

The Regular Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington was called to order by Mayor Short at 7:40 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comm. Popper, Harmon, Tobin, Mayor Short, Attorney Jansen,
Administrator/Clerk Gallets, Senior Deputy Clerk/Recording Secretary Madden

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comm. Walsh

Adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Observer Tribune and the Morristown Daily Record on January 9, 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.

Mayor Short invited the Boy Scouts to post the colors.

SCOUT FLAG CEREMONY: The Scout Flag Ceremony was presented, which included the Cub and Boy Scout Oaths, Mottos and the Pledge of Allegiance.

EAGLE SCOUT AWARD – Mayor Short, on behalf of the Washington Township Committee, presented a plaque to Scout Matthew Martin Elchison in recognition of his achievement of the rank of Eagle Scout.

COMMUNITY SERVICE UPATE – Cub Master Tony Cretella made a presentation to the Committee to update them on community services in the Township provided by the Cub Scouts.

PROCLAMATION – Mayor Short, on behalf of the Washington Township Committee, read into the record a Proclamation naming the week of February 2 through February 9, 2009 "Scouting Anniversary Week."

PROCLAMATION – Mayor Short, on behalf of the Washington Township Committee, read into the record a Proclamation entitled, "Read Across America."

PUBLIC PORTION

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

RO-1-09 – 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 – 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 217, ZONING, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON WITH REGARD TO CHANGES IN GRADE be read by title upon second reading and a hearing held thereon.

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: Comm. Walsh

RESOLUTION #R-50-09 – TRANSFER OF FUNDS

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: Comm. Walsh

***RAFFLE APPLICATION**

An application has been received for the following raffle:

St. Mark the Evangelist Parish

Fifty-Fifty

04/26/2009

Noted that the Chief of Police has signed the Findings and Determination Form and all forms are in order.

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

***APPROVE MINUTES**

January 14, 2009 Work Session
January 19, 2009 Regular Meeting
January 27, 2009 Special Meeting
February 3, 2009 Special Meeting

***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 Short 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. Tobin, seconded by Comm. Popper on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Comm. Popper, Harmon, Tobin, Mayor Short(**)

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: Comm. Walsh

() Mayor Short abstained from voting on the St. Mark's Raffle.**

CORRESPONDENCE NOTED FOR THE RECORD

Letter from New Jersey Director of the Division of Local Aid and Economic Development, stating Washington Township will receive an allotment of \$200,000 for the resurfacing of West Valley Brook Road.

Letter from 24th Legislative District representatives to DCA Commissioner Joseph V. Doria, Jr., requesting his assistance to secure funding for Homeless Solutions' 10-unit affordable housing project.

Letter from NJDEP Assistant Director Edward Putnam to Chester Township Mayor William Cogger, stating the DEP will involve Chester Township in all aspects of the remediation at the Combe Fill South Site.

A check in the sum of \$53,088.97 for Comcast's use of municipal rights-of-way in 2008.

Letter from the United States Census Bureau, thanking Administrator Gallets for donating the Municipal Building for use in census testing and training.

Letter from Freeholders Director Gene Feyl, stating the Municipal Alliance will receive \$2,500 to be used for substance abuse prevention programs in 2008.

Thank you letter from Mrs. Marcia Timbie

Thank you letter from Mrs. Mary Beam

Letter commending the Washington Township Officers who assisted at the funeral services held for Califon Mayor Walter "Bud" Burnett.

Letter stating Police Officer Reginald Wright was polite and professional while issuing a summons for a traffic offense.

Shade Tree Annual Report for 2008

Bureau of Fire Prevention Annual Report for 2008

DISCUSSION

SET BUDGET MEETING DATES – Dates were set for Budget Meetings as follows:

(Comm. Popper stated that he cannot make the March 3, 2009 meeting at 6:30 P.M.)

Tuesday	March 10, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	March 18, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.

SUMMER HOURS – The Township Committee agreed to follow the previous summer hour program for full time Township employees from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Tax collection during the summer was discussed. **Amy Monahan, Tax Collector** explained that she can adjust hours to address the need to be available to receive tax payments. A lengthy discussion followed regarding productivity with Comm. Popper inquiring about how productivity is measured within the Township. **Ginny Kesper, Washington Township Zoning Official**, stated that in her experience, employees accommodate each other and the needs of the public during summer hours.

The 2009 summer hours were approved by the following vote:

AYES: Comm. Harmon, Tobin, Mayor Short

NAYS: Comm. Popper

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: Comm. Walsh

PUBLIC PORTION

Mayor Short opened the meeting to the public.

Harlin Parker, 525 Naughtright Road, stated that if the Township administrative offices are open four days a week and are more productive, why are they not extending the four day work week year round. **Comm. Tobin** stated that the Committee will keep an open mind.

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

BUDGET INFORMATION - **Comm. Tobin** inquired whether the budget information could be on the website. He was advised that it is there and is updated as needed.

BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES – **Comm. Tobin** inquired whether the Township should be thinking about converting bond anticipation notes to permanent bonds since interest rates are favorable. He suggested that **Kevin Lifer, Washington Township CFO** be contacted to research if this is worth pursuing.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Dianne S. Gallets, Clerk