

**BOROUGH OF WESTWOOD
WORK MEETING OF THE MAYOR & COUNCIL
JUNE 1, 2021 MINUTES
MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
101 Washington Avenue
7:00 Closed Session/8:00 pm Public Session**

1. Opening of the Meeting:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Arroyo at 7:06 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 via Zoom
Councilmember Collins – Present
Councilmember Hodges – Present
Councilmember Murphy – Present
Councilmember Montana – Present
Council President Dell - Present
Borough Attorney Huntington – Present
Borough Clerk Hughes – Present
Deputy Clerk Vadovic - Present

3. Resolution #21 - 153: Executive Closed Session

Motion to Approve Resolution #21-153: Councilmember Collins Second: Councilmember Murphy
Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes Councilmember Collins – Yes
Councilmember Hodges – Yes Councilmember Murphy – Yes
Councilmember Montana – Yes Council President Dell - Yes

4. Reopen the Meeting:

Motion to reopen the meeting: Councilmember Murphy Second: Councilmember Collins
Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes Councilmember Collins – Yes
Councilmember Hodges – Yes Councilmember Murphy – Yes
Councilmember Montana – Yes Council President Dell - Yes
The time was 8:07 pm

5. Roll Call II:

Mayor Arroyo – Present
Councilmember Bicocchi – Present via Zoom
Councilmember Collins – Present
Councilmember Hodges – Present
Councilmember Murphy – Present
Councilmember Montana – Present
Council President Dell - Present
Borough Attorney Huntington – Present
Borough Engineer Boswell – Present
Borough Clerk Hughes – Present
Deputy Clerk Vadovic – Present

6. Flag Salute

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

7. Reports by Borough Professionals:

A. Engineer's Biweekly Report

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

B. Administrator's Report

i. Reopening Borough Hall

Mrs. Ayer advised that Borough Hall opened to the public as of today. New carpet has been installed, including cleaning up the stair wells and ordering Borough Logo runners for entrances.

ii. CBDG Grant

Mrs. Ayer said Westwood had been approved for CBDG curbs for 100k. Mayor Arroyo stated that we need to keep in mind that curb cutouts contribute to flooding.

8. Items for Discussion:

a. Road Paving/Micropaving – CM

The Governing Body discussed the 2021 Road Resurfacing Program and proposed micro-paving. Dr. Boswell recommended crack sealing over paving. Councilman Montana will do further research.

b. Bogart Place Parking – RA

Mayor Arroyo states that there is a homeowner with a two family home on Bogart who cannot lease to a new tenant now because of the parking issue and would like to know if the town can help her. Mrs. Hughes stated there is a 3 hour limit of parking and has been that way since at least 1982 per the Borough Code Book. New signs were just put up as the old signs were not there per Mayor Arroyo. Councilmember Montana stated that the restrictions around hourly and overnight parking are there to enforce safety, aesthetics and to prevent other issues. Councilmember Hodges and Councilmember Murphy all agreed that the 3 hour limit of parking is all to help also the central business district with parking issues. Councilmember Montana also explained that maybe the resident can seek other avenues like the Zoning Department for relief.

c. 2021/22 Employee Hang Tags – KH

The Clerks office will go forward with the purchasing of employee hangtags at no cost to the employer/employee again this year. The Mayor and Council would again like to distribute them to the local merchants. Next year the fee will resume again.

d. Electronic Signboard Policy – BD

Council President Dell distributed a draft policy for the new electronic signboard that the Borough will be purchasing. Councilmember Murphy asked if the signboard will have the ability to scroll through announcements, Council President Dell stated yes. All members agreed that in the beginning the board will be for borough business only. Council President Dell will work on finalizing the policy and a resolution will be done once the policy is ready.

e. Proposed Traffic Change – EC

Councilmember Collins discussed a proposal for a 90 day trial period of no parking on Brookside

Avenue on the west (resident) side. Councilmember Montana asked if residents have been advised, and Councilmember Collins stated that Lt. Antonacci has been out to speak with the residents who seem to be happy about it and thinks that it will be well received as some residents have reached out to him directly in regards to the parking issues. A resolution will be brought up at the June 22, 2021 meeting.

f. Part Time Senior Services Coordinator/Director – CM

Councilmember Montana distributed a draft for senior services coordinator, looking for a consensus to have it put on the June 22nd agenda. There was a consensus of the entire Council to bring to the June 22nd meeting.

