

The Work Session of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington was called to order by Mayor Tobin at 7:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Comm. Short, Cullen, Walsh, Nedd, Mayor Tobin, Attorney Jansen, Administrator/Clerk Gallets, Assistant Administrator Burd

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

Adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Observer Tribune and the Morristown Daily Record on January 9, 2006 and was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on the same date. This meeting is being held at the Washington Township Municipal Building, 43 Schooley's Mountain Road, Long Valley, New Jersey. Notices of this meeting were sent as there were requests.

**EAGLE SCOUT PRESENTATION** – Scout Andrew Hoffmann presented plans to the Township Committee for an Eagle Scout project he is undertaking in which he will construct a picnic and sitting area at Kohler Pond consisting of three picnic tables and three park benches.

### **MT. OLIVE TOWNSHIP REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. Steve Rattner, Council Vice President, thanked the Township Committee for setting up this meeting. He also thanked them for their assistance in getting Mount Olive's beach parking lot paved in time for the summer as well as for training Mt. Olive's employees in the use of the paving equipment. He stated that Mount Olive and Washington Township are both large towns in Morris County and share a large common border. He hopes that the two municipalities can share services in other areas in the future in order to save tax dollars. Mr. Rattner stated that communication between the two townships over the last couple of years has not been very good due to problems in Mount Olive, and he hopes for much improvement in that area. He stated that one specific area that needs to be addressed is the paving of Drakestown Road.

Mr. Jim Buell, Councilman, stated that he asked to have this meeting set up because he felt things on Drakestown Road were not moving along as quickly as they needed to be. The paving has needed to be done for years. He stated that Mount Olive has approved their capital budget, and they are now ready to begin paving.

Mr. Ray Perkins, Councilman, stated that the residents are becoming more irate concerning Drakestown Road. It is in deplorable shape. He stated he was upset to see that there was a lack of communication and any forward progress over the past two years on this project, and it has been only recently that we have seen mutual aid and support between the two municipalities.

Mayor Tobin stated that Washington Township was aware of the issues, and Department of Public Works Supervisor Scott Frech has had at least one meeting with his counterpart in Mount Olive. The problems are primarily deteriorated pavement, drainage problems and a "hump" in the road. Mount Olive has agreed to do the paving. Washington Township will provide the materials for the drainage work, with Mount Olive doing the installation. Correcting the problem with the "hump" in the road requires coordination with the HMUA, because there is a shallow water line in that area.

Mayor Tobin told the Mount Olive representatives that Washington Township has joined with several Warren County municipalities to form a Shared Services Council. He provided a binder with information on the Council to the Mount Olive representatives.

All agreed that the Department of Public Works' supervisors should sit down and talk about services that they can share in the future.

### **ORDINANCES**

**IMPROVABLE LOT AREA** – The Township Committee discussed the recommendation submitted by Mr. Leon Hall to change the definition of "Improvable Lot Area".

**TOWING ORDINANCE** – The Township Committee discussed the recommendation of Washington Township Police Chief Michael Bailey to change the towing and daily storage fees.

**MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING** – The Township Committee will consider the introduction of an ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, CHAPTER 217, ARTICLE III, USE REGULATIONS, TO PERMIT MUNICIPALLY-SPONSORED MULTI-FAMILY AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING AS A PERMITTED USE IN THE OR ZONING DISTRICT", at the June 19, 2006 meeting.

**REVALUATION** – The Township Committee will consider the introduction of an ordinance entitled "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION OF \$600,000 FOR THE

PREPARATION AND EXECUTION OF A COMPLETE PROGRAM OF REVALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY, FOR THE USE OF THE LOCAL ASSESSOR OF THE TOWNSHIP", at the June 19, 2006 meeting.

**Mayor Tobin opened the meeting to the public.**

**A Representative of Pear Tree Builders, Inc.**, requested the assistance of the Township Committee in obtaining the necessary permits to connect two proposed water service lines to the existing water main on Reservoir Road.

**Mr. Brian Brodhead, 133 Parker Road.** requested a waiver of the requirement to plant three trees in the shade tree easement on the corner of Jordan Court and Parker Road.

Motion was made by Comm. Short, seconded by Comm. Walsh that the requirement to plant three trees at the corner of Jordan Court and Parker Road be waived and they be planted elsewhere by Landmark. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

**AYES:** Comm. Short, Cullen, Walsh, Nedd, Mayor Tobin

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTENTIONS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**There being no comments or questions, Mayor Tobin closed the meeting to the public.**

### **DISCUSSION**

**HISTORIC MUSEUM SUMP PUMP** – The Township Committee discussed a letter received from Mr. Naresh Garg of the Washington Township Historical Society informing the Committee that the sump-pump that was installed at the museum was working well but requesting the help of the Department of Public works in installing an appropriate drainage system to route the water away from an adjacent lot so that they are not liable for damage to any property.

