

PARKING AUTHORITY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEEHAWKEN (“WPA”)
September 10, 2020
MEETING MINUTES

In light of the current state of public health emergency in effect, and in accordance with Governor Murphy’s Executive Orders relating thereto and the continuing need for social distancing, the scheduled Weehawken Parking Authority meeting was conducted via telephone, computer, tablet or smartphone only and not in person.

1. Opening of the meeting: 7:15 PM

a. Salute to the Flag

b. Roll Call of Commissioners

Jose Hechavarria (Vice Chairman)	Present
James Marchetti (Chairman)	Present
William J. McLellan	Present
Sam Mezzina (Secretary)	Present
Eleazar Nuñez	Present

c. Roll Call of Professionals

Carmela Silvestri-Ehret, Executive Director	Present
Eric Negron, Asst. Executive Director	Present
Vingenza Scardigno, Board Clerk/Secretary	Present
Neil Marotta, Legal Counsel	Present (arrived 7:19 pm)
Lisa Toscano, QPA	Absent
Gerald Lange, Consultant	Absent

d. Open Public Meetings Notice

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the clerk of the WPA has notified all required newspapers of this meeting, and notice is posted at the Municipal offices.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Minutes for the Rescheduled meeting held on August 6, 2020.

Motion by James Marchetti

Second by: Sam Mezzina

No discussion on the matter.

The above report was **UNANIMOUSLY** approved by Commissioners in attendance.

3. **Executive Director's Report:**

Mrs. Silvestri-Ehret reported the WPA new office located at 4200 Park Ave has been open by appointment only to ensure there is only one person at a time at the counter. We continue to enter the office through the front door and exit through the back door. Upon entering the building employees must take their temperature and all others will have their temperatures taken upon entry. Masks are being worn by all employees and maintaining social distancing. While all services continue to be provided in person, through telephone, drop box, email and regular mail, residents have expressed their preference of having their transactions by email.

Beginning the week of September 14, the office hours will be Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8am to 4pm and Tuesday and Thursday 8am to 7pm, all by appointment only for in person business.

Motion by: Jose Hechavarria

Second by: William McLellan

No discussion on the matter.

The above report was **UNANIMOUSLY** approved by Commissioners in attendance.

4. **Citizen's Comments:**

No comments on the agenda items from the public present.

5. **Financial Report:**

Motion by: James Marchetti

Second by: Sam Mezzina

Discussion: The WPA has revenue shortfalls and we are trying to keep costs down.

The above report was **UNANIMOUSLY** approved by Commissioners in attendance.

6. **Old/Unfinished Business:**

No unfinished business to review.

7. **New Business:**

Resolution # 2020-025

Approval of Payment of Bills

Motion by: James Marchetti

Second by: Eleazar Nunez

No discussion on the matter.

The above was **UNANIMOUSLY** approved by Commissioners in attendance.

8. Privilege of the Floor:

Members of the Public Present and provided comments/questions:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Roger Desmond	76 Sterling Ave
Michael Pereless	5 Denning
Erik Paulsen	80 Sterling Ave

Roger Desmond Qs:

1. Q: Expressed concern for the maintenance of Wilson School. There is debris, broken windows, and high grass.

Carmela Silvestri-Ehret As:

A: DPW does regular cleanup, they have been busy delivering meals to Weehawken residents in need due to the pandemic. We will certainly follow up with the Township's Manager to assure the issue is addressed ASAP.

2. Q: Was told by police they cannot look up permits after hours.
A: A WPA representative is always available via cell phone for any necessary Parking Authority issues.

3. Q: Questioned commercial vehicles using visitor permits.
A: Weehawken does not require vehicles to be registered in NJ but all must provide proof of Weehawken residency.

Michael Pereless Qs:

1. Q: Wilson is not being kept up, there is trash everywhere and DPW is not cleaning.

Carmela Silvestri-Ehret As:

A: We will look into this issue as previously stated.

2. Q: Sterling Avenue is constantly being blocked and the WPA should be working with the police.
A: The Authority does work with our Police Department.
3. Q: The WPA should have an annual renewal and charge to bring in revenue.
A: The Authority is conducting a revalidation throughout the Town, alphabetically by resident's last name which is currently in progress. We will put your suggestion, regarding charging residents, on the list to be considered for 2021 as this topic has been discussed among the Authority's board in the past.

Erik Paulsen Qs:

Q: Wilson schoolyard is a mess. There is too much trash in parking area. "I have been picking up the garbage constantly."

Carmela Silvestri-Ehret As:

A: Thank you for helping out and as previously stated we will follow up.

9. **Executive Session:**

None.

10. **Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 7:44 pm

Motion by: James Marchetti

Second by: Jose Hechavarria

The above was **UNANIMOUSLY** approved by Commissioners in attendance.



Vingenza Scardigno
Board Clerk/Secretary