

**TOWNSHIP OF WINFIELD
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE – JUNE 17, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Byrne called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC NOTICE: In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-6 et. Seq.; Mayor Byrne read the public notice and indicated the fire exits.

PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Byrne led the Township’s Prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Byrne, Commissioner Reilly, Commissioner Koomer, Clerk Slowik, Attorney Colicchio, WPD Chief Mazzarella & WVFD Chief Dustin

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: RMTc 06/03/2024; Motion was made by Commissioner Reilly and Seconded by Commissioner Koomer, with all members present voting in the affirmative.

COMMUNICATIONS: As Presented

Subject: Winfield Mutual Housing Streets

WMHC who has been told on many occasions owns the streets, but they shut the roads down today between Seafoam and Pacific for a wet down and no one notifies the office or the Housing Manager. Great job I guess the Township and School will pay next month's water bill.

Trisha Donahue
Certified Housing Manager

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: Finance 5/24, WPD 5/24 & WVFD 5/24

REQUISITIONS: As Presented (\$250.00); Motion was made by Commissioner Reilly and Seconded by Commissioner Koomer, with all members present voting in the affirmative.

LISTED REQUISITIONS FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE, JUNE 13, 2024

| REQ # | DEPARTMENT | JUSTIFICATION | AMOUNT |
|---------------|------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 9520 | WMC | PUBLIC DEFENDER | \$250.00 |
| TOTAL: | | | \$250.00 |

UNLISTED REQUISITIONS: None Presented

BILLS: As Presented (\$24,643.26); Motion was made by Commissioner Reilly and Seconded by Commissioner Koomer, with all members present voting in the affirmative.

**List of Bills - (100001) CASH - CHECKING
Current Fund**

| Check# | Vendor | Description | Payment | Check Total |
|--------|---|---|----------|-------------|
| 8676 | 712 - ANNA LOWREY | PO 15919 (023-332) REIMBURSEMENT FOR ARTS & CRAFT | 105.32 | 105.32 |
| 8677 | 1003 - ASSOCIATED HUMANE SOCIETIES | PO 15932 ANIMAL CONTROL FOR MAY | 333.33 | 333.33 |
| 8678 | 811 - CLIENT INSTANT ACCESS, LLC | PO 15925 TELECOM SERVICE - BLAST | 53.29 | 53.29 |
| 8679 | 38 - COUNTY OF UNION - MOTOR VEHICLES | PO 15927 WPD MAY FUEL | 1,259.56 | 1,259.56 |
| 8690 | 921 - CRANFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY | PO 15919 2024 LIBRARY SERVICES | 120.00 | 120.00 |
| 8681 | 1090 - ERIC M. BERNSTEIN & ASSOCIATES, L.L.C. | PO 15933 PROSECUTOR - SERVICES RENDERED FOR MAY | 300.00 | 300.00 |
| 8682 | 903 - FP MAILING SOLUTIONS | PO 15929 2ND QTR POSTAGE MACHINE RENTAL | 111.00 | 111.00 |
| 8683 | 1119 - JACQUELINE'S FLORIST | PO 15926 MEMORIAL DAY BASKETS & CARNATIONS | 292.50 | 292.50 |
| 8684 | 632 - JASON DYER | PO 15924 REIMBURSEMENT FOR NOTARY RENEWAL | 30.00 | 30.00 |
| 8685 | 1039 - MARCO TECHNOLOGIES | PO 15928 SHARP COPIER CONTRACT BASE RATE 4/9/24 - | 96.45 | 96.45 |
| 8686 | 839 - NEW JERSEY FIRE EQUIPMENT COMPANY | PO 15557 NJDEA FIRE GRANT - TRUCKMANS CHAIN SAW | 2,600.00 | 2,600.00 |
| 8687 | 839 - NEW JERSEY FIRE EQUIPMENT COMPANY | PO 15916 LED VEHICLE MOUNT | 390.00 | 390.00 |
| 8688 | 839 - NEW JERSEY FIRE EQUIPMENT COMPANY | PO 15917 SCOTT CIRCUIT BOARD AND FLOW TEST | 223.52 | 223.52 |
| 8689 | 70 - NJ LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES | PO 15936 NJLM MAGAZINE OCTOBER 2024 - JUNE 2025 | 75.00 | 75.00 |
| 8690 | 976 - NJEPA | PO 15812 2024 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FOR FRANK M | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| 8691 | 983 - PRINCETON HOSTED SOLUTIONS | PO 15920 JUNE PHONE SERVICES | 843.93 | 843.93 |
| 8692 | 1056 - RAUL PINO | PO 15873 SPANISH INTERPRETER 5/14/24 COURT SESSIO | 150.00 | 150.00 |
| 8693 | 472 - ROYAL PRINTING SERVICES | PO 15923 SAMPLE BALLOTS | 1,660.00 | 1,660.00 |