9. Agenda/Public Forum:

Motion to reopen Agenda/Public Forum: Councilmember Murphy Second Councilmember Collins

Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes Councilmember Collins – Yes

Councilmember Hodges – Yes Councilmember Murphy – Yes

Councilmember Montana – Yes Council President Dell - Yes

Resident Margaret Cieslar, 25 Bogert Place stated that she bought her house 36 years ago as a two family home as it was economically opportunistic for her. They never had a problem parking in front of the house. Her tenant moved out in December and she is finding it challenging to find a new tenant with the parking situation and the 3 hour limit of parking on her street. She would like to know if there is anything the town can do for them.

No one else wished to be heard.

Motion to close Agenda/Public Forum: Council President Dell Second Councilmember Collins

Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes Councilmember Collins – Yes

Councilmember Hodges – Yes Councilmember Murphy – Yes

Councilmember Montana – Yes Council President Dell – Yes

Mayor Arroyo asked for further discussion on the above matter. Councilmember Montana stated it is not the first time for this type of issue to be brought to the Council. The Council needs to think of the town as a whole and not one resident. Mayor Arroyo stated that the Zoning Department could possibly help resident. Councilmember Collins stated when the next Zoning Board Meeting will be held. Borough Attorney Huntington stated that the governing body legally lacks the jurisdiction on an individual ad hoc basis to make this type of decision.

10. Ordinances for Introduction/Adoption

Ordinance For Introduction

Ordinances For Adoption

21-9 An Ordinance To Establish A Schedule Of Salaries, Wages And Compensation Of The Public Officials, Officers And Employees Of The Borough Of Westwood In The County Of Bergen, And To Establish A Method Of Payment Of Such Compensation During Calendar Year 2021

BE IT RESOLVED that Ordinance #21-9 entitled “An Ordinance To Establish A Schedule Of Salaries, Wages And Compensation Of The Public Officials, Officers And Employees Of The Borough Of Westwood In The County Of Bergen, And To Establish A Method Of Payment Of Such Compensation During Calendar Year 2021” having hereby been read by title, shall have a hearing held on this date.

Motion to open the public hearing: Council President Dell Second: Councilmember Murphy
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 Montana 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 #21-9 be passed on final reading and tat a Notice of Adoption of said Ordinance be published in the official newspaper according to law.

Motion for final adoption: Council President Dell Second Councilmember Collins

Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes Councilmember Collins – Yes

Councilmember Hodges – Yes Councilmember Murphy – Yes

Councilmember Montana – Yes Council President Dell – Yes

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” having hereby been read by title, shall have a hearing held on this date.

Motion to open the public hearing: Councilmember Montana Second: Councilmember Hodges
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 Montana 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 #21-12 be passed on final reading and tat a Notice of Adoption of said Ordinance be published in the official newspaper according to law.

Motion for final adoption: Councilmember Montana Council President Dell

Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes Councilmember Collins – Yes

Councilmember Hodges – Yes Councilmember Murphy – Yes

Councilmember Montana – Yes Council President Dell – Yes

11. 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 as Consent Agenda:

- a) **Resolution #21 -154 : Bill List & Statement of Cash**
- b) **Resolution #21 - 155: Appointments to Municipal Offices**
- c) **Resolution #21 -156 : Authorize Release of Maintenance Bond – CareOne**
- d) **Resolution #21 -157 : Street Closure & Use of Veterans’ Park for Westwood Heritage Society’s Craft Shows**
- e) **Resolution #21 -158 : Adopting Procedures For Administration and Inspection Of Federal Aid Highway Projects**

Motion to Approve Resolutions #21-154 through #21-158: Council President Dell Second Councilmember Murphy

Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes Councilmember Collins – Yes
Councilmember Hodges – Yes Councilmember Murphy – Yes
Councilmember Montana – Yes Council President Dell – Yes
Councilmember Hodges recused from bill 21-000820

12. Adjourn back to Executive Closed Session – Resolution #21-159

Motion to Approve Resolution #21-159: Council President Dell Second Councilmember Murphy

Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes Councilmember Collins – Yes
Councilmember Hodges – Yes Councilmember Murphy – Yes
Councilmember Montana – Yes Council President Dell – Yes
The time was 9:50 pm

13. Reopen the Meeting:

Motion to reopen the meeting: Councilmember Murphy Second: Councilmember Montana

Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes Councilmember Collins – Yes
Councilmember Hodges – Yes Councilmember Murphy – Yes
Councilmember Montana – Yes Council President Dell - Yes
The time was 10:34 pm

14. Adjournment:

Councilmember Murphy Second: Council President Dell
Roll Call: Councilmember Bicocchi – Yes Councilmember Collins – Yes
Councilmember Hodges – Yes Councilmember Murphy – Yes
Councilmember Montana – Yes Council President Dell - Yes
The time was 10:35 pm

Attest:

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