

The Work Session of the Washington Township Committee was called to order by Mayor Tobin at 7:30 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Comm. Short, Popper, Walsh, Nedd, Mayor Tobin, Attorney Jansen, Administrator Galletts, Assistant Administrator Burd

**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** - The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT PRESENTATION** - **Scout Ross Wyckoff** made a presentation to the Township Committee regarding his Eagle Scout project which entails refurbishing and installing 8 benches at Harrington Park.

**FIRST AID SQUAD LICENSING PROCEDURE** - **Rob Cline, Glen Carrara and Chief Chris Tamburro, Long Valley First Aid Squad**, made a presentation to the Township Committee regarding becoming a licensed entity in the State of New Jersey which would enable them to bill for services rendered. The Long Valley First Aid Squad does not feel that licensing is needed, nor is it financially beneficial. They indicated that they are opposed to this idea as there is not a coverage issue in our township. The Township Committee commended the analysis by the First Aid Squad and agreed that the status quo should be maintained. The Committee further asked to be informed of any changes.

#### **PUBLIC PORTION**

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

**Dave Steinel, Chief Fairmount Fire Company, 12 Parker Road** stated that repairs are underway on the engine that was sent back to Wisconsin and he will keep the Committee informed. He has also stated that numerous fire hydrants are being neglected and need to be addressed. **Mayor Tobin** stated that the MUA will be asked to address the issue and that Chief Steinel should contact **Paul Costic at the WTMUA** directly.

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

#### **ORDINANCES**

The Township Committee will consider the introduction of an ordinance entitled, "**ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CERTAIN LAND AND PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON**" at the August 18, 2008 Regular Meeting.

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 159, SITE PLAN REVIEW**" at the August 18, 2008 Regular Meeting.

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 46, ANIMALS, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON**" at the August 18, 2008 Regular Meeting.

#### **DISCUSSION**

**BOARD AND COMMITTEE VACANCIES** – The Township Committee agreed upon the appointment of **Comm. Popper** to the MUA as a regular voting member. The Committee will also seek a resident who may be interested in serving on the MUA Committee. The **Historic Preservation Committee** seeks the appointment of a professional for its Committee and will interview on Monday.

**ACORN DRIVE TRAFFIC** – **Mayor Tobin** stated that a resident (Mrs. Voorhees) wrote a letter stating that Acorn Drive is a through street and she has concerns with vehicle speed and parking issues. Mrs. Voorhees proposed turning the road into a cul-de-sac. **Chief Bailey** stated that the Police Department has not been made aware of serious speed

concerns prior to this letter and expressed that emergency access to this road is essential and it should remain a through street. The Township Committee agreed that the road will remain as is and Chief Bailey will contact Mrs. Voorhees in response to her letter.

**DOT SAFETY GRANT** – The County approached Administrator Gallets regarding a DOT safety grant which would assist the Township in providing improvements at the intersection of Routes 24 and 517. The County would provide the plans for improvements and would undertake most of the cost of the materials for the recommended upgrades. The Township Committee stated that they have an interest in these improvements and Administrator Gallets will relay this interest to the County.

**GRANT AWARD - Assistant Burd** stated that grant monies were recently received by the Township. **Comm. Nedd** suggested that the funds could be applied toward utilities expenses at year end (Chapter 159 versus surplus).

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING** – The Township Committee suggested that **Ginny Kesper, Planning Board Official**, contact a firm in Wayne, New Jersey regarding affordable housing options.

**STATE MANDATES** – **Comm. Walsh** will undertake the investigation of State Mandates and their financial impact by talking to Department Heads and **Municipal CFO Kevin Lifer**.

**ATTORNEY BILLS** – **Comm. Popper** addressed a news article in the Observer Tribune regarding his desire to review Attorney's bills. Comm. Popper stated that his request to review municipal attorney invoices is merely an effort to bring his expertise as an attorney to the table. **Administrator Gallets** indicated that she responded to the editor's questions as presented.

**Mayor Tobin suspended the meeting to allow for a five minute break.**

**TARGET WEBSITE** - **Comm. Nedd** stated that he consulted the Target website which provides grants to the communities in which it conducts its business. "National Night Out", early childhood reading or safety issue grants are available.

**BUDGET STATUS** - **Comm. Nedd** stated that he conferred with **Municipal CFO, Kevin Lifer** as to where the Township stands financially and where the Township will stand by year end. CFO Lifer advised that the state of affairs should be fine at year end, however, there is not much surplus.

**PEACHTREE TAX ASSESSMENTS** – **Comm. Nedd** stated that he addressed many Peachtree residents regarding their increased tax bills and he feels it may be in the Township's best interest to step up customer education for all residents. This item will be further discussed at the Regular Meeting.

**COMMUNITY CENTER** – **Comm. Short** stated that a private enterprise is interested in pursuing the construction of a community center. The Township Committee will consider this presentation at a future date.

**AMBULANCE UPDATE** – **Administrator Gallets** stated that there is currently an outstanding bid for the ambulance being offered for sale at internet auction.

#### **PUBLIC PORTION**

**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 10:00 P.M.**

**RESOLUTION #R-120-08** – EXECUTIVE SESSION – **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING: PBA, SUPERIOR OFFICERS, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
**ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGE:**  
**BROWNFIELDS - COOPER CHEMICAL**  
**PENDING LITIGATION: MURATA**

**08-13-08**  
**7906**

**August 13, 2008**

**7906**

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

**The Township Committee came out of Executive Session at 10:20 P.M.**

**The meeting adjourned at 10:21 P.M.**

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**Dianne S. Gallets, Clerk**