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|-------|-------------------------------|----------|---|--------|----------|
| 8694 | 468 - SCOTT MITZNER | PO 15935 | PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICES 6/11/24 | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| 8695 | 166 - THE HOME NEWS & TRIBUNE | PO 15930 | JUNE NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION | 59.00 | 59.00 |
| 8696 | 166 - THE HOME NEWS & TRIBUNE | PO 15931 | ORD# 466 & PUBLIC NOTICE | 92.04 | 92.04 |
| 8697 | 32 - VERIZON | PO 15934 | COURT ROUTER 6/2 - 7/1 FOR ZOOM SESSION | 139.65 | 139.65 |
| 8698 | 994 - WB MASON CO., INC | PO 15979 | SUPPLIES | 257.44 | 257.44 |
| TOTAL | | | | | 9,691.03 |

WIRE TRANSFERS

| | |
|--|------------|
| WIRE TRANSFER - PBA DUES FOR JUNE | \$500.00 |
| WIRE TRANSFER - GIORDANO RECYCLING MAY | \$6,276.23 |
| WIRE TRANSFER - SCHOOL TAXES JUNE | \$8,176.00 |
| | ----- |

WIRE TRANSFERS = \$ 14,952.23
TOTAL PAID FORM CURRENT FUND = \$ 9,691.03
GRAND TOTAL = \$ 24,643.26

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None Presented

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None Presented

NEW BUSINESS: As Presented

Resolution # 24-31 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue in 2024 Budget - Union County Infrastructure- Motion was made by Commissioner Reilly and Seconded by Commissioner Koomer, with all members present voting in the affirmative.



**TOWNSHIP OF WINFIELD RESOLUTION 24-31
COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
INSERTION OF SPECIAL ITEM OF REVENUE IN 2024 BUDGET
UNION COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any County or Municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, said Director may also approve the insertion of any item of appropriation for equal amount;

SECTION 1

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Winfield hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget for the year 2024 in the sum of \$15,000.00 which item is now available as a revenue from:

Public & Private Revenues off-set with Appropriations;
Union County Infrastructure

SECTION 2

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a like sum of \$15,000.00 be and the same is hereby appropriated under the caption of:

Public & Private Programs Offset by Revenues Excluded from "CAPS"
Union County Infrastructure

Dated: June 17, 2024

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|---------|-------|--------|----------|----------|------------|---------|---|
| | INDEXED | FILED | MAILED | RECORDED | SEARCHED | SERIALIZED | INDEXED | I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Winfield at a meeting held on June 17, 2024. Melanie Slowik, Acting Twp. Clerk |
| MAYOR JOSEPH P. BYRNE | | | | | | | | |
| COMM. ROBERT F. REILLY | | | | | | | | |
| COMM. ADAM D. KOOMER | | | | | | | | |

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Resolution # 24-32 Insertion of Special Item of Revenue in 2024 Budget – Union County Infrastructure- Motion was made by Commissioner Reilly and Seconded by Commissioner Koomer, with all members present voting in the affirmative.



**TOWNSHIP OF WINFIELD RESOLUTION 24-32
 COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
 AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE
 FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2024**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Winfield that the official schedule for the Township Committee meetings be amended for the calendar year 2024, as attached.

Dated: June 17, 2024

| | | | | |
|------------------------|---------|--------|--------|--|
| | PRESENT | ABSENT | ABSENT | I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Winfield at a meeting held on June 17, 2024. |
| MAYOR JOSEPH P. BYRNE | | | | |
| COMM. ROBERT F. REILLY | | | | |
| COMM. ADAM D. KOOMER | | | | |
| | | | | Melanie Slowik, Acting Twp. Clerk |



**TOWNSHIP OF WINFIELD
 COUNTY OF UNION, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
 SCHEDULE OF TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2024**

The following meeting schedule of the Winfield Township Committee was adopted by the Winfield Township Committee, County of Union, at the Reorganization Meeting held on January 1, 2024.

Regular Meetings of the Township Committee shall be held on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The Regular Meeting of the Board of Health shall be held on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.; with the regular meeting commencing immediately upon completion. All such meetings, except as hereinafter state or as hereinafter may be changed, shall be held in the meeting room at the Municipal Building, located at 12 Gulfstream Avenue, Winfield, NJ

| | | |
|-----------|----|----|
| July | | 15 |
| August | | 19 |
| September | 3* | 16 |
| October | 7 | 21 |
| November | 4 | |
| December | 2 | 16 |

(*meeting to be held on Tuesday)

First Meeting of the Month:
 Executive Session 6:30 p.m.
 RMTc 7:00 p.m.

Second Meeting of the Month:
 Executive Session 6:30 p.m.
 Board of Health 7:00 p.m.

