

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comm. Popper, Short, Walsh, Nedd, Mayor Tobin, Attorney Jansen, Administrator/Clerk Gallets, Senior 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, 2008 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

EAGLE SCOUT AWARD – Mayor Tobin, on behalf of the Washington Township Committee, presented a plaque to **Scout Nicholas G. Tepfenhart** in recognition of his achievement of the rank of Eagle Scout.

RO-1-08 – BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$485,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$461,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS LANDS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY - SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$485,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$461,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS LANDS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY be read by title upon second reading and a hearing held thereon.

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

**** It was noted that the supplemental debt statement has been filed in Trenton.**

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

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$485,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$461,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS LANDS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY be adopted upon final reading and that a summary of said ordinance be published in the Observer Tribune according to law.

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. Popper, Short, Walsh, Nedd, Mayor Tobin

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

RO-02-08 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND CHAPTER 111, LAND USE PROCEDURES, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF GARAGE - SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND CHAPTER 111, LAND USE PROCEDURES, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF GARAGE be read by title upon second reading and a hearing held thereon.

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. Popper, Short, Walsh, Nedd, Mayor Tobin

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at a meeting of the Township Committee on April 21, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at the Washington Township Municipal Building, 43 Schooley's Mountain Road, Long Valley, New Jersey at which time and place all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk be authorized to advertise said Ordinance in summary form in the Observer Tribune according to law.

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. Popper, Short, Walsh, Nedd, Mayor Tobin

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

RO-05-08 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND CHAPTER 56, BUILDING CONSTRUCTION, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON – INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND CHAPTER 56, BUILDING CONSTRUCTION, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON be introduced and read by title on first reading by the Township Committee.

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. Popper, Short, Walsh, Nedd, Mayor Tobin

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND CHAPTER 56, BUILDING CONSTRUCTION, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON be adopted upon first reading.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at a meeting of the Township Committee on April 21, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at the Washington Township Municipal Building, 43 Schooley's Mountain Road, Long Valley, New Jersey at which time and place all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning same.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk be authorized to advertise said Ordinance in full in the Observer Tribune according to law.

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. Popper, Short, Walsh, Nedd, Mayor Tobin

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

*****Ordinance #RO-06-08 which was scheduled for introduction this evening was removed from the agenda.**

MARCH 8, 2008 CAR ACCIDENT

Comm. Walsh addressed the issue of an accident in which he was involved on March 8, 2008. He stated that it included a DUI summons. He extended his apologies to his family, the Committee, Municipal employees, volunteers and the residents of Washington Township. He stated that he fully accepts the consequences of these actions and is seeking professional help to overcome his personal issues to ensure the greatest positive healthcare outcome. He further stated that he has been and will remain dedicated to the Township and his governing abilities will not be compromised. He asked for forgiveness and support in his quest to move forward.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mayor Tobin opened the meeting to the public.

Tom Granat, 44 Flintlock Drive, requested that the Township post ordinances and resolutions in their entirety on the website prior to the meetings. The Township will honor this request.

NAYS: None
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ABSENT: None
March 17, 2008

ABSTENTIONS: None
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***RAFFLE APPLICATIONS**

Applications have been received for the following raffles:

Friendship Center Inc.	Draw Raffle	06/10/2008
Freedom Horse Inc.	Fifty-Fifty	07/26/2008
Freedom Horse Inc.	Fifty-Fifty	07/26/2008
Freedom Horse Inc.	Tricky Tray	07/26/2008
The Garden Club of Long Valley	Draw Raffle	05/10/2008
Washington. Township Land Trust of Morris County Inc.	Fifty-Fifty	10/04/2008
NRA Federation of New Jersey State Fund Committee	Tricky Tray	05/29/2008
Fairmount Fire Company #1 Ladies Auxiliary	Tricky Tray	04/09/2008
Heath Village Inc.	Draw Raffle	05/30/2008

That the foregoing raffle applications be approved, subject to the Mayor signing the Findings and Determination Forms.

***APPROVE MINUTES**

January 21, 2008 Regular Meeting
January 30, 2008 Special Meeting
February 6, 2008 Special Meeting
February 20, 2008 Special Meeting

***AUTHORIZE SPECIAL ABC PERMIT – WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP LAND TRUST OF MORRIS COUNTY, INC.**

An application has been received from the Washington Township Land Trust of Morris County, Inc. for permission to dispense alcoholic beverages at a fundraising event to be held on April 12, 2008 from 4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. at The Lodge at Schooley's Mountain, 54 Camp Washington Road, Long Valley, New Jersey. Noted that the Chief of Police has signed the permit application.

