

Business Meeting
August 13, 2012

A Business Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Wanaque was held on Monday, August 13, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. in the Wanaque Municipal Building.

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

On roll call, the following Council Members responded: Balunis, Cortellessa, Leonard, Pasquariello, Pettet and Willse. The Mayor declared a quorum. The Borough Attorney and Borough Engineer were present.

The Mayor read the following Sunshine Statement: Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by the Mayor and Council by emailing notice of this Business Meeting to the Suburban Trends and the Herald News newspapers on December 28, 2011 stating therein that this meeting would be held on Monday, August 13, 2012 at the time of 7:00 P.M. in the Wanaque Municipal Building, 579 Ringwood Avenue, Wanaque, New Jersey and a copy of this notice was posted on the bulletin board in the Wanaque Municipal Building on December 28, 2011 and a copy is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

MINUTES:

July 9, 2012.

On entertainment of the Mayor, Councilmen Cortellessa and Balunis moved a motion to approve the aforementioned Minutes.

On roll call, all voted yes, and the Mayor declared the motion carried.

ORDINANCES:

Adoption of Ord. #16-0-12:

Re: Appropriate \$320,000 from Housing Trust Fund to purchase property at 10 Warren Hagstrom Boulevard

On entertainment of the Mayor, Councilmen Pettet and Balunis moved that Ordinance #16-0-12 be taken from the table and read by the Clerk, by title only, for consideration of adoption.

On roll call, all voted yes and the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The Clerk took from the table and read by title only as follows: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$320,000 FROM THE HOUSING TRUST FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT 10 WARREN HAGSTROM BOULEVARD, WANAQUE, NEW JERSEY.

On entertainment of the Mayor, Councilmen Cortellessa and Balunis moved that,

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$320,000 FROM THE HOUSING TRUST FUND FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AT 10 WARREN HAGSTROM BOULEVARD, WANAQUE, NEW JERSEY pass final reading, and that said Ordinance be adopted as an Ordinance of the Borough of Wanaque; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be and she is hereby directed to cause said Ordinance to be published in the manner prescribed by law.

On roll call, all voted yes, and the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Adoption of Ord. #17-0-12:

Re: Authorize purchase of 10 Warren Hagstrom Boulevard

On entertainment of the Mayor, Councilmen Leonard and Willse moved that Ordinance #17-0-12 be taken from the table and read by the Clerk, by title only, for consideration of adoption.

On roll call, all voted yes and the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The Clerk took from the table and read by title only as follows: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF REAL ESTATE KNOWN AS BLOCK 313; LOT 2 ON THE WANAQUE TAX MAP AND FURTHER IDENTIFIED AS 10 WARREN HAGSTROM BOULEVARD, WANAQUE, NEW JERSEY PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL LANDS AND BUILDINGS LAW N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1, et seq.

On entertainment of the Mayor, Councilmen Willse and Pettet moved that,

BE IT RESOLVED that an Ordinance entitled: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF REAL ESTATE KNOWN AS BLOCK 313; LOT 2 ON THE WANAQUE TAX MAP AND FURTHER IDENTIFIED AS 10 WARREN HAGSTROM BOULEVARD, WANAQUE, NEW JERSEY PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL LANDS AND BUILDINGS LAW N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1, et seq. pass final reading, and that said Ordinance be adopted as an Ordinance of the Borough of Wanaque; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Clerk be and she is hereby directed to cause said Ordinance to be published in the manner prescribed by law.

On roll call, all voted yes, and the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Public Hearing of Ord. #21-0-12:

Re: Highlands Ordinance

Held.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilman Balunis:

Councilman Balunis reported the Wanaque First Aid Squad did not give a report to me for this month. Robert Hammerle who has been overseas several times in the military was injured and had been in Walter Reed hospital to recover has received the purple heart award and now is retired and he has also received a second purple heart award.

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The Mayor said he was by a truck where a bomb went off and was injured in the explosion receiving a severe concussion and twisting his knee badly so he retired.

Councilman Cortellessa:

Councilman Cortellessa reported there is nothing new to report on the Wanaque Valley Regional Sewerage Authority. Regarding the Road and Water departments Tom will give you a status update.

Councilman Leonard:

Councilman Leonard reported there is nothing going on with the Education Foundation. With Recreation the Hagstrom field had geese repellent applied by Sierra Landscape. Lakeland Regional High School is mowing the grass in the upper field and I thought that Sierra Landscape was taking care of that.

Councilman Balunis said Lakeland Regional High School is mowing the field.