/s/ Melanie Slowik
 Melanie Slowik, Acting Twp Clerk

- Resignation Letter from Officer Leicht

6/11/2024

Winfield Police Department

12 Gulfstream Ave

Winfield, NJ, 07036

Dear Chief Mazzarella,

I would like to inform you of my intention to resign from Winfield Police Department, two weeks from today 6/11/2024.

I will be resigning on 6/25/2024.

I greatly appreciate all of the opportunities you've given me during my time here at Winfield Police Department.

I want to thank you and everyone within the department for the opportunity.

Please let me know if there is anything required from me during the resignation notice period.

Thank you,

Stephen H. Leicht

- Findings & Determinations LGCCC – WVFD Association # 480, 481 & 482
- Commissioner Reilly Commented on the email received from the Corporation manager, she stated that we blocked off the street and we allowed this to happen. The wet down, we knew nothing about it. So, I'd like to clear the record up right away. I did respond to her the next day and sent her a copy of the flyer that the PTO put out and they were responsible along with the fire department for having this. She was very grateful that I respond back to her. But just to make the record clear we knew nothing about this. She thinks that we ok'd it. Communication to us needs to be better. I don't know who's paying the water bill – another thing is we have a cater using the kitchen over at the fire department, I don't know how long that's going on. But it can't go on forever. He's using our electric, using our garbage which is Mutual Housing's garbage and I don't think that anyone in town would feel that, that is fair – to have someone using the kitchen every day at the fire department. And I have to listen to them outside in my backyard, and I don't plan to listen to this sitting in my swimming pool and I don't think any other resident would appreciate it. So, I don't know when this person over there that is doing this, I hope that's going to stop soon.

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

John DiOrio – (here on behalf of the Board of Trustees) Have a few items to discuss. Trees and branches on the County Road. Asking for assistance from Commissioners to reach out to the County for help in getting them cut & trimmed back. To send a letter. Someone is going to get hurt down there, just wants the branches trimmed. Speeding on County Road is also a problem If something can be looked out to deter. Understands jurisdictions. It's becoming a bad situation down there on that road. Third item, aware of sewer and water line problems. As he was told they are old. They will be correcting as they need repair. It will probably be the biggest capital spent in the past years. Looking for Township's input. Possible help in any type of grants. If he can go back to the members in November – Asking if there is something that the Committee can do to help them. Agrees with Commissioner Reilly, communication should be better and he will do the best he can to help with that. He will do the best that he can to help with communication. Asked about \$53,000 increase, where is that coming from? Found out Saturday, was asked for clarification on what petition is going around for alternate side parking/street signs. Knows nothing about. Inquired about tax increase. Thanked the Commissioners for their time.

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Brenda Makowski – she has petition with many signatures. The residents want this change. She will submit to Clerk's office to appear on next meeting's communication. Over 200 signatures with more to come. Requesting that they take it seriously and consider it. Doesn't think it's too much to ask.

Mayor Byrne- provided insight on the petition created by residents, not township. If more people are in favor petition was created to show support behind having the ordinance changed. Submit to Township, and it will be added to communication for the future meeting.

WVFD Chief Dustin- In regards to Commissioner Reilly, PTO wet down, communicated with PD Chief. didn't know Township's approval was required, that he had to go through the town for a PTO wet down. The road that was blocked off, the Chief took care of that, kept flow of traffic was not shut down for long. As Fire Chief to test out any hydrant at any given time – can look at some state statutes, I don't need permission to open up a fire hydrant. We need to run our trucks, and we need to put water through them- to test them and make sure they are running properly. Will I be allowed on a Wednesday night to open up and pump water through? Can I get an answer. I need an answer?

Commissioner Reilly responded- you need to discuss that issue from the Housing Manager. The township did not raise that issue. It did not come from us. The manager discussed a water bill. They raised the issue of a water bill.

WVFD Chief Dustin- If you would like to give me a bill, but if there is a bill, she can please submit it. Other issue with the catering that's going on in the back, will talk to the 2 gentlemen in the back, it's for the carnival, to offset the costs and ask them to end it.

Commissioner Reilly- I thought it was just temporary thing, but it's still going on. It's not fair to the Corporation, they are using their garbage, our electric and their water. It's nice to help someone out, but I am just making you aware.

WVFD Chief Dustin- I don't know too much about it. I will talk with the two gentlemen about it who are running the carnival.

Commissioner Reilly- I've been up over there twice and have viewed them up there, sometimes they are up there for 8 hours.

WVFD Chief Dustin- I have a meeting with them after and will talk with one of them.

Clerk Slowik- wanted to address the budgets that we discussed – 35,000 increase is coming from the Winfield School only. Don't want any confusion. There's \$52,000 is Township. We do not have what the County increase is. We do not have those figures yet. And will not have them till mid-July as is the same in past years. We do not have those numbers until the County gives us. Once we have that additional information it will be provided to Mutual Housing.

