

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 Gallets, Acting 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

PROCLAMATION – CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Mayor Tobin, on behalf of the Township Committee, proclaimed April 2008 as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Mayor Tobin stated that child abuse is both inhumane and costly to New Jersey's society and the county as a whole. Mayor Walsh stated that support from all aspects of the community is needed to prevent child abuse.

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

RO-03-08 – AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY - SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY 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

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 AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY be adopted upon final reading and that 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-04-08 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 168, SOLID WASTE, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY - SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 168, SOLID WASTE, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY 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

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 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 168, SOLID WASTE, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF 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-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 - 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 56, BUILDING CONSTRUCTION, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON 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

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

***APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC EVENT – VALLEY SHEPHERD LLC**

An application has been received from Valley Shepherd LLC for a Shearing Festival to be held on May 3, 2008 from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. at the Valley Shepherd Creamery, 50 Fairmount Road, Long Valley, New Jersey. Recommendations have been received from the Police Department, the Board of Health and the Zoning Officer.

That the foregoing public event be approved subject to the conditions of the Police Department, the Board of Health and the Zoning Officer.

***APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC EVENT – NEW JERSEY FAMILY MEDIEVAL AND FANTASY FESTIVAL**

An application has been received from New Jersey Family Medieval and Fantasy Festival for a family festival to be held on June 7, 2008 from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. and on June 8, 2008 from Noon to 7:00 P.M. at St. Mark the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church, Spring Lane, Long Valley, New Jersey. Recommendations have been received from the Police Department, the Board of Health and the Zoning Officer.

That the foregoing public event be approved subject to the conditions of the Police Department, the Board of Health and the Zoning Officer.

***APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC EVENT – LONG VALLEY DOG PARK COMMITTEE**

An application has been received from the Long Valley Dog Park Committee for a fundraiser to benefit the Long Valley Dog Park to be held on June 14, 2008 from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. at the Long Valley Middle School, 51 West Mill Road, Long Valley, New Jersey. Recommendations have been received from the Police Department, the Board of Health and the Zoning Officer.

That the foregoing public event be approved subject to the conditions of the Police Department, the Board of Health and the Zoning Officer.

***APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC EVENT – RIVER OF LIFE MINISTRIES, INC.**

An application has been received from the River of Life Ministries, Inc. for Tent Church Services to be held from June 15, 2008 to June 20, 2008 from 6:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. and on June 21, 2008 from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the Union Cemetery, East Avenue, Long Valley, New Jersey. Recommendations have been received from the Police Department, the Board of Health and the Zoning Officer.

That the foregoing public event be approved subject to the conditions of the Police Department, the Board of Health and the Zoning Officer.

***AUTHORIZE SPECIAL ABC PERMIT – MUSCONETCONG VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

An application has been received from the Musconetcong Valley Community Association for permission to dispense alcoholic beverages at a fundraising event to be held on May 9, 2008 from 7:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M. at the Schooley's Mountain Lodge, 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 Acting Clerk be authorized to sign the permit application and forward it to the applicant for submission to Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

***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 Police Department, 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

**** Comm. Nedd and Comm. Short abstained from the vote on the New Jersey Family Medieval And Fantasy Festival application because they are member of St. Mark's church.**

CORRESPONDENCE NOTED FOR THE RECORD

Comcast of Northwest New Jersey, LLC cable television renewal certificate of approval for Washington Township, Morris County, New Jersey.
Letter from West Morris Central High School Principal Michael J. Reilly, commending Officers of the Washington Township Police Department who participated in a basketball game with students where \$3,000 was raised to be dedicated to the scholarship funds in memory of Kyleigh and Tanner.
Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders resolution setting a public hearing to be held on April 23, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at the Long Hill Township Municipal Building to consider 2008 Park Improvement Trust Allocations for the Sunset Valley Golf Course and the Flanders Valley Golf Course.
Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders resolution opposing Governor Corzine's proposal to eliminate the New Jersey Department of Agriculture and urging the Governor to reconsider his proposal.
2008 – 2009 Municipal Percentage Shares for Regional School District Tax Levies submitted by the New Jersey Department of Education.
Letter from New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Lisa P. Jackson, stating our 2008 Clean Communities entitlement is \$26,775.85.
Letter from New Jersey Department of Transportation Commissioner Kris Kolluri, stating Washington Township will receive an allotment of \$135,000 from the Transportation Trust Fund for Pedestrian Safety Improvements.

