

The Work Session of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington was called to order by Mayor Short at 7:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comm. Tobin, Cullen, Krickus, Kaiser, Mayor Short, Attorney Jansen, Administrator/Clerk Gallets, Asst. Adm. Burd

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Observer Tribune and the Morristown Daily Record on January 5, 2004, January 30, 2004 and March 24, 2004 and was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on the same dates. This meeting is being held at the temporary Municipal Offices at 55 Fairview Avenue, Long Valley, New Jersey. Notices of this meeting were sent as there were requests.

FINAL PLAT SUBDIVISION – The Township Committee will consider the introduction of an ordinance entitled “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND CHAPTER 175, SUBDIVISION OF LAND, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON REGARDING FINAL PLATS” at the August 18, 2004 meeting.

FARM MARKET ORDINANCE – The Township Committee discussed whether an ordinance should be introduced regulating farm stands in the Township. Comm. Kaiser and Mayor Short will further research the issue.

Mayor Short opened the meeting to the public for comments or questions.

Mr. Brian Broadhead, 133 Parker Road stated that the sidewalk plan for Cortland Estates did not make sense and that he had spoken with the developer who agreed and was willing to correct the problem if the Township approved it.

Mayor Short instructed Administrator Gallets to call the developer and let him know that the Committee agrees with the proposed changes.

There being no further comments or questions, Mayor Short closed the meeting to the public.

DISCUSSION

COMMAND CAR – The Washington Township Committee discussed a request from the Schooley’s Mountain Fire Company for a command vehicle.

SETTLERS RIDGE – The Washington Township Committee discussed a request by Mr. Michael Cannavo seeking the Committee’s assistance in obtaining the necessary building permits for property he had purchased in the Settlers Ridge Development.

SOD - FALCON FIELDS

Comm. Krickus updated the Committee on the progress at Falcon Fields. He stated that the first phase is well underway and that the first three fields have irrigation. Comm. Krickus stated that installing sod would cost approximately \$30,000/field. He stated that sod would save the two to three years that it would take for seed to become well established. He stated that he had invited the Township sports groups to get together to discuss the various issues involved. Comm. Krickus strongly recommended that the Township sod the three fields.

Mayor Short opened the meeting to the public for comments or questions pertaining to Falcon Fields.

Ms. Cameron Sinclair - Long Valley Travel Soccer stated that Raiders Football, Recreation Soccer, and Travel Soccer will all be joining forces and pooling resources for a major fund raising effort to help the town sod these fields. She stated that they will also be reaching out to the Lacrosse Club.

Comm. Krickus stated he has asked the groups to have the funds raised by June 30, 2005. He stated the sports teams will be fronting \$30,000 of the \$90,000 cost to sod the three fields.

Comm. Tobin stated that the Committee has to take into consideration that the sports teams may take 24 months to raise this money as opposed to 12 months.

Comm. Cullen stated he would like to see the fields come online as soon as possible.

Comm. Kaiser stated that she was originally against sodding the fields but, after having seen the difference at Palmer Field between the infield that is sodded and the outfield that is seeded, there is no comparison. She also stated that costs associated with the Township having to water, fertilize and maintain fields that are seeded can be avoided.

Mayor Short stated that he is concerned with spending \$60,000 to have grass grow one year earlier. He stated the Township will also have to hire another employee at \$30,000 to cut it.

Mayor Short stated that the sod project will move forward.

PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC DEVICE – The Washington Township Committee discussed installing traffic control devices at the pedestrian crosswalks in Long Valley Center. The Committee decided to hold off on making a decision until the shopping center is further advanced.

JOINT COMMUNICATIONS – The Washington Township Committee discussed a letter received from the Administrator of Mendham Township concerning the outstanding balance for dispatching services.

BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS – Comm. Kaiser and Cullen will interview candidates for open Recreation and Environmental Committee positions on Monday, August 16, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.

EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION – The Washington Township Committee will consider an emergency appropriation resolution on Monday, August 16, 2004 to appropriate \$95,000 to cover the Fellows vs. Washington Township legal fees.

SCHEDULE HEARING – The Washington Township Committee directed Administrator Gallets to schedule grievance hearings for the September 14, 2005 meeting at 7:00 p.m.

HANGING BANNERS – The Washington Township Committee discussed the procedure for hanging banners in the Township.

SITE VISITS AND PHONE COMMUNICATION WITH NJDEP – The Washington Township Committee discussed an unannounced visit from the NJDEP precipitated by a complaint from a local resident that the buffer transition area had been violated at Falcon Field

DPW MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE – The Washington Township Committee discussed a recommendation to appoint Scott Frech as Acting DPW Superintendent to prepare for the retirement of Ralph DeFranzo. They also discussed getting the process rolling for filling Scott Frech's current position.

ROUTE 46 SAFETY - The Washington Township Committee agreed to direct Township Traffic Officer Trevena to take a look at the downhill side of Route 46 on Hackettstown Mountain for possible safety recommendations.

Mayor Short opened the meeting to the public for comments or questions.

Mr. David Chanda, 4 Thornapple Court, stated he agreed with the Committee's decision to put sod in at Falcon Fields. He also reiterated that he feels the fields are too close to the houses.

Ms. Lina Cresci, 4 Basswood Court, stated she has concerns about the noise, smoke and pollution from Falcon Fields. She stated they are getting diesel smells coming into their home. She complained the workers are revving engines at 6:30 a.m. Her family cannot sleep because of the noise, and they cannot go in the yard because of the overwhelming diesel smell.

Mayor Short instructed Ralph DeFranzo to remind the workers that they cannot start working until 7:00 a.m.

Dina Carmelengo, 6 Briarwood Road, inquired to what extent the Committee will follow the detailed recommendations of the Planning Board.

Mayor Short stated that the Planning Board is one advisory body that the Committee takes recommendations from. He stated that the Committee listens to the Planning Board's recommendations, considers them, and, if possible, tries to follow them. However, that is not always possible.

There being no further comments or questions, Mayor Short closed the meeting to the public.

The Township Committee went into Executive Session at 9:28 p.m. upon approval of the following resolution:

RESOLUTION R-160-04 – EXECUTIVE SESSION –
LITIGATION: PERCHAM; SCUDESE; COMBE FILL SOUTH
POTENTIAL LITIGATION: NEW TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGE: MUNICIPAL PLANNER BILLS
CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS: DISPATCHING AGREEMENT –
MENDHAM TOWNSHIP
LAND ACQUISITION: BORGENICHT – WEST MILL ROAD

Motion was made by Comm. Cullen, seconded by Comm. Krickus that the foregoing resolution be adopted. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Comm. Tobin, Cullen, Krickus, Kaiser, Mayor Short

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

The Township Committee came out of Executive Session at 10:09 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Dianne S. Gallets, Clerk