The Borough Administrator said we'll get it straightened out who is doing what at Lakeland Regional High School regarding the mowing. The geese repellent is done twice a year once in the Spring and once mid to late Summer or early Fall. We will schedule the field for fall activities and a bid will go out for the rest of the field.

Councilman Willse said what about the bleachers for soccer games.

The Borough Administrator said people will have to bring chairs.

Councilman Cortellessa said when will the field be done.

The Borough Administrator said the drainage needs to be put across the infield first.

Councilman Pasquariello:

Councilman Pasquariello read the report from the Police Department.

Councilman Pettet:

Councilman Pettet said I have no report.

Councilman Willse:

Councilman Willse reported the Fire Department had ten alarms, three drills and three thousand eight hundred thirty nine man hours for the year. The Hearst Tools "Jaws of Life" quote was received for the Hearst brand and the Fire department would like to use the same brand as other towns for mutual aid. The quote is forty three thousand dollars which includes the tools, power pack and removable tips.

The Borough Administrator said this will be a Capital item in the 2013 Budget.

Councilman Cortellessa said if this is a safety issue it should be addressed for immediate attention now.

The Fire Chief said we are okay now but it will need replacing and updating.

Councilman Willse said the new cars now are different from how they go about getting people out.

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Councilman Cortellessa said how frequently do we use the Hearst tool.

The Fire Chief said in the last three years about four or five times and Route 287 is the highest use for it.

REPORTS:

The Borough Engineer said the survey for Fourth Avenue is done for the Department of Transportation project for the repaving.

The Borough Administrator said regarding the COAH deadline on Friday afternoon the court decided the acting director had no right to demand money and we will hold the check for now and the Governor may come up with other options. We are having problems with the telephone system and they will take the system down early tomorrow morning. The 911 reverse went out and we are looking at other vendors.

The Mayor said for the new building we should have one vendor.

The Borough Administrator said no. There was an order issued by a Judge that you have to have more than one vendor. We will look at vendors for the new Municipal building. I gave the plans for the new building to you to look at and by next week we should have the plans for the elevation. We were notified that AT&T is terminating the lease for the cell phone tower which is a thirty thousand dollar loss and a direct hit to the two percent CAP for the Budget. We received notification for Municipal aid for road resurfacing from the Department of Transportation and there are two areas that are in need right away one is Meadowbrook Avenue and the other is Westbrook Road. We are looking to combine the water and sewer bills to reduce postage and paper. We will phase it in to adjust the schedule of the bills being sent out. I will get back to you next month and would like to have it on for next month. I sat down with the County Engineer today regarding Ringwood Avenue. The contractor had a hard time getting a sub-paver and today the contractor paver walked off the job. The County contractor has availability and hopefully they will be able to do it and be done by the end of the month. It has to be paved by September 1st. Ringwood Avenue is flat and that is an issue. They will lower the grates and work to see what can be done. I'm in contact everyday with the County Engineer and will keep everyone updated.

Councilman Willse said we are still at the mercy of the County though.

The Borough Administrator said yes and the paver pulled out today.

Councilman Willse said why.

The Borough Administrator said he did the resurfacing in Haskell for Phase I and we don't know why he pulled out of this.

Councilman Cortellessa said why are we using the County paver.

The Borough Administrator said the County paver is available and they can do it.

Councilman Pasquariello said and the telephone pole was moved.

Councilman Cortellessa said why are they not going beyond the bridge for paving.

The Borough Administrator said they did not do the curbs and sidewalks past Warren Hagstrom Boulevard and they need to get the paving done to the bridge which was expressed to the County Engineer.

Councilman Cortellessa said when will he get back to you.

The Borough Administrator said tomorrow and I will let you know.

Councilman Leonard said will the drains be lowered.

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The Borough Administrator said they will drop them so the water will flow and they have to meet the Department of Transportation standards. They will try for a one percent grade as far as I know. With regard to Resolution #135-0-12 I would like to ask that AWARE ASAP gives us a breakdown of Lakeland Regional High School for Wanaque and Ringwood so we can see what is being paid.

Councilman Cortellessa said why is there a refund for assigning Block and Lots.

The Borough Administrator said that is for merging lots that are vacant and undersized.

Councilman Cortellessa said that is an error on the Tax Assessor. What is the status of the façade.

The Borough Administrator said they are moving along.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

The Mayor opened the Public Discussion.

Ken Ambruster, 6 Gardella Place, Haskell said what is the revaluation status.

The Borough Administrator said they are eighty percent done with the residential properties and the commercial properties are one hundred percent done.

