

**BOROUGH OF WESTWOOD  
PUBLIC MEETING OF THE MAYOR & COUNCIL  
MAY 18, 2021 AGENDA  
7:30 PM CLOSED SESSION/8:00 PM PUBLIC MEETING  
ZOOM REMOTE MEETING**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87261201632?pwd=Wk11a0ZiOTREU2NCYjhVU3o5aEgxdz09>

**Meeting ID: 872 6120 1632**

**Passcode: 166985**

**By phone: +1-929-205-6099 US (New York)**

**1. Opening of the Meeting:**

This meeting which conforms with the Open Public Meetings law, Chapter 231, Public Laws of 1975, is a regularly scheduled remote Borough Council meeting. The Annual Schedule of meetings was published in the Record on January 14, 2021, posted on the Borough website and on the door of the Borough Hall in conformance with N.J.A.C. 5:39-1 et seq.

**2. Roll Call:**

Mayor Arroyo – Present  
Councilmember Bicocchi – Absent  
Councilmember Collins – Present  
Councilmember– Montana Present  
Councilmember Hodges – Present  
Councilmember Murphy – Present  
Council President Dell - Present

**Committee Assignments:**

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

Borough Attorney Huntington – Present  
Borough Administrator Ayer - Present  
Borough Clerk Hughes – Present

**3. Resolution #21 - 139: Executive Closed Session**

**Motion to Approve Resolution #21-139:** Councilmember Murphy Second: Councilmember Collins

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

**4. Reopen the Meeting:** Councilmember Montana    Second: Councilmember Murphy

Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the affirmative. The time was 8:11 pm.

**5. Roll Call II:**

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

**6. Flag Salute**

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

**7. Approval of Minutes:**

No minutes were ready for approval.

**8. Proclamation and Certificate of Special Recognition – Lebanon Baptist Church**

**9. Proclamation for Dr. Gonzalez, Superintendent of Schools**

**10. Resolution #21- 140: Westwood Volunteer Fire Department – Matters of Personnel**

**Motion to Approve Resolution #21-140:** Councilmember Murphy Second: Councilmember Hodges  
Roll Call: Councilmember Biccocchi - Absent    Councilmember Collins – Yes  
Councilmember Hodges – Yes    Councilmember Montana - Yes  
Councilmember Murphy – Yes    Council President Dell – Yes

**11. Eagle Scout Presentation by Elay Guler**

Elay Guler presented his Eagle Scout project proposal to perform improvements to Hegeman Park such as refurbishing the pavilion, repainting the park sign, installing a bench, and planting flowers or bushes. The Governing Body approved his project.

**12. Engineer’s Report**

**1) Biweekly Report**

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

**13. Reports of Committees and Officials, As Needed:**

**A) Mayor’s Report**

Mayor Arroyo welcomed Durene Ayer, who had been the Borough’s CFO, back to Westwood as the new Borough Administrator.

**i) Covid Update**

Mayor Arroyo reviewed the current statistics on Covid-19 cases and hospitalizations in the Borough. He applauded Councilmember Hodges and her volunteers for facilitating 700 vaccines in a short period of time.

**ii) Melting Pot Beautification Request**

Mayor Arroyo reviewed a request from the Melting Pot to install pavers and beautify the Borough right of way. All were in agreement to allow it.

**iii) Reopening**

Mayor Arroyo announced that the Borough Hall is currently open by appointment and will reopen to the public on June 1<sup>st</sup>. He asked the Council’s preference for returning to live meetings. The consensus was to return to live meetings in June, with provisions for meeting outdoors if large groups are in attendance.

**B) Council President’s Report**

Council President Dell welcomed Mrs. Ayer as the Borough Administrator.

**i) Habitat for Humanity**

Council President Dell thanked Mayor Arroyo, Councilmember Hodges and Councilmember Biccocchi for attending the Habitat for Humanity’s Women Build Day. She noted that the Mayor and Council are in the queue for a volunteer build day and also for the Homes for Hounds event in the fall.

**ii) Borough Events**

Council President Dell encouraged everyone to go out and enjoy the many Borough events this weekend. She reminded the Council that the next work session has been changed to June 1<sup>st</sup>. The election drop box is being installed at the Community Center tomorrow. A Shop the Hub event will be coming up soon, with the date tba.

**C) Council Liaison & Committee Reports**

**1) Finance, Administration and Capital Projects: BD**

**a) Finance Department**

Council President Dell pointed out the road resurfacing bond on the agenda for introduction, and noted that with an administrator in place it will be possible to iron some things out.

