

**SPECIAL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 7, 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 6:15 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Mayor:	Paul Sarlo – present
Council:	Dominick Azzolini - present
	Catherine Cassidy – present
	Ezio Altamura – present
	Edward Marino – present
	Joseph DiMarco – excused
	Philip Romero - present
Borough Attorney:	Paul Barbire – excused
Borough Engineer:	Heidi Cohen – present
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.

ADVERTISED PUBLIC HEARING:

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Land Acquisition Application for the Wood-Ridge Recreation Complex at Wesmont Station.

Administrator Eilert explained the Borough is in the preliminary steps for acquisition and development of the site. A development concept plan is needed to submit with the Green Acres Application.

Mayor Sarlo explained this is a 12 acre parcel of land which is deed restricted and cannot be used for residential use. Mayor Sarlo explained that DEP and County Executive Tedesco have advised the Borough to explore options. This concept plan is a draft only, is needed to submit the application and does not commit the Borough to any plan.

Administrator Eilert explained that if we are awarded the application and decide to pursue it, there would be a series of meetings as required by the DEP. These meetings would be to get the input of the public, recreation commission and sports programs.

Councilman Azzolini asked if there was a cap on the amount of money available. Administrator Eilert explained the \$10 million dollars stated in the resolution comes from the value the developer's assigned to this property. Should the project be done, the DEP would require appraisals to be performed on said property.

PUBLIC 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.

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

Three members of the public were present but had no questions or comments regarding the presentation.

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.

RESOLUTIONS: Adoption of the following

**RESOLUTION NO.: 040-2017
STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
GREEN ACRES ENABLING RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Green acres Program ("State"), provides loans and/or grants to municipal and county governments and grants to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the acquisition, development, and stewardship of lands for outdoor recreation and conservation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Wood-Ridge desires to further the public interest by obtaining funding in the amount of \$2.5 million dollars from the State to fund the acquisition of lands for the Wood-Ridge Recreation Complex at Wesmont Station at a cost of \$10 million dollars;

NOW, THEREFORE, the governing body resolves that Christopher W. Eilert or the successor to the office of Business Administrator is hereby authorized to:

- a) Make application for such a loan and/or such a grant,
- b) Provide additional application information and furnish such documents as may be required, and
- c) Act as the authorized correspondent of the above named applicant; and

WHEREAS, the State shall determine if the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the Green Acres Program, and notify the applicant of the amount of the funding award; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is willing to use the State's funds in accordance with such rules, regulations and applicable statutes, and is willing to enter into an agreement with the State for the above named project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE BOROUGH OF WOOD-RIDGE

1. That the Mayor of the above named body or board is hereby authorized to execute an agreement and any amendment thereto with the State known as Wood-Ridge Recreation Complex at Wesmont Station;
2. That the applicant will bond its matching share of the project, if a match is required, in the amount of \$7.5 million dollars;
3. That, in the event the State's funds are less than the total project costs specified above, the applicant has the capacity to fund the remaining balance necessary to complete the project;
4. That the applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project;
5. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

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

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.

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 Romero, 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 7, 2017 was duly adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Affuso, RMC
Borough Clerk