

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comm. Popper, Harmon, Tobin (7:45 P.M.), Walsh, Mayor Short, 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 6, 2009 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.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

ORDINANCE

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 217, ZONING, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON WITH REGARD TO CHANGES IN GRADE**" at the January 19, 2009 Regular Meeting.

DISCUSSION

COAH HOUSE – The Township Committee agreed that the COAH house on West Mill Road will have new windows and siding installed. The improvements will be financed through the Township's Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

TEWKSBURY INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT – The Tewksbury Interlocal Agreement for fire protection will be discussed in closed session.

E-MAIL AND SERVER – To ensure OPRA compliance with regard to the storage of municipal data, **Bob Kelly, Municipal Technical Specialist**, and **Comm. Walsh** presented the need for a server and archiver for the Township and the options available for the purchase of hardware and software. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the costs to the Township; the proposal for capital funding and associated ongoing costs. The solicitation of a formal bid was discussed for an aggregated project. **Harlin Parker, 525 Naughtright Road**, discussed an alternate approach developed and hosted by Microsoft. He stated he intends to have a standard PowerPoint presentation ready next week that would explain Microsoft's ability to fulfill Township needs. Mr. Parker then will meet with the Committee for a more formal exploration of Microsoft's services.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT – CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE – Mayor Short had **Comm. Popper** confirm that the Professional Services Agreement – Certificates of Insurance issue has been taken care of.

ANIMAL CONTROL UNIFORM – **Comm. Walsh** inquired whether an animal control officer's uniform can be purchased and charged to the dog fund. The Committee agreed to a \$150 allowance for outer protective gear from the dog fund in 2009, and Mr. Ghetti will be reimbursed for a previous \$109 purchase of turtle necks.

REVERSE 911 – CELL PHONES – Mayor Short explained that a reverse 911 system has been discussed since the October 2008 storm. **Comm. Popper** researched Connect CTY, a company that provides the hardware and a program for emergency cell phone listings. The Committee will look at this company further. **Comm. Walsh** stated that Honeywell will discuss their system on January 27th with a couple of members of the Committee. The Committee will discuss emergency management communication upon receipt of further information.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT - **Comm. Walsh** stated that the Recreation Committee has openings for volunteers.

BUDGET NUMBERS – **Comm. Tobin** expressed his concern for 2009 budgetary constraints. **Mayor Short** further stated that even if spending did not increase at all in 2009, there would be a need for a 9% tax increase. The Township needs to cut expenses.

POLICE, FIRE AND EMS – **Comm. Popper** expressed concern about the dire need for these services with the reduction in state aid.

TELEVISED MEETINGS – **Comm. Popper** wants to revisit the idea of televised meetings at some point.

INSURANCE – **Assistant Administrator Burd** stated that a \$250 per person discount will be given for each elected official who attends an insurance seminar scheduled for March 12, 2009.

MUA APPOINTMENT SWITCH AND ALTERNATE PROSECUTORS - **Attorney Jansen** reminded the Committee that it needs to address the MUA switch in positions between Comm. Popper and Mr. LaVista. **Attorney Jansen** also stated that our Prosecutor requested the naming of alternate prosecutors in the event that he can not be present for a court session. Resolutions will be prepared for the January Regular Meeting.

BUDGET MEETINGS – Mayor Short reminded the public of the upcoming scheduled budget meetings.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mayor Short opened the meeting to the public.

Tom LoPezzo, 47 Flintlock Drive, Fairmont Fire Company Captain, reminded the Committee that we have a long history with Tewksbury Township. Capt. LoPezzo asked that before Washington Township enters into a contract with Tewksbury, the Committee review the basis and proposed terms of the agreement with the leadership of the Fairmont Fire Company.

Bob Kelly, Technical Specialist, asked Comm. Popper if he received the “screening audio testing link” of one of the Township Committee’s meetings on the website where Mr. Kelly had set up a link to access its file. **Comm. Popper** responded that he had not yet listened to the recording. Mr. Kelly stated that he could send it again to Comm. Popper.

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

The Township Committee went into Executive Session at 9:30 P.M.

**RESOLUTION #R-23-09 - EXECUTIVE SESSION-~~CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS~~: HEALTH BENEFITS;
TEWKSBURY
INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT (FIRE)
PENDING LITIGATION: COMBE FILL SOUTH
SETTLEMENT DISCUSSION
ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGE: CELL TOWERS**

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

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

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.