**b) Historic Preservation Commission**

Council President Dell advised that a resolution would be added to the Consent Agenda to accept the grant for the Historic Preservation Commission's walking tour project.

**2) Fire and Ambulance: JM**

Councilmember Murphy welcomed Mrs. Ayer.

**a) Ambulance Corps**

Councilmember Murphy noted it is EMS week and thanked the Ambulance Corps members for their dedication.

**b) Fire Department**

Councilmember Murphy announced that the Fire Department is looking for cadets, who must be 15-18 years old in order to participate. They are working on a recruitment day.

**c) Shade Tree Committee**

Councilmember Murphy said the May Shade Tree Committee meeting has been postponed. They have been distributing the door hangars and have received over 30 requests for spring planting with less than half of the hangars distributed.

**3) Health and Hospital: CH**

Councilmember Hodges welcomed Mrs. Ayer.

**a) Health Department**

Councilmember Hodges reviewed the upcoming Covid clinics. She reminded everyone that while pet licensing was extended because the annual anti-rabies clinic was cancelled due to Covid, the deadline of June 30<sup>th</sup> is approaching. The Board of Health cancelled its meeting and is working on rescheduling. Councilmember Hodges said the Health Department has a solid plan for reopening to the public. She congratulated them for working throughout the pandemic and finding ways to get things done. Councilmember Hodges was sad to announce that Zack Martin of Northwest Bergen Regional Health, who was the health inspector for Westwood, has passed away.

**b) Parking Authority**

Councilmember Hodges gave a shout out to the Parking Authority and the Police Department for

ensuring that traffic patterns and projects are shared between the two departments. Making sure the enforcement officers are aware will improve the shoppers' experience.

**4) Land Use: RB**

Councilmember Bicocchi was absent.

**5) Police and OEM: EC**

**a) Police Department**

Councilmember Collins noted that the PBA contract is on the Consent Agenda for approval. She mentioned that Ordinance 21-7 amends the Police code regarding the Deputy Chief position.

**b) Local Assistance**

Councilmember Collins advised that the Local Assistance Board quarterly meeting will be held on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

**6) Public Works and Recreation: CM**

**a) Recreation**

Councilmember Montana reviewed ongoing Recreation projects, including seeding the soccer fields at Westvale and Berkeley School; a construction delay on the outdoor fitness area at Westvale; and final installation of equipment at Hegeman Park. Summer camp registration began May 10<sup>th</sup>, limited to residents only due to Covid restrictions. Some of the over-55 activities are returning. The summer concerts and movies are booked, with a comedy event added. Councilmember Montana concluded by saying the lightning detection system is fully operational and a yearly service contract has been put in place.

**b) DPW**

Councilmember Montana reported that the DPW has been laying playground mulch and will mulch the flowerbeds next. They anticipate planting 40 trees this year. Councilmember Montana advised that the new custodian is doing a phenomenal job.

**c) Non-Resident Recreation Fees**

Councilmember Montana discussed the need to charge Washington Township residents the non-resident recreation fee in order to offset costs in a program heavily utilized by Township residents. A resolution would be added to the Consent Agenda.

**D) Attorney's Report**

No report.

**E) Administrator's / Clerk's Report**

Mrs. Ayer thanked everyone and said she is humbled by their support. She is looking forward to working with everyone.

**1) Election Locations**

Mrs. Hughes advised that all election districts would be located at the Community Center for the Primary and General Elections again this year.

**14. Agenda/Public Forum:**

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

No one wished to be heard.

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

## **15. Ordinances for Introduction/Adoption**

### **Ordinances for Introduction**

#### **21-10 An Ordinance Of The Borough Of Westwood, County Of Bergen, State Of New Jersey, To Adopt The New Jersey Department Of Environmental Protection's Model Ordinance For Stormwater Control**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Ordinance #21-10 entitled "An Ordinance Of The Borough Of Westwood, County Of Bergen, State Of New Jersey, To Adopt The New Jersey Department Of Environmental Protection's Model Ordinance For Stormwater Control" is hereby introduced by title; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Borough Clerk is hereby directed to advertise said ordinance with a June 22, 2021 hearing date in the official newspaper according to law.

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

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

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#### **21-11 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 330 Streets and Sidewalks**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Ordinance #21-11 entitled "An Ordinance Amending Chapter 330 Streets and Sidewalks" is hereby introduced by title; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Borough Clerk is hereby directed to advertise said ordinance with a June 22, 2021 hearing date in the official newspaper according to law.

