



**Borough of Wallington
Mayor and Council Caucus/Work Session - Minutes
March 7, 2024 - Civic Center**

A quorum was established. A Caucus/Work Session of the Borough of Wallington Mayor and Council was held at the Wallington Civic Center on Thursday, March 7, 2024, presided over by Mayor Dabal with Frank Belli as Acting Municipal Clerk. Mayor Dabal called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and read the OPMA Notice, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Invocation.

ROLL CALL: Present – Eugeniusz Rachelski, Dennis Graham, Beata Balik, Susanne Preinfalk, Wendy Ivanicki, Khaldoun Androwis, Mayor Melissa Dabal
Also Present - Borough Attorney Richard Allen, Borough Administrator Jennifer Appice

HEARING OF CITIZENS

- There were no citizens present.

CONSENT AGENDA: (See attached for full resolutions)

1. Resolution No. 2024 – 102 Authorizing Mandatory Direct Deposit for all Employees
2. Resolution No. 2024 – 103 Authorizing Emergency Appropriations for Property Revaluation
3. Resolution No. 2024 – 104 Authorizing CDBG grant application for Johnson Ave Firehouse HVAC replacement.
4. Resolution No. 2024 – 105 Authorizing Payment of Bills
5. Resolution No. 2024 – 107 Authorizing Revision to Water Rates
6. Resolution No. 2024 – 108 Authorizing to Enter a Grant Agreement for FY20 Bergen County CDBG
7. Resolution No. 2024 – 109 Awarding Bid to Appraisal Systems for property revaluation

Councilwoman Preinfalk motioned to approve the consent agenda “en mass” and was seconded by Councilwoman Balik

ROLL CALL: AYE: Rachelski, Graham, Balik, Preinfalk, Ivanicki, Androwis

ORDINANCES: (See attached for full ordinance)

- 2024-006: 2nd reading by title only “An ordinance to exceed the municipal budget appropriation limits and establish a cap bank.”

Motion to open the Hearing of the Citizens relative to Ordinance 2024-006 by Councilwoman Balik, Seconded by Councilman Rachelski

ROLL CALL: AYE: Rachelski, Graham, Balik, Preinfalk, Ivanicki, Androwis

- There were no citizens to be heard.

Motion to close the Hearing of the Citizens by Councilwoman Preinfalk, Seconded by Councilman Rachelski

ROLL CALL: AYE: Rachelski, Graham, Balik, Preinfalk, Ivanicki, Androwis

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-006 by Councilman Rachelski, Seconded by Councilwoman Balik

ROLL CALL: AYE: Rachelski, Graham, Balik, Preinfalk, Ivanicki, Androwis

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. DPW Letter
2. Letter regarding legislation relating to Municipal land Use regulations.
3. WFD Engine Co. #2 – Approval of new volunteer.
4. WFD Hose Co. #3 - Requesting use of Civic Center for 2 events.
 - A. Easter Breakfast on March 24, 2024.
 - B. Christmas Breakfast on December 8, 2024.
5. Wallington Lions Club request for use of Civic Center.
6. Aria Chorus – Journal Advertisement request form.
7. Aria Chorus – Invitation to the Jubilee Ball on April 27, 2024.
8. Zoning/Construction Dept – February 2024 Report.
9. Property Maintenance - February 2024 Report.

Councilwoman Balik motioned to refer the above communications to the proper departments and was seconded by Councilman Rachelski.

ROLL CALL: AYE: Rachelski, Graham, Balik, Preinfalk, Ivanicki, Androwis

OLD BUSINESS:

- There was no old business discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilwoman Ivanicki stated, that over the past 4 years working with the Fire department, this Mayor and Council has received over \$500,000 in grant funding.

Councilman Graham stated that the Wallington Junior cheer is doing extremely well. They won a big competition in Maryland about two weeks ago. They beat out 144 teams and they qualified to go to the Summit, which is the super over top of the mountain Super Bowl of cheering in Tampa. It's in late April and they need money to register and for travel. They're trying to raise \$10,000 and so far received \$1,000 from the recreation board, and are trying to raise more. They asked if we could promote their initiative or maybe recognize during a meeting what they have achieved.

Mayor Dabal stated that a monetary donation from the Mayor and Council should be given to the Junior Cheer team for this. She requested that we find out what they have received so far and what we can afford budgetarily.

Councilwoman Preinfalk addressed purchasing a full-page ad to support the Aria Chorus. In addition, she wanted to let everyone know that the library furniture will be delivered next week, and PSEG will be turning on the power. Mayor Dabal asked the status of the dedication plaque order and was told it was it is being worked on.

Councilwoman Balik asked the status of updating E-Code 360 with our new Ordinances.

Mayor Dabal stated that she received several complaints from residents regarding late garbage pickups and will address it with the owner of Bin Drop. She also asked the status of installing 2 steel garbage cans to be put by the bus stop by Bogush and in a few other locations throughout the town. She explained residential parking sticker pilot program and how to proceed with the issuance of parking passes for Spring Street, Spring Court and Johnson Avenue to Fradkin. Mayor identified the number of street scape lights that are out and whether they are the towns responsibility or the businesses to maintain. Mayor discussed the library grand opening and the 9/11 monument installation as well as the summer recreation program. She mentioned speed bumps, stop signs and new signage on order to be placed throughout the borough. She concluded with a discussion on Borough charging stations, new senior bus, and the prohibition of pennant flags.

CLOSED SESSION:

Councilwoman Balik motioned to convene into **CLOSED SESSION at 7:52 pm**, as per Resolution 2024-106, in accordance with Title 10 Chapter 4 through 12 section and seconded by Councilman Rachelski

ROLL CALL: AYE: Rachelski, Graham, Balik, Preinfalk, Ivanicki, Androwis

RESOLUTION 2024-106

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL TO CONVELE INTO CLOSED SESSION AS PER THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, P. L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS it is necessary for the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wallington to discuss in a session not open to the public certain matters relating to the item or items authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b and designated below:

- ☒ (1) Matters Required by Law to be Confidential:
- ☐ (2) Matters Where the Release of Information:
- ☐ (3) Matters Involving Individual Privacy:
- ☒ (4) Matters Relating to Collective Bargaining Agreements:
- ☐ (5) Matters Relating to the Purchase, Lease of Acquisition of Real Property, or the Investment of Public Funds:
- ☐ (6) Matters Relating to Public Safety and Property:
- ☒ (7) Matters Relating to Litigation, Negotiations, and the Attorney-Client Privilege:
- ☐ (8) Matters Relating to the Employment Relationship:
- ☐ (9) Matters Relating to the Potential Imposition of a Penalty:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wallington, as follows:

1. An Executive Session closed to the public shall be held on March 7, 2024, at 7:50 pm. or soon thereafter as the matter may be reached on the agenda in the Civic Center, 24 Union Boulevard, Wallington, New Jersey for the discussion of matters relating to the specific items designated above.
2. Minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes can be made public.

Councilwoman Balik motioned to return to **PUBLIC SESSION at 8:36 pm**, seconded by Councilman Rachelski

ROLL CALL: AYE: Rachelski, Graham, Balik, Preinfalk, Ivanicki, Androwis

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Mayor and Council, Mayor Dabal requested a motion for adjournment.

Councilwoman Ivanicki motioned for adjournment of the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Balik.

ROLL CALL: AYE: Rachelski, Graham, Balik, Preinfalk, Ivanicki, Androwis.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Frank Belli
Acting Municipal Clerk