Commissioner Koomer- We sent that over previously.

Commissioner Reilly- In regards to the budget so you understand the last two years the towns and the school have received relief money, which ended last year. The school received 156,000 and the township received 78,000 the past two years. That has ended and we have to make that up in this year's budget. So, the school lost 156,000 (it ended) This year the school received an increase in the equalization aid from the State of NJ \$667,000 which means they netted over ½ million dollars and they are asking for an increase of \$35,000. So, you can understand. They are hiring an assistant principal. They used it to spend, they have it in their budget. Suggested to take a look at their budget.

Commissioner Koomer- Money we had last year was used to reduce our budget. We were able to reduce our budget last year with that money. Most towns they spent it and it was just in and out. Unfortunately, we do not have that money this year. Last meeting, we were talking about grants. One of the items we talked about was the \$100,000 grant money we were to receive from the state. Initially it was for three purposes. It was for the fire department, sewer and playground. And I believe it was in November that we found out it was reallocated. We had it in the meeting and it was brought up again – and you were at the last meeting in October, where we found out, were told by your manager that a letter was sent to NJ Senate. That was in October 2023. It's June. Where is that letter? I asked for the letter. How many times do we have to ask. At the meeting I said that we don't know what the consequences are going to be after they receive the letter. Can the pull back the grant. We don't know until we get the letter. We were told that our correspondence was sent with the letter, sent to Scutari.

In my job, if my correspondence is sent to someone and then forward to another, just for backup or whatever, I am cc'd in that. The township did not receive that letter. 8 months. Asked Manager for that letter, asked you for that letter. We had a special meeting to talk about special services. Asked every Board Member that showed up to that meeting for a copy of that letter. Why is it taking so long. At the last meeting I am glad the manager talked about communication and transparency; it goes both ways. Why was that letter not sent to township. How do we know that the grant was not reallocated due to that letter. How many times do we have to ask. We want the letter. When we sent over, when Melanie sent over all the information on the taxes that week, after she requested. She said it was not sufficient. I think her exact words were this would not suffice, that we do not have the information. John is it not too long, where is the letter, do not understand where it is.

John DiOrio – We've been down this. I don't know what letter we are talking about. We were told by Scutari's office the money was coming and had no bearing from a letter. If you want a copy of a letter to contact the senator's office.

Commissioner Koomer- Why should we request it from them, the manager said she sent a letter – asking senator to deal with a few issues. I requested the letter from you, I requested the letter from every board member that showed up. Why do we then have to go to senator Scutari. That does not look or sound good when we have requested the letter from you, from the manager. When you come here, not you – when you come here and ask for transparency, communication. – it's a two-way street. So, when you demand it from us. Which we do – we would like it both ways. So, I want the letter. Just tell us what's going on.

Time- Clerk Slowik

Commissioner Koomer- Wants to congratulate the ambulance squad from a grant the received from Elizabethtown Gas. Wants to know if the FD submitted an application for the grant.

WVFD Chief Dustin- yes, the FD put in for the ambulance squad because the check had to go into, the check was cut for the ambulance association.

Commissioner Koomer- it would have been, you submitted the application, in the fire department, or for both?

WVFD Fire Chief Dustin- I didn't submit the application, so I can't answer that.

Commissioner Koomer- okay, because I looked at the publication, the article issued from Elizabethtown Gas, it just seems that –

WVFD Chief Dustin - It was for face masks, for the fire department. For the Scott Airpack's. But I did not submit the application, so I don't know.

Commissioner Koomer- Ok well that's a grant for the fire department, then someone filled it out incorrectly? The application. So, you are buying facemasks for the fire department through the ambulance squad?

WVFD Chief Dustin- Our vendor that we buy the equipment from, we have to put it in though the Township.

Commissioner Koomer- okay the application for the fire department goes through Melanie.

WVFD Chief Dustin- I didn't fill the application out.

Commissioner Koomer- okay, I'm just really confused about the whole thing. That's it.

Mayor Byrne- Chief Dustin, congratulations on the wet down. I saw the pictures, the kids looked like they were having a great time.

WVFD Chief Dustin- at the end of the rec program we do also, I'm going to ask the manager if I'm allowed to use the water on the ground, they have a pizza pie party. I will keep the Mayor and Commissioners advised for that. Hopefully I won't get a water bill for that, but if we do, we'll set up a fundraiser.

Mayor Byrne- Chief Mazzarella, great job, I've heard a few things just walking around town, the boys in blue have their presence felt, they are seeing them around- good job!

ADJOURNMENT: There being nothing further to come before the Township Committee, Mayor Byrne called for a motion to adjourn; Roll call vote, unanimous, affirmative.

TIME: 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Melanie Slowik
Acting Township Clerk

07.15.2024