

Minutes of the 1804th Regular Meeting of February 1, 2017

**1804th REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 1, 2017
BOROUGH OF WOOD RIDGE
85 HUMBOLDT STREET
WOOD-RIDGE, NEW JERSEY 07075**

CALLED TO ORDER:

Mayor Sarlo called the Borough of Wood-Ridge Council meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Mayor:	Paul Sarlo – present
Council:	Dominick Azzolini – present
	Catherine Cassidy – present
	Ezio Altamura – present
	Edward Marino – excused
	Joseph DiMarco – present
	Philip Romero – present
Borough Attorney:	Paul Barbire – excused
Borough Engineer:	Brian Intindola – excused
Borough Clerk:	Gina Affuso – present
Borough Administrator:	Chris Eilert – present

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT:

This meeting is being held in accordance with P.L. 1975, Chapter 231. The notice requirements have been met by forwarding appropriate notice to The Record, The North Jersey Herald News and Star Ledger setting forth the date, time and place of said meeting and by posting a copy of same on the Municipal Bulletin Board.

CEREMONIAL PRESENTATION: None

ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING: None

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING AND FINAL PASSAGE:

ORDINANCE 2017-1 (2017 Salary Ordinance)

AN ORDINANCE TO FIX THE SALARY, WAGES AND COMPENSATION OF THE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF WOOD-RIDGE, COUNTY OF BERGEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY. (2017 Salaries)

Advertisement of the above Ordinance has been made according to law and a copy of the Ordinance was posted on the bulletin board.

Mayor Sarlo called for a Hearing of Citizens on Ordinance #2017-1

The 1804th Meeting of February 1, 2017

Rich Martinelli of 216 Tenth Street asked why Councilman Romero abstained from voting on the salary ordinance. Administrator Eilert explained that Councilman Romero's wife is a borough employee and therefore abstains when employee matters are involved. Mr. Martinelli questioned the amount of the police salaries. Mayor Sarlo explained the Borough has been working very hard to reduce the salaries of police and explained that any new officers will be at a significantly lower rate due to the new contracts. However, until such time, the Borough must adhere to the current contracts.

Mayor Sarlo closed Hearing of Citizens on Ordinance #2017-1

Motion: Councilperson Altamura, seconded by DiMarco moved to the adoption of Ordinance #2017-1

Roll Call: Azzolini yes, Cassidy yes, Altamura yes, Marino absent, DiMarco yes, Romero abstain

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING: None

PETITIONS: None

BIDS: None

COMMUNICATIONS:

Communications and correspondence received are identified on this evening's agenda has been distributed to all Council for appropriate action.

- a. Letter from WRHS Project Graduation 2017 Committee requesting the Borough extend insurance coverage from June 21 through June 22, 2017.

REPORTS OF GOVERNING BODY:

Mayor: Sarlo – no report

Council: Dominick Azzolini – no report

Catherine Cassidy – no report

Ezio Altamura – no report

Edward Marino – no report

Joseph DiMarco – no report

Philip Romero – no report

REPORTS OF OFFICERS: On file in clerk's office

Administrator: Eilert
Borough Clerk: Affuso
Attorney: Barbire
Engineer: Neglia

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS: On file in clerk's office

Administration	Fire Department
CFO/Finance	Department of Public Works
Construction Code Official	Police Department
Municipal Court	Tax Collector
Emergency Management	Welfare Director

REPORTS OF BOARDS OR COMMISSIONS: On file in clerk's office

Planning Board	Shade Tree Commission
Board of Education	Senior Citizens
Recreation Commission	Veterans
Library Board	Local Assistance Board
Board of Health	Other

FIRST HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mayor Sarlo declared the Hearing of Citizens to be open. Anyone wishing to speak please come to the microphone in front of the room and state your name and address. Please speak clearly into the microphone.

Rich Martinelli of 216 Tenth Street asked for an explanation of what project graduation was. Mayor Sarlo explained it was to provide the high school graduating class a safe environment to have a party with no drinking or driving. The school conducts fundraising events to pay for the event and the Borough extends the insurance coverage for that particular day.

Glenn Mursch of 293 Innes Road spoke on behalf of his son, Christopher. Christopher is requesting permission from the Council to paint house numbers on the curbs for his Eagle Scout project. Administrator Eilert explained that this is an ongoing project the Borough has with the scouts and a DPW employee and a Police Officer were present during the painting for the safety of the child.

Mayor Sarlo called for a motion to allow Christopher Mursch permission to paint house numbers on curbs as part of his Eagle Scout project.

Motion: Councilperson Altamura, seconded by Cassidy moved to the permission of Eagle Scout House Number Painting Project.

Roll Call: Azzolini yes, Cassidy yes, Altamura yes, Marino absent, DiMarco yes, Romero yes

Glenn Mursch asked if Innes Road would be open as part of the construction at Wesmont. Mayor Sarlo explained there is no intention of opening the road for anything other than emergency vehicles. However,

The 1804th Meeting of February 1, 2017

there is discussions of a pedestrian walkway that will allow residents to enjoy the amenities of Wesmont without driving.

Seeing none and hearing none further, the Mayor declared the Hearing of Citizens to be closed.

CONSENT AGENDA:

All matters listed below are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by Council, that particular item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

MINUTES:

Minutes of January 18, 2017.

