

The Regular Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington was called to order by Mayor Walsh at 7:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comm. Cullen, Short, Tobin, Nedd, Mayor Walsh
Attorney Jansen, Administrator/Clerk Gallets, Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary Madden

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Observer Tribune and the Morristown Daily Record on January 8, 2007 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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

DISCUSSION

FAIRMOUNT FIRE:

PIERCE FIRE TRUCK – Fairmount Fire Chief Dave Steinel stated that this vehicle, purchased in 2003, has had severe rust issues since its receipt. The truck's manufacturer will repair the vehicle at its refurbishment factory in Wisconsin. The vehicle is scheduled to be sent in January 2008, however, Chief Steinel would like the vehicle to be sent in April 2008, due to its winter weather capabilities. The vehicle in use at this time is requested to be kept until the 2003 Pierce is back in service (estimated to be June 2008).

ATLANTIC AIR LANDING ZONE PRESENTATION – Chief Steinel stated that Atlantic Air is scheduled to do a presentation on October 30, 2007 at 7:00 P.M. regarding its emergency air medical services. The presentation will discuss helicopter use, landing zones, and other pertinent topics. Chief Steinel requested that the Township Committee provide him with a memo giving them permission to land the helicopter behind the Fairmount Fire House. This property is owned by Cooper Chemical, and the property owner, a member of the Fire Department has already given his permission for the landing. The Township Committee unanimously approved the request.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT – TURNOUT GEAR – Comm. Nedd stated that the Chiefs applied for a grant for turnout gear, which protects firemen as they enter a burning building. The grant has not yet been received. Chief Kurt Wanner, Washington Township Fire Department, stated that their operating budget allows for the purchase of three sets of gear for each fire company per year. At present, there is a great need for more sets of turnout gear. Chief Wanner stated that out of the sets needed, they are requesting funding from the Committee for six. They still hope to receive the FEMA grant. Funds will be reallocated within the Fire Department budget for the immediate purchase of turnout gear. With the approval of Township CFO Kevin Lifer, the reallocation is acceptable to the Committee. The Township Committee will further discuss the purchase of additional sets of turnout gear at the November 2007 Work Session.

FOOTBALL LIGHTS – Mayor Walsh stated that he spoke to Chief Keith Heimburg, Schooley's Mountain Fire Protection Association, regarding the use of the ladder truck in changing bulbs for the football lights. Chief Heimburg has agreed to provide assistance, with concerns as to the staffing on weekdays when they are normally short-handed. Additionally, the number of lights and their locations need to be provided. The Chief's last concern is to the integrity of the ground (wet/dry) around the lights at the time of a requested change. The details of this arrangement will be finalized between the Township Committee, the Parks & Recreation Department, and Chief Heimburg.

DRIVEWAY WAIVER – BLACK RIVER ROAD – The Township Committee will consider the waiver at the November Work Session. The Committee anticipates receiving a revised recommendation from the Driveway Waiver committee, with suggested conditions for incorporation in a resolution.

NORTH BRIDGE ROAD – The Township Committee agreed that any modifications to this road will be considered during the 2008 budgetary process.

SENIOR CITIZEN BUS DRIVER REPLACEMENT – The Township Committee authorized the hiring of one full time employee to replace the individual retiring.

TRAILER REMOVAL – FUZZBOX – The Township Committee authorized the proper disposal of the contents of the trailer so that the trailer itself may be removed.

MUNICIPAL ENGINEER – REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL – Comm. Short and Administrator Galletts intend to publish requests for proposals this week.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

RO-27-07 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND ACCEPTING A DONATION OF BLOCK 42.03, LOTS 17, 18, 19, 21 AND 22 IN WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP AND BLOCK 16.03, LOT 3 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF CHESTER - SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND ACCEPTING A DONATION OF BLOCK 42.03, LOTS 17, 18, 19, 21 AND 22 IN WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP AND BLOCK 16.03, LOT 3 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF CHESTER be read by title upon second reading and a hearing held thereon.

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

INSERT ORDINANCE

CORRESPONDENCE NOTED FOR THE RECORD

Letter from Mr. Robert Lackey, a resident of Sand Hill Road, offering his thanks to DPW Superintendent Scott Frech for overseeing the prompt elimination of a swale located in front of Mr. Lackey's driveway.

Letter from Morris County Administrator John Bonanni, stating Washington Township will receive a 2008 Municipal Alliance allocation from the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in the sum of \$16,029.00.

Letter from Ms. Amy Cradic, Assistant Commissioner of the NJDEP Natural and Historic Resources, stating Washington Township has been awarded a Certified Local Government grant in the sum of \$5,000 toward an update of the Historic Preservation Element of the Municipal Master Plan.

Letter from Ms. Amy Cradic, Assistant Commissioner of the NJDEP Natural and Historic Resources, stating Washington Township's application to obtain Recreational Trails Program funding to develop a multi-use non-motorized trail at Palmer Park was not authorized for funding in 2007.

Notice from the Morris County Historic Preservation Commission stating the Washington Township Historical Society will receive a trust fund grant in the sum of \$6,800 to be dedicated toward the Union Church project.

The Morris County Engineer will host a meeting to discuss proposed improvements to the Newburgh Road Bridge on October 22, 2007 from 6:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. at the Washington Township Municipal Building.

Comm. Cullen noted that the two sided packet reviewed by the Township Committee is noticeably thinner, and has saved paper.

Comm. Nedd stated that he received inquiries as to the timing of home appraisals for the tax reevaluation.

Administrator Gallets stated that the Township is on schedule, with appraisals beginning again in November and December 2007. **Comm. Nedd** recommended that this information be posted on the website, and **Administrator Gallets** stated that as soon as the letters are sent out, it will be posted.

Comm. Tobin inquired of **Administrator Gallets** the status of the CWA mediation. **Administrator Gallets** responded that the Township is waiting to hear from the mediator to come up with dates to meet.

Comm. Tobin stated that the Township received a grant check from Wal-Mart in the amount of \$250 for Toys for Tots and \$250 for the Senior Holiday Event.

Mayor Walsh stated that the Township had the site visit from the Morris County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund Officials. The Township's formal presentation will be at the Morris County Library on Wednesday, October 24, 2007 at 6:00 P.M. The owner of an adjacent property is going through a Woodland Management process wherein they maintain their farmland preservation and logging trails are being created for recreational use. This landowner's request is to place his logs and equipment on Township property for approximately one week during this process. He is fully insured with the Township named as the loss payee. The Township Committee agreed.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

The Township Committee went into Executive Session at 8:37 P.M. upon approval of the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #R-173-07 - EXECUTIVE SESSION – LAND ACQUISITION: COOPER CHEMICAL

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

The Township Committee came out of Executive Session at 8:59 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.