

The Special Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington was called to order by Mayor Short at 6:40 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comm. Popper, Harmon, Tobin, Walsh, Mayor Short, CFO Lifer,
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 February 17, 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 Senior Citizen Center, East Springtown Road, Long Valley, New Jersey. Notices of this meeting were sent, as there were requests.

2009 MUNICIPAL BUDGET DISCUSSION:

Mayor Short explained the necessity of bringing the possible tax rate increase down to 3.9% for 2009. He discussed various items of increased revenue. Mayor Short further discussed the use of revenue that could be authorized by the adoption of a new ordinance establishing recreation field usage fees, which could amount to between \$20,000 and \$40,000. He suggested using \$30,000 in the budget as revenue.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mayor Short opened the meeting to the public.

Chief Bailey, Washington Township Police Chief, questioned whether the parents could perform some of the field maintenance themselves to keep the expenses down.

John Turick, 51 Wehrli Road, questioned whether the Township could stage the maintenance.

Robert Kelly, Municipal Technical Specialist, stated that the Township may not necessarily want to spend money to bring in additional revenue. He mentioned the expenses relative to the registering of alarm systems.

Joe Estwin, Washington Township Dispatcher, discussed the communications system and explained that Roxbury Township would be very happy to go on someone else's dispatching system. He questioned whether the Township has been actively pursuing adding additional users to our system.

Tom Monroe, Chester Township, stated that all departments should be able to charge fees to cover their expenses.

Mayor Short explained the various shared services currently in place with other towns.

Toby Drysdale, Chester Fire Company Assistant Chief stated that the township should not change systems or go to Morris County Dispatch without further research.

Robert Curtis, 46 Long Hill Road, questioned the Township's willingness to use Morris County Dispatch without further research.

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

TECHNICAL/DISPATCHING RE-ORGANIZATION - This portion of the meeting was dedicated to discussing personnel. All of the employees involved have requested that the discussion be in public.

Technical Staff – A discussion was held in consideration of hiring Bob Kelly as an independent contractor as the webmaster. It was discussed that an outside service may be used for this one portion of the job, or that Bob Kelly could be hired as a consultant to handle the website.

Ray Kenny explained that there is no Information Technology Department and it is difficult to keep all of the equipment in working order without a budget. He explained his daily duties include the CAD System, the 911 Coordination Systems, CDT's, tower inspections, and radio system maintenance.

Howard Ghetti explained his job duties.

Police Chief Bailey explained the various problems with eliminating any of the current staff.

Mark Niemynski suggested that the Committee go to the Police Station and look before making a decision.

The meeting closed to the public at approximately 9:30 PM. Note: Rice letters were sent to the employees whose positions were discussed in the following Executive Session.

RESOLUTION R-51-09 -EXECUTIVE SESSION – ADMINISTRATIVE REORGANIZATION: PERSONNEL

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, Walsh, Tobin, Mayor Short

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

The Township Committee came out of Executive Session at 9:50 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 9:51 P.M.