RESOLUTIONS: Adoption of the following

**RESOLUTION NO.: 037-2017
RESOLUTION APPROVING EXTENSION OF INSURANCE FOR 2017 PROJECT
GRADUATION**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge, hereby acknowledges the benefits to the community afforded through Project Graduation; a one evening drug and alcohol free event to celebrate the senior graduation of Wood-Ridge High School; and

WHEREAS, the Borough, in conjunction with other civic-oriented organizations including, but not limited to, the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Committee (ADAC) provides specified funds for the purpose of sponsoring the Project Graduation event; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge, wish to control the costs associated with Project Graduation and thereby extend insurance coverage through the Borough's membership in the South Bergen Municipal Joint Insurance Fund.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge does hereby recognize and acknowledge the invaluable benefit to the citizens of Wood-Ridge and specifically, the graduating seniors, participating in Project Graduation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mayor and Council does hereby formally request the Executive Committee of the South Bergen Municipal Joint Insurance Fund to extend insurance coverage to the Project Graduation Committee and subsequently the 2017 Project Graduation Event; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Risk Management Consultants of the Borough of Wood-Ridge: Professional Insurance Associates at 429 Hackensack Street, PO Box 818, Carlstadt, New Jersey.

RESOLUTION NO.: 038-2017
RESOLUTION APPROVING CREDIT OF PROPERTY TAX FOR BLOCK 292, LOT 5

WHEREAS, the Borough Assessor has determined that an added assessment for 2015 was placed on Block 292, Lot 5 also known as 368 Columbia Boulevard in error; and

WHEREAS, the taxpayer is due a credit and/or refund for said overbilling for the tax years 2015 and 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has verified the overbilled amount as follows:

2015 - \$1,419.94 (\$1413.00 plus \$6.94 interest)
2016 - \$3,204.38 (\$3,172.66 plus \$31.72 interest)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that the Treasurer is authorized and directed to make payments to State of New Jersey OPG REP in the amount of \$1,419.94; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax Collector is authorized to make the necessary adjustments to Block 292, Lot 5 (368 Columbia Boulevard) to effectuate the said overbilled amounts.

RESOLUTION NO.: 039-2017
RESOLUTION APPROVING MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR LOCAL 32 OFFICE & PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES UNION (DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS)

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge have been advised of the proposed contract settlement between Local 32 Office and Professional Employees Union/Wood-Ridge DPW Unit and Borough of Wood-Ridge; and

WHEREAS, the said Governing Body has been advised as to the merits of the settlement of the subject Collective Bargaining Negotiation by legal counsel and the Governing Body's Negotiation Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Administrator be authorized to finalize the contract document as set forth in Schedule "A" attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Borough of Wood-Ridge to settle the subject Collective Bargaining Negotiation in accordance with the terms noted herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge that settlement of the said Collective Bargaining Negotiation be finalized in accordance with Schedule "A" attached hereto and with respect to same, the Mayor and Borough Administrator and/or any other appropriate official is hereby authorized to perform any act in order to effectuate the purposes set forth in this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council hereby ratify and confirm any and all actions taken by the appropriate officials in the past with respect to the subject Collective Bargaining Negotiation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Certificate of Availability of Funds pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-57 has been certified to by the Chief Finance Officer and is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

APPLICATIONS:

- a. Application for Solicitor License from Power Home Remodeling Group, LLC for Alexander Cortes, John Ghattas, Daniel Diaz, and Andrew Edwardsen.
- b. Application from Meadowlands Area YMCA for Tricky Tray and Off-Premise 50/50 on April 5, 2017 at the Fiesta.
- c. Application from Elmwood Park High School Project Graduation for Tricky Tray and On-Premise 50/50 on March 9, 2017 at the Fiesta.
- d. Application from Knights of Columbus for Casino Night and 50/50 on April 29, 2017 at the Fiesta.
- e. Application from Wood-Ridge Touchdown Club for Tricky Tray and On-Premise 50/50 on April 26, 2017 at the Fiesta.
- f. Application from St. Mary's High School for Tricky Tray and Off-Premise Raffle on May 19, 2017 at the Fiesta.

All applications listed above have been reviewed and approved by the Wood-Ridge Police Department.

SEMINAR APPROVALS:

- a. Cathleen Calabro to attend Training Unlimited, LLC for RMC CEU's in Paramus on May 24, 2017.

APPOINTMENTS: None

HIRINGS: None

Motion: Councilperson Cassidy, seconded by Romero moved to the adoption of all matters on the above **CONSENT AGENDA.**

Roll Call: Azzolini yes, Cassidy yes, Altamura yes, Marino absent, DiMarco yes, Romero yes

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Altamura reminded everyone that March 1st is Youth Government Night.

The 1804th Meeting of February 1, 2017

SECOND HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mayor Sarlo declared the Hearing of Citizens to be open. Anyone wishing to speak please come to the microphone in front of the room and state your name and address. Please speak clearly and into the microphone.

Rich Martinelli of 216 Tenth Street asked if the Borough issued permits for solicitors to knock on doors. Administrator Eilert explained that according to law, we must allow solicitors permission, however, they are only granted same after a thorough background check is performed on each applicant. Mr. Martinelli asked if the appraisal company was obligated to return emails. Administrator Eilert stated that, yes they were, and if he does not receive a response to call him for proper follow up of same.

Seeing none and hearing none further, the Mayor declared the Hearing of Citizens closed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Since there was no further business to come before the Council, Councilperson Altamura, seconded by Councilperson Azzolini moved for adjournment. By unanimous vote of the members of the Council present, the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wood-Ridge held on February 1, 2017 was duly adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Affuso, RMC
Borough Clerk