

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD MAY 2, 2017

Pursuant to rules of Council of the Town of Westfield, the members thereof convened in regular session Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

Acting Mayor Neylan made the following announcements:

“Prior to convening in regular session, there was an agenda session which was open to public and advertised.”

“The adequate notice of this meeting as required by the Open Public Meetings Act, was provided by the posting, mailing and filing of the annual notice of regularly scheduled meetings of the Town Council on December 22, 2016. The notice was, on that date, posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, mailed to THE WESTFIELD LEADER, AND THE STAR LEDGER, and filed with the Clerk of the Town of Westfield.”

PRESENT: Acting Mayor Neylan, Council Members Arena, LoGrippe, Loughlin, Della Fera, Oliveira, Stokes

ABSENT: Mayor Skibitsky & Councilman Donnelly

Invocation was given by Councilman Arena

PRESENTATIONS

Westfield First – James O’Conner of POE Studios – 128 Elm Street

APPOINTMENT

ADVERTISED HEARINGS

The Council proceeded to the hearing entitled, “SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO. 2207 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF CURBING AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW CURBING ON VARIOUS STREETS AND THE APPROPRIATION OF MONIES NECESSARY THEREFOR.”

Advertised returnable this evening.

Acting Mayor Neylan declared the hearing closed.

The Council proceeded to the hearing entitled, “SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO. 2208

BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$2,725,000 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.”

Advertised returnable this evening.

Acting Mayor Neylan declared the hearing closed.

PENDING BUSINESS

An ordinance entitled, “SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO. 2207 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF CURBING AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW CURBING ON VARIOUS STREETS AND THE APPROPRIATION OF MONIES NECESSARY THEREFOR.” Introduced by Councilman Arena, seconded by Councilman LoGrippto, was taken up, read and passed by the following vote of all present upon roll call as follows:

Yeas:	Arena LoGrippto Loughlin Della Fera Oliveira Stokes Acting Mayor Neylan	Nays:	Absent: Donnelly Mayor Skibitsky
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An ordinance entitled, “SPECIAL ORDINANCE NO. 2208 BOND ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE MAKING OF VARIOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS IN, BY AND FOR THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD, IN THE COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$2,725,000 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.” Introduced by Councilman Arena, seconded by Councilman Oliveira, was taken up, read and passed by the following vote of all present upon roll call as follows:

Yeas:	Arena LoGrippto Loughlin Della Fera	Nays:	Absent: Donnelly Mayor Skibitsky
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Oliveira
Stokes
Acting Mayor Neylan

BIDS

TOWN OF WESTFIELD INVITATION TO BID TUESDAY, April 19, 2017

POLICE UNIFORMS FOR THE WESTFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount of Bid</u>
Universal Uniform Sales Co., Inc.	\$40,000.00
1015 Broad Street	
Newark, NJ 07102	

MINUTES

On a motion by Councilman LoGrippe seconded by Councilman Della Fera, Council approved the Minutes of the Town Council Conference Session & Regular Meeting held April 18, 2017.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

OPEN DISCUSSION BY CITIZENS

Nancy Griffith of 264 W. Dudley spoke about environmental issues in New Jersey. She asked the Council to support Assembly Bill A-2203, Renewable Energy Transition Act, by way of a resolution. The bill requires a switch to 80 percent renewable energy by 2050. Acting Mayor stated the matter would be researched.

Greg Kasko of 434 Everson Place spoke regarding Facebook discussion he was involved in. He read a ten-minute prepared speech regarding the City of Plainfield and the race riots that happened many years ago. He said that Councilman LoGrippe made a comment on Facebook about what happened in Plainfield after an election and insinuated that the Council person's remarks were racist in nature. Councilman Frank Arena responded to Mr. Kasko and said it was a shame that he would accuse Councilman LoGrippe of racist remarks.

Alicia Barker of 416 Elm Street spoke regarding Mr. Kasko's comments. She said trying to bring race into Westfield because there's a national concern about it is disgraceful. She also indicated

that it was never a secret that she is the Mayor's campaign manager. She said she was honored to be the Mayor's campaign manager and that emotion from the national election last November should not dominate local elections.

