 24th there will be an Environmental Book Discussion “For the Love of Trees” at the Library.

- **Mr. Yerkes** – Earth Day is April 22nd and Arbor Day is April 26th. There are many upcoming events including bird walks and discussions, tree sapling giveaway, and milkweed and marigold giveaways. The Releafing Project’s goal is to plant 5,000 trees over 10 years. Thank you Leon and Vicky for all your hard work on these events and for your service to the community. There are a few plots left at the community garden. ♦ The Veterans Advisory Board is preparing for the Memorial Day Ceremony which will take place at 11:00 AM in Atkinson Park. ♦ We are awaiting approval from the DEP for funds to correct the spillway at Ward Lake.
- **Mayor Burns** – We kicked off baseball season last weekend. Thank you to all the coaches and parents for your support and Public Works for maintaining the fields. ♦ The Shred Event was last Saturday. There were 410 cars! The next Shred Event will be in October. ♦ Coffee with a Cop is this Saturday at the Wawa on Egg Harbor Road.
- **Mr. DellaPia** – The Shred Event was a success! Thank you Public Works for your hard work. ♦ Baseball had their Opening Day. Please slow down as there will be a lot of youth activity especially around the ball fields. ♦ Super Saturday is May 11th from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Come out and join the fun! It is always a great time! ♦ April 20th is opening day for softball. The Wildcats have challenged the Municipals for the 2nd annual game.
- **Mr. Del Borrello** – Dee Wallace is 95 years old! We invite Dee to come out to the Senior Center. ♦ There was a wonderful and well attended Celebration of Life for Cole Fitzgerald. ♦ The Wildcats Softball Team car wash is this weekend. Come out and support them! ♦ There is a meeting on Tuesdays to discuss projects in town. We are actively working on the shuttered Denny’s and Taco Bell and the sign. ♦ The Zoning Board will continue the public hearing on the Gannttown Road project on May 13th. ♦ Sue Wegmann, who fought for the Cross Keys neighborhood, passed away. Mr. Del Borrello asked for a moment of silence in honor of Sue. ♦ All dogs in the Township are required to be registered and vaccinated. Please stop in the Clerk’s Office to register your dog for 2024. ♦ The primary election will be held on Tuesday, June 4th. The deadline to change your party affiliation is today, April 10th. The deadline to register to vote is May 14th. Forms can be obtained in the Clerk’s Office.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public. Mr. Bennett motioned. Mr. DellaPia seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the members present.

- **Michael McCloskey, 41 Saddlebrook Drive** – Following up on the violations for the removal of trees and litigation regarding open space area at Block 17.11 Lot 51.

- **Mr. Brown** – Violations are handled in municipal court. The open space aspect will go to litigation.

- **Mr. Wright** – The matter is being litigated and cannot be discussed at an open public meeting. Citations are issued for violations and handled in municipal court. Contact the court for status of the action and when the hearing is scheduled.

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to close the meeting to the public. Mr. DellaPia motioned. Mr. Bennett seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the members present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Del Borrello stated Council will be going into Executive Session which will last about 30 minutes and action may be taken. Motion was made by Mr. DellaPia to approve **R130-2024 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION** for Affordable Housing. Mr. Brown seconded the motion. Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Brown, Mr. DellaPia and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes. Executive Session was entered into at 6:45 PM.

Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to exit Executive Session at 7:52 PM. Mr. Brown motioned. Seconded by Mr. DellaPia. Mr. Yerkes, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Brown, Mr. DellaPia and Mr. Del Borrello voted yes.

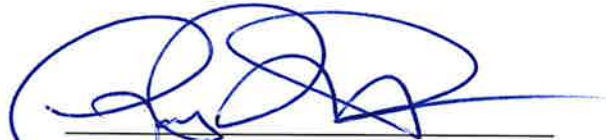
ADJOURNMENT

The next Council meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2024 at 6:00 PM. The meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM. Mr. Del Borrello asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Yerkes motioned. Mr. DellaPia seconded the motion. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Christine Ciallella, RMC
Township Clerk



Peter Del Borrello, III
Council President