**Motion to pass the ordinance on First Reading:** Councilmember Montana **Second:** Councilmember Murphy

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

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#### **21-12 Bond Ordinance To Authorize the 2021 Road Resurfacing Program In, By And For The Borough Of Westwood, In The County Of Bergen, State Of New Jersey, To Appropriate The Sum Of \$750,000 To Pay The Cost Thereof, To Make A Down Payment, 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 #21-12 entitled “Bond Ordinance To Authorize the 2021 Road Resurfacing Program In, By And For The Borough Of Westwood, In The County Of Bergen, State Of New Jersey, To Appropriate The Sum Of \$750,000 To Pay The Cost Thereof, To Make A Down Payment, 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 June 1, 2021 hearing date in the official newspaper according to law.

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

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

**Ordinances for Adoption**

**21-7 An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 59 Police Department**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Ordinance #21-7 entitled “An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 59 Police Department” having hereby been read by title, shall have a hearing held on this date.

Councilmember Collins explained there needed to be a minor change in the ordinance from the term ‘blank’ to the term ‘vacant’.

**Motion to open the public hearing:** Councilmember Collins Second: Council President Dell  
Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the affirmative.  
Public Comments: No comments.

**Motion to close the public hearing:** Council President Dell Second: Councilmember Murphy  
Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the affirmative.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that an Ordinance known as #21-7 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 Collins Second: Council President Dell

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

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**21-8 Bond Ordinance To Authorize The Making Of A Public Improvement And The Acquisition Of New Additional Or Replacement Equipment And Machinery And New Automotive Vehicles, Including Original Apparatus And Equipment, In, By And For The Borough Of Westwood, In The County Of Bergen, State Of New Jersey, To Appropriate The Sum Of \$601,000 To Pay The Cost Thereof, To Appropriate Borough Reserve And Trust Fund Moneys, To Make A Down Payment, 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 #21-8 entitled “Bond Ordinance To Authorize The Making Of A Public Improvement And The Acquisition Of New Additional Or Replacement Equipment And Machinery And New Automotive Vehicles, Including Original Apparatus And Equipment, In, By And For The Borough Of Westwood, In The County Of Bergen, State Of New Jersey, To Appropriate The Sum Of \$601,000 To Pay The Cost Thereof, To Appropriate Borough Reserve And Trust Fund Moneys, To Make A Down Payment, 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” having hereby been read by title, shall have a hearing held on this date.

**Motion to open the public hearing:** Councilmember Montana Second: Council President Dell  
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 Murphy 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 #21-8 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 Montana Second: Councilmember Murphy

Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi - Absent Councilmember Collins – Yes

Councilmember Hodges – Yes Councilmember Montana - Yes

Councilmember Murphy – Yes Council President Dell – Yes

**16. Presentation of Bills, Financial Reports and Resolutions:**

Council President 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 g-j were added at this time.

**Resolutions as Consent Agenda:**

a) **Resolution #21 - 141: Bill List & Statement of Cash**

b) **Resolution #21 - 142: Approving the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Borough of Westwood and the New Jersey Policemen’s Benevolent Association, Local 206 (Westwood Unit) (“PBA”) for the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2025**

c) **Resolution #21 - 143: New Jersey Department of Transportation 2022 Municipal Aid Application Lafayette Avenue**

d) **Resolution #21 - 144: New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Grant to Repave Asphalt Pathway in Jake Voorhis Park**

e) **Resolution #21 - 145: Authorizing Refund Of Taxes Due to Tax Court Judgment Block 811 Lot 7**

f) **Resolution #21 - 146: Street Closure & Use of Veterans’ Park for Pet Parade**

g) **Resolution #21 - 147: Increasing Annual LOSAP Contribution**

h) **Resolution #21 - 148: Chapter 159 - New Jersey Historic Trust**

i) **Resolution #21 - 149: Supporting "Bag Up NJ" Reusable Bag Education Campaign**

j) **Resolution #21 - 150: Authorizing Hiring Process for Police Records Clerk**

- k) **Resolution #21 - 151: Approving Settlement Agreement**
- l) **Resolution #21 - 152: Recreation Fees for Washington Twsp. Residents**

**Motion to Approve Resolutions #21-141 through #21-152:** Council President Dell Second:  
Councilmember Murphy

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

**17. Adjournment:**

**Motion to Adjourn:** Council President Dell Second: Councilmember Murphy  
Voice Vote: Voice Vote: A voice vote was taken with all present voting in the affirmative.  
The time was 9:33 pm.

Attest:

Karen Hughes, RMC, Borough Clerk  
Proofed by: Jean-Marie Vadovic, Deputy Clerk