Emily Root of 738 Mountain Avenue asked about the Green Team and what they are doing. Councilman Della Fera stated that he participated in the Green Team's annual Town-wide cleanup this past weekend and encouraged everyone concerned about the environment to participate in such activities in Westfield. Ms. Root said that she had visited the Town's website and saw that the Green Team is doing great things. Ms. Root asked about the Council's stance on global climate change, because she had visited Councilman Arena's Facebook page and she indicated that he was not an advocate of climate change and wanted to know if the rest of the Council felt the same way. Councilman Della Fera stated that global climate change was not an issue that was under the jurisdiction of the Town Council and suggested Ms. Root's question was inappropriate since national politics should not be brought into local government as a campaign item.

Sally Cohen-Alameno of 241 Hazel Avenue spoke about a Facebook discussion and said she didn't understand what was wrong with having new voices in town and the idea that people are running against the current administration. She said she felt as though her ideas and concerns were being dismissed; however, she did not give any specifics.

Jeff Roush of 404 St. Marks Avenue spoke about a New Jersey Transit bus stop near his house. Councilman Loughlin said the item was already with his Committee and that the public safety professionals will look into the matter to see if it makes sense and he will keep Mr. Roush updated.

Pamela Brug of 775 Carleton Road spoke about a comment made that race should not be brought into the discussion of local politics and said that she believes that race is a problem in Westfield and that her kids have been followed by the police when driving nice cars and she has been followed in stores by staff making her feel like a criminal.

Michael Rameriz of 733 Summit Avenue spoke about what the Council can and cannot control. He said that Westfield is a well-functioning town and change will come when people want change. He said Westfield was being very well run at the present time.

John Rotchford of 866 Knollwood Terrace thanked the Council for their great service. He said Westfield is a wonderful place to live and thanked the Council and employees for their excellent management of the town.

BILLS AND CLAIMS

Introduced by Councilman Arena, seconded by Councilman Stokes were adopted with Councilman Loughlin abstaining on Loughlin Law Firm.

RESOLVED that the bills and claims in the amount of \$298,891.47 per the list submitted to the members of this Council by the Chief Financial Officer, and approved for payment by the

Town Administrator be, and the same are hereby, approved and that payroll warrants previously issued by the Chief Financial Officer be ratified.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Finance Policy Committee

The following resolutions, introduced by Councilman Arena, seconded by Councilman Loughlin were unanimously adopted.

(120) RESOLVED, that the Town Treasurer be authorized to refund the following fees to the following individuals:

Name	Account	Class	Fee
Christine Binder 404 W. Dudley Ave. Westfield, NJ 07090	T05-600-071	Playground Programs Kyle	\$90.00
Alun Williams 740 Stevens Ave. Westfield, NJ 07090	Acct #195 Pool Memb. Acct.	Family Membership	\$360.00
Dan Ehrlich 1002 Boulevard Westfield, NJ 07090	Acct #195 Pool Memb. Acct	Family Membership	\$360.00
Paul Carew 955 Boulevard Westfield, NJ 07090	Acct #195 Pool Memb Acct.	Family Membership (family of 5+)	\$450.00

(121) WHEREAS, Casey and Laura Laflamme placed the required cash bond of \$500.00 to cover Road Opening Permit #16-119 for 715 Standish Avenue, and

WHEREAS, Casey and Laura Laflamme have requested that this amount be returned, and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer, has inspected the roadway excavation and has found the excavation to have been properly repaired.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Treasurer be authorized to draw a warrant in the name of Casey and Laura Laflamme for \$500.00 and forward to 715 Standish Avenue, Westfield, NJ 07090.

(122) **WHEREAS**, Tony Ciullo, Marquis Homes LLC, has placed the required cash bond of \$500.00 to cover Road Opening Permit #16-060 for 629 Cumberland, and

WHEREAS, Tony Ciullo has requested that this amount be returned, and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer, has inspected the roadway excavation and has found the excavation to have been properly repaired.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Treasurer be authorized to draw a warrant in the name of Tony Ciullo, Marquis Homes LLC, for \$500.00 and forward to 629 Cumberland Street, Westfield, NJ 07090

(123) RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer be and hereby is, authorized to draw warrant for unused parking permit fee as follows:

Charles E. Mason 10 Ogden Terrace Butler, NJ 07485	Lot 8	#17080346	\$100.00
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(124) RESOLVED that the Chief Financial officer be and she hereby is authorized to draw warrants to the order of the following persons, this amount being overpaid for 2016.

