



**Borough of Wallington
Mayor and Council Public Session Minutes
Thursday, December 21, 2023, 6:30 P.M., Civic Center**

A quorum was established. A Regular Public Session of the Borough of Wallington Mayor and Council was held at the Wallington Civic Center on Thursday, December 21st, 2023, presided over by Mayor Dabal with Ace Antonio as Acting Municipal Clerk. Mayor Dabal called the meeting to order at 6:39 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the Invocation and read the OPMA Notice.

ROLL CALL: Members Present – Rachelski, Ivanicki, Preinfalk, Androwis, Balik, Dabal
Members Absent- Sadecki
Also Present- Borough Attorney Allen and Borough Administrator Appice

HEARING OF CITIZENS

Motion to open the meeting to the **HEARING OF CITIZENS** by Ms. Preinfalk. Second by Ms. Ivanicki. General consent was given by voice vote, granting the motion.

Mayor Dabal invited the public to address the Mayor and Council, asking if anyone wished to speak and requesting their name and address.

Mr. Eugene Drzal (14 Stein Avenue). Mr. Drzal expressed concerns about garbage can placement after collection. Mayor Dabal empathetically acknowledged the issue, assuring it would be addressed.

Mayor Dabal inquired if anyone else wished to be heard from the public. With no further responses, Mayor Dabal then called for a motion to close.

Mr. Rachelski motioned to **CLOSE** the **HEARING OF CITIZENS** and seconded by Ms. Preinfalk.

The mayor called for a voice vote, and the motion passed without objections.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Dabal requested a motion to approve September 21st, 2023, Regular Public Session Minutes.

September 21st, 2023, Regular Public Session Minutes
Motion to approve by Ms. Preinfalk, seconded by Ms. Balik.

ROLL CALL: **AYES:** Rachelski, Ivanicki, Preinfalk, Balik
NAYS: Androwis

Mr. Androwis expressed the need for substantial changes and inquired about the possibility of making them. Mayor Dabal sought specifics on the proposed changes and recommended compiling a list for consideration at a future meeting. Mr. Androwis agreed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Dabal called for a motion to approve the **CONSENT AGENDA**, which included Resolutions No. 176, 203, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, and 222. After asking if there were any questions and receiving none, Ms. Balik moved to approve. Second by Mr. Androwis.

Mr. Rachelski inquired about the presence of the settlement resolution in the **CONSENT AGENDA**. Acting Municipal Clerk Antonio clarified that the resolution was not included in the **CONSENT AGENDA** but was instead listed under **NON-CONSENT** as an add-on to tonight's meeting. Mr. Antonio further explained that the resolution did not carry a designated resolution number. Following this clarification, Mr. Rachelski cast an affirmative vote, and the roll call continued.

ROLL CALL: **AYES:** Rachelski, Ivanicki, Preinfalk, Androwis, Balik. The motion passed unanimously through a roll call vote.



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1. Resolution No. 2023 – 176: Approving Liquor License Marian Rys
2. Resolution No. 2023 – 203: Transfer of Funds 2023
3. Resolution No. 2023 – 210: Authorization For The Governing Body To Convene Into Executive Session
4. Resolution No. 2023 – 211: Authorizing Payment Of Bills
5. Resolution No. 2023 – 212: Cancellation of Grant Receivable and Grant Reserve Balances
6. Resolution No. 2023 – 213: Certification of Audit
7. Resolution No. 2023 – 214: Corrective Action Plan Approval 2022
8. Resolution No. 2023 – 217: Authorizing Refund Of Redemption Of Tax Sale Payment & Premium Certificate 23-00001
9. Resolution No. 2023 – 218: Authorizing Refund Of Redemption Of Tax Sale Payments & Premium Certificate 18-00007
10. Resolution No. 2023 – 219: Authorizing Refund of Remaining Balance of Escrow to Joseph Visco
11. Resolution No. 2023 – 220: Authorizing Submission Of A Grant Application To The New Jersey Department Of Community Affairs' Fiscal Year 2024 American Rescue Plan Firefighter Grant Program
12. Resolution No. 2023 – 221: Resolution for Mayor and Council Reorganization Meeting for 2024
13. Resolution No. 2023 – 222: Authorizing the Mayor and Borough Administrator to Sign the Collective Negotiations Agreement with the Wallington Crossing Guards Association

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Building Department November 2023 Monthly Audit Report
Nick Melfi, Building Official

Mayor Dabal called for a motion to refer the above communications to the proper departments. Ms. Preinfalk motion, seconded by Mr. Rachelski.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Rachelski, Ivanicki, Preinfalk, Androwis, Balik. The motion passed unanimously through a roll call vote.

ORDINANCES

No items for Ordinances.

NON-CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Dabal addressed Resolution 208, inquiring if there were any questions, followed by discussions on 215 and 216. Ms. Preinfalk sought clarification of Express Gold's address, to which Mr. Antonio clarified that it is 62 Wallington Avenue. Satisfied with the response, Ms. Preinfalk proceeded. Mayor Dabal then called for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023 – 208, noting the presence of three individual motions. She sought guidance from Borough Attorney Allen on whether they could be approved 'en masse' or needed separate consideration. Mr. Allen confirmed 'en masse' approval when individually identified. Mayor Dabal specified each motion (208, 215, 216) individually and then requested a motion to approve them collectively. Mr. Rachelski made the motion, seconded by Ms. Preinfalk, followed by a roll call.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Rachelski, Ivanicki, Preinfalk, Androwis, Balik. The motion passed unanimously through a roll call vote.