Ken Ambruster said the utility poles on Ringwood Avenue by Warren Hagstrom Boulevard will more of them be moved.

The Borough Administrator said no it is just the one that we are aware of.

Ken Ambruster said combining the water and sewer bills for the Haskell section will increase it to be forty five days. The sewer bill we will get two weeks later and then get the water bill and have to come and pay them.

The Borough Administrator said it will be one bill that you will receive.

Ken Ambruster said how does it impact the revenues.

The Borough Administrator said it will not impact it.

Ken Ambruster said I'm concerned about the way it will work out.

The Borough Administrator said we will send out a letter. You will receive the last sewer bill for 2012 on November 1st and the last water bill on December 15th which is due January 30th for the first billing of 2013.

Ken Ambruster said the meter is read the first fifteen days of the month.

Mayor said the meter will still be read the same time.

Ken Ambruster said down the road I don't want to be delinquent for the sewer.

The Borough Administrator said no you won't.

Ken Ambruster said by Brake-O-Rama there is a second dumpster there now can we get it out of there.

The Borough Administrator said I will contact the Building Inspector.

The Mayor closed the Public Discussion.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolution #128-0-12:

Re: Refund of Tax overbilling on various properties in the amount of \$39,037.82 for 2012 and \$19,518.98 for the first half of 2013 as a result of County Board Judgments

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WHEREAS, there exists tax overbilling on the properties listed on the attached spreadsheet for 2012 and the first half of 2013 as a result of County Board Judgments;

WHEREAS, the credits total \$39,037.82 for 2012 and \$19,518.98 for the first half of 2013;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tax Collector shall adjust these accounts accordingly as per the certifications from the County.

Resolution #129-0-12:

Re: Refund of Tax overbilling for the 3rd Quarter 2012 for Block 422, Lot 4 in the amount of \$160.35 due to Assessor's office error in the assessed value of the property

WHEREAS, there exists a tax over billing on the property listed herein for the third quarter of 2012 due to the Assessor's Office error in the assessed value of the property;

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>AMOUNT OVERBILLED</u>
422	4	\$63.85 – 3 rd quarter
		\$64.06 – 4 th quarter
		\$16.22 – off each 1 st /2 nd quarter of 2013

WHEREAS, the owners have requested a credit to the account;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tax Collector shall credit this account accordingly.

Resolution #130-0-12:

Re: Refund of Tax overpayment for the Year 2012 for Block 205, Lot 7.01 in the amount of \$1,351.17 and credit of \$595.37 off of the 1st Quarter and 2nd Quarter of 2013

WHEREAS, there exists a tax overpayment on the property listed herein for the year of 2012 and an over billing for the 1st and 2nd quarter of 2013 due to a County Tax Board Judgment;

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
205	7.01	\$1,351.17 overpayment
		\$ 595.37 off of the 1 st and 2 nd quarter of 2013

WHEREAS, the homeowner, has requested a refund of said overpayment; and a credit on the 1st and 2nd quarter of 2013;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Treasurer shall refund a total of \$1,351.17 as per the certification of the Tax Collector; and the Tax Collector shall credit the 1st and 2nd quarter of 2013 accordingly.

Resolution #131-0-12:

Re: Refund of Tax overbilling on various properties in the amount of \$5,580.64 for the 3rd Quarter of 2012 due to Assessor's assignments of new Block and Lots for Hackensack Water Company properties

WHEREAS, there exists a Tax over billing on the properties listed herein for the third quarter of 2012 due to the Assessor's assignments of new block and lots for Hackensack Water Co properties;

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>AMOUNT OVERBILLED</u>
303	1	\$956.33
301.01	1	\$593.96
407	1	\$1,005.17
429	1	\$608.14
447	1	\$582.94
462	1	\$1,085.52
474	1	\$485.47
474.01	1	\$263.11

WHEREAS, the owners have requested a credit to the account;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tax Collector shall credit these accounts accordingly.

Resolution #132-0-12:

Re: Credit of Tax overbilling on Block 231, Lot 6.01 in the amount of \$1,791.86 for the 3rd Quarter of 2012 due to the Assessor assigning this property a new Block and Lot

WHEREAS, there exists a tax over billing on the property listed herein for the third quarter of 2012 due to the Assessor assigning this property a new block and lot;

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>AMOUNT OVERBILLED</u>
231	6.01	\$1,791.86

WHEREAS, the owners have requested a credit to the account;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tax Collector shall credit a total of \$1,791.86 to this account.