<u>BLOCK/LOT</u>	<u>PROPERTY ADDRESS</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
5609/10 Timothy York 700 Midvale Place Linden, NJ 07026	217 Ayliffe Avenue	2016	\$3,541.82

(125) RESOLVED that the Treasurer be and he hereby is authorized to draw warrants to the order of the following persons, this being the amount taxes were overpaid for the years 2015 and 2016, pursuant to the Tax Court of New Jersey:

<u>BLOCK/LOT</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
502/13 FLOOD, JOHN H III PERSONAL TRUST Payable to: John H. Flood III 2012 Qualified and Maria Cozzini, Esq.	431 Hillside Avenue	2016	\$5,417.40
505/5 JEYDEL, RICHARD K - TRUSTEE EST OF Payable to: Richard K. Jeydel Trustee and Maria Cozzini, Esq.	800 Hillside Avenue	2016	\$5,417.40
1103/13 SIMAIKA, WASSEF & MAHERKAKAR Payable to: Wassef Simaika & Maherkakar Simaika and Maria Cozzini, Esq.	246 Sinclair Place	2016	\$2,708.70
1303/14 FITZSIMMONS, BERNARD J & MARY E Payable to: Bernard J. Fitzsimmons & Mary E. Fitzsimmons and Maria Cozzini, Esq.	587 Sherwood Parkway	2016	\$1,986.38

1903/3	208 Golf Edge	2015	\$1,327.35
MEHTA, UDAY C - MEHRA, KUMUDINI U			
Payable to: Uday C. Mehta & Kumudini U. Mehra and Maria Cozzini, Esq.			
2105/13	355 Wychwood Road	2016	\$3,611.60
NEWNHAM, DENNIS M			
Payable to: Dennis M. Newnham and Maria Cozzini, Esq.			
2213/3	315 Baker Avenue	2016	\$2,708.70
EISENBERG, R & SPORKIN, E			
Payable to: Richard Eisenberg & Elizabeth Sporkin and Maria Cozzini, Esq.			
2805/15	725 Shadowlawn Drive	2016	\$3,611.60
BREGMAN, BARRY & BARBARA			
Payable to: Barry Bregman & Barbara Bregman and Maria Cozzini, Esq.			
4403/13	718 Tuxford Turn	2016	\$4,243.63
GORMAN, JOHN R & MARY S			
Payable to: John R. Gorman & Mary S. Gorman and Maria Cozzini, Esq.			
All of the above check should be mailed to:			
MARIA COZZINI, ESQ.			
1199 US ROUTE 22 EAST			
MOUNTAINSIDE, NJ 07092			

(126) WHEREAS, the Division of Local Government Services issued Local Finance Notice Number 92-15 on July 8, 1992 which requires municipalities to prepare a Corrective Action Plan covering all findings and recommendations in the annual audit report; and

WHEREAS, it is required that the plan be prepared by the Chief Financial Officer and approved by the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Audit Report on the Financial Statements of the Town of Westfield, County of Union, State of New Jersey for the year ended December 31, 2016 prepared by Suplee, Clooney & Company, Certified Public Accountants, stated that there were no recommendations for corrective action;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that since the Recommendation page of the 2016 Audit stated "none", the Town of Westfield will not be filing a copy of a Corrective Action Plan with the Division of Local Government Services for the year ended December 31, 2016.

Public Safety, Transportation and Parking Committee

Code Review & Town Property Committee

The following resolutions, introduced by Councilman Della Fera, Chairman of the Code Review and Town Property Committee, seconded by Councilman LoGrippo were unanimously adopted.

(127) WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 24 Article VII Section 24-47 of the Town Code the Town Council has authorized the licensing of Sidewalk Cafés, and

WHEREAS, the establishments listed have made application as required by Sec. 24-48 of the Town Code, and

WHEREAS, the establishments listed have met all the terms and conditions as required,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Westfield hereby grants licenses to the establishments listed to operate sidewalk cafés and the Town Clerk be, and is hereby authorized to issue said licenses.

Ahrre’s Coffee Roastery	104 Elm Street
Cosimo’s	118 East Broad Street
Famous Kabab Cuisine	231 South Avenue East
Jersey Mike’s	140 East Broad Street
Let’s Yo	121 East Broad Street
Nos Vino	127 Central Avenue

(128) RESOLVED that the following application for children’s amusement devices be approved:

Seashore Amusements	Spring Fling	Jackie Sieb
11 Hendry Lane	May 7, 2017	11 Hendry Lane
Brick, NJ 08723	Broad & Elm Street	Brick, NJ 08723

Public Works Committee

Reports of Department Heads

Upon motion by Councilman Della Fera, seconded by Councilman LoGrippo the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Claire J. Gray
Town Clerk