That the foregoing special permit for a social affair be approved and the Clerk be authorized to sign the permit application and forward it to the applicant for submission to Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

***APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP – LONG VALLEY FIRST AID SQUAD**

An application has been received for membership in the Long Valley First Aid Squad from Charles Russin Sr..

That the foregoing application for membership be approved and be forwarded to the Long Valley First Aid Squad.

***PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS**

That the vouchers be approved and that the Treasurer shall issue warrants in payment when there are sufficient funds to meet them. The bill list is on file in the finance office.

***MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

That the following monthly department reports be accepted and placed on file in the Township Clerk's office:

Washington Township Board of Health, Washington Township Municipal Court,
Washington Township Tax Collector

Mayor Tobin asked the members of the Township Committee and the public if they would like any item(s) to be removed from the consent agenda. There was no response.

All items preceded by a (*) were approved as part of the consent agenda on a motion made by Comm. Short, seconded by Comm. Walsh on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Comm. Popper, Short, Walsh, Nedd, Mayor Tobin
NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

CORRESPONDENCE NOTED FOR THE RECORD

Letter from Business Administrator Douglas Pechanec, inviting the Township Committee to attend a public presentation of the proposed 2008 – 2009 West Morris Regional High School District budget scheduled to be held on Monday, March 24, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the West Morris High School Library.
Notice of closure of the Stephensburg Bridge from March 16, 2008 through July 31, 2008.
Information from Mr. Dan Farrand to the New Jersey State Budget Committee.
Petition from Washington Township farmers regarding Governor Corzine’s proposed budget cuts.

DISCUSSION

TAX OFFICE SECURITY – Bob Kelly, Information Systems Specialist will be meeting with an individual regarding the security system for the Tax Office.

BUDGET PRIORITIES – Comm. Nedd stated that he created a spreadsheet in which he assigned a dollar amount to each budget reduction idea presented by the Committee members at the March Work Session. The Committee was able to then review the actual impact each suggestion would have on the budget. Comm. Nedd explained that he ranked the ideas based on their dollar impact which would not necessarily be the deciding factor in final prioritization of the list. The Committeemen then would vote on the ranking and Comm. Nedd will then re-prioritize the list based on the votes for each item.

The following ideas were discussed.

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| 1) Bank Notes Reserve reduction by \$60,000 | 13) Reduction in Group Dental reimbursement (50% to 33%) |
| 2) Drop 1 Police car purchase | 14) Eliminate sidewalk repair |
| 3) 1 Technology Position elimination | 15) Decrease Health Insurance Reimbursement Waivers |
| 4) Reduction of Reserve for Uncollected Taxes by \$48,000 | 16) Engineer Map Maintenance |
| 5) Non replacement/delay of DPW Worker | 17) Joint Communications/Education |
| 6) Police Officer hire delay | 18) Advertising Reduction |
| 7) For Closed Session | 19) Court Interpreter Service |
| 8) Reduction of Legal Reserve by \$10,000 | 20) Board of Health Septic Review |
| 9) Decrease Capital down payment by \$19,250/Fire Truck | 21) Recreation Education & Training |
| 10) Required Health Care non contract co-pay | 22) Shredder Contract |
| 11) For Closed Session | 23) For Closed Session |
| 12) Police Form IV reduction | |

The Committee voted to reduce the budget by \$168,109 thus far. Several personnel items will be discussed in closed session before a final decision can be made.

RELOCATION OF PALMER PARK CONCESSION STAND – Comm. Walsh stated that the Recreation Committee has provided a map with the site of the relocation. The stand will be funded solely by the Long Valley Baseball Club (LVBC) who will work closely with the Public Works Department and the Board of Health to meet all requirements. **Scott Frech, Public Works Superintendent** stated that they are working with the LVBC to coordinate this effort and that the new site will be reviewed. Attorney Jansen recommended that the Committee have the plans presented to the Planning Board for their approval. The Committee will consult the Planning Board to inquire whether they would like to review the plans. Should any sports teams wish to use the facility, they will have to enter into a rental agreement.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FIRE SERVICES STUDY – Comm. Popper stated that the study has been held off. **Kurt Wanner, Fire Chief** is willing to participate in any activity that will benefit the Township, however, he is not certain that the interpretation of the computer survey questions and the use of theoretical and statistical information will be useful. He cautioned the Committee that this should not be the deciding model for the investment in equipment. He further stated that volunteers are a valuable resource and should be consulted more readily regarding the need for equipment. **Mayor Tobin** stated that the Committeemen may not be knowledgeable enough to ask the appropriate questions, therefore an outside group was considered as part of the process. Comm. Popper will ensure that the Fire Department’s seasoned volunteers are part of the process, when the time is right for further discussion.

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The meeting adjourned at 12:41 P.M.

Dianne S. Gallets, Clerk