Resolution #133-0-12:

Re: Refund of Tax Sale Certificate #10-00032 for Block 416, Lot 18 in the amount of \$14,208.24 for the Certificate and \$9,400.00 for the premium to the lienholder

WHEREAS, a Tax Sale was held for 2010 delinquent Municipal charges on October 5, 2011, and

WHEREAS, RJ Maroon Realty LLC was the successful bidder for Block 416 Lot 18 for which Tax Sale Certificate #10-00032 was assigned, and

WHEREAS, Drew K. Murray Esq, the attorney for the homeowner, has redeemed said certificate of which funds have been deposited into the Current Account;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Treasurer shall refund to the lien holder the amount of \$14,208.24 for the certificate and \$9,400.00 for the premium as per the certification of the Tax Collector.

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Resolution #134-0-12:

Re: Approve Payment #3 – SMAC – Haskell Façade Improvements - \$16,902.00

BE IT RESOLVED that payment application #3 for the façade improvements on Ringwood Avenue, payable to SMAC Corp, 27 East 33rd Street, Paterson, NJ 07514 in the amount of \$16,902.00 be and is hereby approved.

Resolution #135-0-12:

Re: Authorize the filing of the 2013 Application for funds for A.W.A.R.E. A.S.A.P.

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Wanaque, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey recognizes that the abuse of alcohol and drugs is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent such abuses in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through the County of Passaic;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough of Wanaque, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Borough Council does hereby authorize submission of an application for the A.W.A.R.E. A.S.A.P. Municipal Alliance grant for calendar year 2013 in the amount of \$48,442.00.
2. The Borough Council acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the A.W.A.R.E. Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

On entertainment of the Mayor, Councilmen Leonard and Willse moved a motion to approve the aforementioned Consent Agenda.

On roll call, all voted yes, and the Mayor declared the motion carried.

REGULAR REPORTS - PROFESSIONAL REPORTS:

1. Clerk's Receipts for July 2012 -
2. Police Department Report for July 2012 -
3. Tax Collector's Report for July 2012 -
4. Municipal Court Report for July 2012 -

On entertainment of the Mayor, Councilmen Pasquariello and Cortellessa moved that reports be received and filed; and that all monies be turned over to the Treasurer.

On roll call all voted yes and the Mayor declared the motion carried.

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COMMUNICATIONS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Closed Session:

Re: Litigation/Negotiation/Personnel

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

RESOLUTIONS: None.

FINANCE REPORT: Vouchers – Payrolls:

Councilman Pettet said your Finance Committee respectfully reports that they have examined and approved the following and recommend that warrants be issued for their payment when the funds of the Borough of Wanaque are sufficient to meet them.

On entertainment of the Mayor, Councilmen Pettet and Leonard moved a resolution approving the following payrolls:

FINANCE REPORT

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The Finance Committee has examined and approved the following and recommends warrants be issued for their payment when funds of the Borough of Wanaque are sufficient to meet them.

VOUCHERS:

Current Operating Prepaid	\$ 2,645.00
Current Operating 2012	\$ 453,883.46
Water Operating Prepaid	\$ 269.44
Water Operating 2012	\$ 74,953.85
Sewer Operating 2012	\$ 818,873.84
General Capital Prepaid	\$ 19,683.00
General Capital	\$ 9,837.50
Water Capital	\$ 7,544.18
Animal Trust	\$ 6,537.50
Assessment Trust	\$ 79,366.00
Escrow	\$ 9,470.37
Recreation Trust	\$ 9,499.00
Unemployment/Disability Trust	\$ 1,640.41
Housing Trust	\$ 303.20
Voucher Total:	\$1,494,506.75

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PAYROLLS:

PR #14	7/13/12	\$ 201,241.31
PR #15	7/27/12	\$ 197,501.74
PR #16	8/10/12	\$199,402.47
	Payroll Total:	\$ 598,145.52
	Grand Total:	\$2,092,652.27

NEW BUSINESS:

Closed Session:

Re: Litigation/Negotiation/Personnel

None.

Councilman Cortellessa said what is the status of Il Positano.
The Borough Administrator said the owner had a death in the family.
Councilman Cortellessa said what is the status of the Phoenix Club.
The Borough Administrator said that is still up for discussion.
Councilman Cortellessa said are there going to be plants and bushes planted there.
The Borough Administrator said yes it will be done.

ADJOURNMENT:

On entertainment of the Mayor, Councilmen Pettet and Cortellessa moved a motion to adjourn the meeting.

On roll call, all voted yes, and the Mayor declared the motion carried; meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Katherine J. Falone, RMC, CMC
Municipal Clerk