DISCUSSION

REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS – PROFESSIONAL SERVICES – 2009 – **Comm. Popper** stated that he feels it is in the Township's best interest to revisit this issue every couple of years. Comm. Popper stated that he is opposed to the solicitation of campaign contributions from professionals. He requests that the process be narrowed down to a number of finalists to be reviewed, such as the municipal Judge and municipal counsel. **Comm. Nedd** suggested that the turnover be staggered. **Mayor Tobin** stated that a cycle of every four years would be appropriate for many positions. He does not believe that a formal RFP is the way to proceed. Advertising and procedure for the positions maturing will be investigated and appropriate criteria for evaluating the different available positions will be discussed at the May meeting. It was agreed that the Judge and Prosecutor would be looked at for 2009.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF MALLARD COVE ROAD PROPERTY – The Township was provided with photographs of the property which it is considering selling to the contiguous property owners. It is currently owned by the Township, which is willing to sell it to get it back on the tax rolls. As it is undersized with no improvements, contiguous property owners have the right to purchase it at fair market value as set by the Township.

BUDGET HEARING

Mayor Tobin stated that the public budget hearings are not always very informative. He suggested that a public information meeting be held on a Saturday in June 2008 and that the public be invited to attend. The Committee inquired whether we could advertise to have it two weeks from now with the Department Heads to either present their budgets or answer questions. **Comm. Nedd** stated that the public should know if things will be able to be altered at this point, or if it is entirely informational. The Committee agreed that a macro presentation is the proper way to proceed. This meeting will be set for May 10, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

BID CONSULTANT FOR FIRE TRUCK

Comm. Nedd stated that it should be looked at as a significant investment. It is important to have an independent party do the bid review. **Comm. Walsh** stated that the template for bids is important and he is open to independent review, with a mind to cost. **Comm. Popper** is for the idea as long as it can be expedited with low cost. **Comm.**

Short would like to see that the firefighters have a say in the process with regard to performance specs. Two bidders are currently interested. Attorney Jansen clarified that the current investigation being conducted by the SCI is a state wide investigation and is not directed at any Fire Company.

POLICE DEPARTMENT SERVICES

Comm. Popper stated that he impressed by the positive response to the Police Department's services by residents.

LIBRARY LETTER

Comm. Popper inquired about the Library letter to request funds to be returned to the Township. Com. Nedd reiterated the explanation given at the April Work Session with regard to the movement of funds back to the Township which would only be able to offset taxes. It does not seem currently feasible.

Comm. Short stated that he received a letter which indicates that builders would like to have the Township lobby on their behalf. The Committee stated that it was not able to do so.

Administrator Gallets stated that the publication of a notice of the award of a Professional Services Resolution would save the Township money. The full Resolution would be on file at the Municipal building. She asked that [Resolution #R-68-08](#) be modified.

Motion was made by Comm. Short, seconded by Comm. Walsh that [Resolution #R-68-08](#) be modified to provide for the publication of a notice of the action taken. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

Mayor Tobin opened the meeting to the public.

Chief Bailey inquired about Califon contract negotiations. It will be discussed in Executive Session.

*** Comm. Nedd stepped down from the meeting before the discussion with Mr. Cullen regarding the MUA.

Walt Cullen, 9 Laurel Drive, commented on the water situation with the MUA.

*** Comm. Nedd returned to the meeting.

Mr. Cullen thanked the Committee for the approval of the alcohol permit for MVCA. He thanked Administrator Gallets, Assistant Clerk Madden, and Chief Bailey for their assistance in obtaining approval. He stated that the website is www.municipalutilitiesauthority.org.

Chris Tamburro, 3 Power Mill Road, asked that the resolutions and ordinances be placed on the web site.

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

The Township Committee went into Executive Session at 9:38 p.m.

[RESOLUTION R-69-08](#) -EXECUTIVE SESSION – **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PERSONNEL: SALARY/WAGE CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS: POLICE SERVICES – CALIFON**

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

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The Township Committee came out of Executive Session at 10:50 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 10:51 p.m.

Dianne S. Gallets, Clerk