- Resolution No. 2023 – 208: Resolution Authorizing The Mayor And Municipal Clerk To Execute A Shared Service Agreement With The Borough Of Paramus For Maintenance / Repair Of Borough Vehicles
- Resolution No. 2023 – 215: Resolution Authorizing The Settlement Of A Tax Appeal And Authorizing The Execution And Delivery Of A Settlement Agreement And Stipulation Of Settlement To Be Filed With The Tax Court Of New Jersey
- Resolution No. 2023 – 216: Granting Liquor License No. 0265-33-043-006, Express Gold

Following the roll call, Mr. Antonio inquired if Ms. Ivanicki had a question, and she indicated that she would wait until the end. Mayor Dabal then asked about the question, and Ms. Ivanicki explained that it pertained to Bin Drop.



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The mayor inquired if it was related to any agenda item, and Ms. Ivanicki confirmed that it concerned an extension by a couple of months. Mayor Dabal mentioned having received an email from Gary (Bin Drop) stating that the contract is set to expire on December 31, 2023. Mr. Allen asked if the resolution was on the agenda, to which Mr. Antonio responded that he had not received the resolution, and it was not on the agenda.

Mr. Allen further elaborated on the need to extend the emergency contract to facilitate the bidding process. He explained the intention to proceed as soon as he meets with the Administrator and agrees to send it out. Mr. Allen then asked Mr. Antonio for the next assigned number, and Mr. Antonio identified it as 223, titled Resolution Extending the Emergency Contract For The Collection Of Solid Waste And Recycling With Cap Inv 1 LLC DbA Bindrop Solid Waste Services Pending A Re-Bid For The Contract. Ms. Ivanicki inquired about the duration of the extension, and Mr. Allen clarified that it extends until the new contract. He noted that a time limit could be established, but the bid needs to be open for 60 days.

After further discussion, Mayor Dabal requested a motion for the extension, which was granted by Ms. Preinfalk and seconded by Mr. Rachelski.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Rachelski, Ivanicki, Preinfalk, Androwis, Balik. The motion passed unanimously through a roll call vote.

Mayor Dabal, following the roll call, verified with Mr. Allen that he possesses all the necessary information required to proceed with the extension. Mr. Allen affirmed.

Mayor Dabal opened to the Council if anyone wished to speak before going into **EXECUTIVE SESSION**.

Ms. Preinfalk emphasized that, as part of the Library Board of Trustees, they have officially decided to hire a new library director. The selected candidate, Risa D'Angelo, is scheduled to commence her role on January 22nd, and the board is enthusiastic about moving forward with her. Mayor Dabal, having interviewed her, expressed confidence in her capabilities, affirming that she will excel in the position. Ms. Preinfalk underscored D'Angelo's background as a former teacher, particularly highlighting her experience with children, which resonated positively with the board, making her the top candidate.

Mr. Rachelski raised a question about previous arrangements made during a previous meeting regarding financing for library furniture. He inquired whether there would be any changes, specifically regarding the cost. Ms. Preinfalk clarified that they are committed to repayment, and the finance team is actively managing the situation. Additionally, she mentioned coordinating with the new director to establish a fundraising arm for the Friends of the Library. This initiative aims to generate funds, particularly with the anticipation of increased engagement and excitement surrounding the new library building.

Addressing Mr. Rachelski's query about the ladies establishing a Polish book section, Ms. Preinfalk responded affirmatively, stating that the new director is 100% receptive to the efforts of the ladies involved. She expressed excitement about the prospect, noting that D'Angelo is from Carlstadt, familiar with the area, and attuned to the demographics that include a substantial number of Polish patrons. Ms. Preinfalk believes D'Angelo will be a great fit for their community.

Mayor Dabal asked the Council if there were any items of old or new business. With no responses, Mayor Dabal announced that the Council would enter Executive Session, and upon their return, actions would be taken.

She took a moment to extend warm wishes for a Merry Christmas to everyone who might choose to leave during Executive Session. Mayor Dabal then extended a special invitation to Councilman-Elect Dennis Graham, encouraging him to stay during the Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Balik moved to enter **EXECUTIVE SESSION** in accordance with **RESOLUTION 2023-210**, following the guidelines of Title 10 Chapter 4 through 12 Section B, to address matters related to personnel, litigation, and contracts. The motion was seconded by Mr.



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Rachelski and unanimously approved through a Voice Vote. The motion to enter **EXECUTIVE SESSION** was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Entered **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 6:58 PM

Returned into **PUBLIC SESSION** at 7:49 PM

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Dabal requested a motion on the floor for 2023-224 authorizing Mark DiPisa to go into arbitration for the appeal award. Ms. Ivanicki motioned, seconded by Mr. Rachelski.

ROLL CALL: AYES: Rachelski, Ivanicki, Preinfalk, Androwis, Balik. The motion passed unanimously through a roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional matters to address before the Mayor and Council, Mayor Dabal called for a motion to adjourn Sine Die. Ms. Balik promptly made the motion, seconded by Ms. Ivanicki.

Mayor Dabal sought a motion to adjourn, to which Ms. Ivanicki motioned the adjournment, seconded by Ms. Balik. The motion received unanimous approval through a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully Drafted by,

Ace Antonio
Acting Municipal Clerk