**CABLE TV FRANCHISE** - The Township Committee discussed a letter received from the Office of Cable Television advising the Township that the franchise ordinance will automatically renew for a term of ten years unless the Township issues a notice of non-renewal no later than June 6, 2007.

**MUA WATER CONSERVATION** – The Township Committee discussed a letter from the Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority encouraging all Morris County municipalities to seriously consider imposing seasonal water conservation measures as a prudent water resource management tool.

**MARIBEL MEADOWS/CORTLAND ESTATES/MISSION RIDGE** – The Township Committee discussed a letter received from Landmark at Long Valley, LLC informing them that they are following Mr. Leon Hall's recommendation and completing all outstanding improvements as soon as possible, and that the top course paving will be deferred to later in the construction season until the remaining four houses are closer to completion.

**BILLING POLICY** – The Township Committee reviewed a draft of a letter to be sent to various professionals who deal with Washington Township informing them that no charges to Washington Township will be paid for private consultation or discussions with residents, Board Members or Committeemen that have not been previously authorized.

**POLICE PROMOTIONS** – The Township Committee reviewed a letter from Police Chief Michael Bailey informing them of upcoming retirements within the Police Department.

**MORRIS COUNTY ASSESSMENT REPORT** – Tabled until June 19, 2006.

**LAND ACQUISITION: BOYLE PROPERTY** – The Township Committee discussed revisions to a contract with the New Jersey Conservation Foundation for the purchase of a trail easement.

**GAZEBO DONATION** – The Township Committee discussed various sites for the placement of a gazebo being donated by the Long Valley Garden Club.

**MORRIS COUNTY JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM** – The Township Committee agreed to authorize participation in the Morris County Integrated Justice Information System which will enable us to communicate and share information with other municipalities in the County.

**RESOLUTION #R-106-06 - AWARD BID – FLOCKTOWN ROAD IMPROVEMENTS – TILCON NEW YORK, INC. - CONTRACT #2006.03**

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

**AYES:** Comm. Short, Cullen, Walsh, Nedd, Mayor Tobin

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTENTIONS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**PASCALE FARM** – Comm. Walsh informed the Committee that the Morris County Agriculture Development Board has informed us that the Township-owned Pascale Farm was accepted into the preservation program after four years of denial. Administrator Diane Galletts stated that there is a large pile of tires on the property that needs to be removed.

**TANKER TRUCK BIDS** – The Township Committee discussed the bid received from 4-Guys Fire Trucks for the new tanker truck and whether they should award the bid to them or substantially modify the specifications.

**BURNET BROOK WATERSHED PROTECTION PLAN** – The Committee agreed that Mayor Tobin should sign a letter asking the Department of Environmental Protection to take steps to implement the Burnet Brook Watershed Protection Plan, a project of the Raritan Highlands Compact of which Washington Township is a member.

**COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE** – Comm. Short updated the Committee on the status of the Community Center evaluation process.

**LONG VALLEY** – Comm. Short informed the Committee that some progress has been made on the bypass. The County is going into some further negotiations for land acquisitions. The proposal to put some senior housing on the site and have the builder put in the lower section of the bypass is something that the County is willing to consider. The indication was that the County is willing to pay us back for the total cost that we paid for that site for the bypass ramp. He also stated that the engineering firm from East Orange is no longer involved with the project. Comm. Short stated that they have also changed the name of the project. It is no longer referred to as the “Bypass project”. It is now the “Traffic Safety project”.

**RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES (ROID) GRANT** – The Township Committee agreed to submit a grant application for the Children’s Enrichment Program.

**OLD MIDDLEWORTH FARM CONSERVATION EASEMENT** – Comm. Short reviewed a letter from Mr. CJ Sinko, a member of the Washington Township Environmental Commission, stating that they have reviewed the Forest Management Plan for the Old Middleworth Farm and have concluded that the plan can be implemented if they meet certain stated conditions.

**GROWTH SHARE ORDINANCE** – Comm. Nedd stated that a means of enforcing the restrictions on variances allowed pursuant to the Growth Share Ordinance is needed.

**Mayor Tobin opened the meeting to the public. There being no comments or questions, Mayor Tobin closed the meeting to the public.**

**The Township Committee went into Executive Session at 10:40 p.m. upon approval of the following resolution:**

**RESOLUTION #R-105-06 – EXECUTIVE SESSION – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS: DISPATCHING  
ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGE: COUNTY USE OF POLICE**

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

**AYES:** Comm. Nedd, Short, Cullen, Walsh, Mayor Tobin

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTENTIONS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**The Township Committee came out of Executive Session at 10:51p.m.**

**The meeting adjourned at 10:52 p.m.**