

The Regular Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington was called to order by Mayor Short at 7:30 P.M.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Comm. Popper, Harmon, Tobin, Walsh, Mayor Short, Attorney Jansen, Administrator/Clerk Gallets, Senior Deputy 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, 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.

**PROCLAMATION** – Mayor Short, on behalf of the Washington Township Committee, read into the record a Proclamation entitled, "Autism Awareness Month."

**GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARDS** – Mayor Short, on behalf of the Washington Township Committee, presented plaques to **Scouts Elizabeth Thompson, Claire Drake, Tara Bagnole, and Dana Rose Pandorf** in recognition of their receiving Girl Scout Gold Awards.

**EAGLE SCOUT AWARDS** – Mayor Short, on behalf of the Washington Township Committee, presented plaques to **Scouts Garrett Lare and Matthew Mazewski** in recognition of their achievement of the rank of Eagle Scout.

#### **PUBLIC PORTION**

**Mayor Short opened the meeting to the public.**

**Steve Blazier, 107 Drakestown Road**, read a letter into the record that he wrote to the Chief of Police regarding the number of beer bottles littering Drakestown Road between Naughtright and Route 46. He also presented pictures of alcohol related litter taken over a two week period. He is seeking a program wherein the litterers do community service and clean up the litter. **Mayor Short** mentioned the annual Community Clean Up Day and will also have the Committee contact Michael Bailey, Chief of Police as well as Scott Frech, Public Works Superintendent.

**Walt Cullen, 9 Laurel Drive**, stated that he opposes the field usage fees as they are selective and arbitrary. He feels that it is a reassigned tax liability. He is concerned as to how the "tax" will be enforced when other less formally organized groups use the fields. Mr. Cullen urged the Committee to write our State officials who are creating the situation with local tax payers by reducing state aid to the Township. Mr. Cullen requested that the Committee reconsider the ordinance. **Mayor Short** responded that it is an unfortunate necessity to make the budget whole, and the fee would be waived for those families who could not afford the fee.

**Bill Martin, 104 Fawnridge Drive**, inquired whether the salary adjustments on the agenda are increases or decreases. **Mayor Short** responded that they are increases. Mr. Martin stated that there should be no salary increases for employees. He feels that salaries should in fact be rolled back and that the amount budgeted should be reduced from last year's budget. Mayor Short explained that the costs of materials and utilities alone for the Township have increased, while revenues have declined dramatically. This situation makes it impossible not to increase spending to maintain public safety.

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

#### **RO-2-09 – CALENDAR YEAR 2009 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14) - INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled CALENDAR YEAR 2009 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14) be introduced and read by title on first reading by the Township Committee.

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

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled CALENDAR YEAR 2009 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14) be adopted upon first reading.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at a meeting of the Township Committee on April 20, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Washington Township Municipal Building, 43 Schooley's Mountain Road, Long Valley, New Jersey at which time and place all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning same.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Clerk be authorized to advertise said Ordinance in full in the Observer Tribune according to law.

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

**RO-3-09 – AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (DPW) - INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING**

**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 (DPW) be introduced and read by title on first reading by the Township Committee.

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

**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 (DPW) be adopted upon first reading.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at a meeting of the Township Committee on April 20, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Washington Township Municipal Building, 43 Schooley's Mountain Road, Long Valley, New Jersey at which time and place all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning same.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Clerk be authorized to advertise said Ordinance in full in the Observer Tribune according to law.

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

**RO-4-09 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND CHAPTER 137, PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON - INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING**

**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 137, PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON be introduced and read by title on first reading by the Township Committee.

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

**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 137, PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON be adopted upon first reading.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at a meeting of the Township Committee on April 20, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Washington Township Municipal Building, 43 Schooley's Mountain Road, Long Valley, New Jersey at which time and place all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning same.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Clerk be authorized to advertise said Ordinance in full in the Observer Tribune according to law.

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

**RO-5-09 – AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (CWA) - INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING**

**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 (CWA) be introduced and read by title on first reading by the Township Committee.

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

**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 (CWA) be adopted upon first reading.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at a meeting of the Township Committee on April 20, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Washington Township Municipal Building, 43 Schooley's Mountain Road, Long Valley, New Jersey at which time and place all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning same.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Clerk be authorized to advertise said Ordinance in full in the Observer Tribune according to law.

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

**RESOLUTION #R-52-09 - APPOINTMENTS/ADJUSTMENTS**

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

**RESOLUTION #R-53-09 – AUTHORIZE ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TO EMERGENCY SERVICES VOLUNTEER LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM (LOSAP)**







**CORRESPONDENCE NOTED FOR THE RECORD**

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Explanation of grant provisions between the New Jersey Highlands Council and Washington Township  
Notice of Wastewater Management Plan meeting to be held on March 30, 2009 at the Morris County Library

Copies are on file in the office of the Township Clerk.

**DISCUSSION**

**STATE CUTS** - **Mayor Short** noted for the record that the state cuts reduced our budget by \$41,177. The state has reduced aid to the Township by approximately \$235,000 over the last two years.

**WHERLI ROAD – ROAD CONDITION** – **Mayor Short** stated that the Committee received a letter regarding the deteriorating state of Wherli Road, and that it should be addressed. **Comm. Walsh** resides on Wherli Road and recused himself. Mayor Short explained that although the road is in need of repair, there are no funds available this year to do so. The Committee agreed that other roads are currently in more urgent need of repair, and that no additional funds are available to address Wherli Road this year.

**SET BUDGET MEETING DATES** – A date was set for a Budget Meeting as follows:

Tuesday April 14, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.

**SUMMER CAMPS AND NONRECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES** – **Mayor Short** addressed an inquiry made at the last public meeting as to how much the Township collects for various summer camps and recreational activities. He explained that last year the Township received a total of \$11,529.46 with 391 individuals participating. Total revenues received were \$58,563, and the Township received 20% of that figure.

**UNIONS (TEAMSTERS, PBA, etc.)** – **Mayor Short** explained that a suggestion was made at the last meeting to ask the unions to take a furlough for three days. A letter was sent to the unions asking to give up three days without pay, which could save the Township up to \$70,000. **Administrator Gallets** stated that she has not yet heard back from these groups.

**SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM** – **Administrator Gallets** explained that the Township received a letter stating that the county is offering summer youth employment and training services in which the Township would employ youths to do summer jobs, but the youths would be paid by the county. There are no costs involved other than the supervision of these individuals. Local youths can qualify for these positions through the county. The Committee agreed to move forward with this program.

**PUBLIC PORTION**

Mayor Short opened the meeting to the public.

**Steve Blazier**, 107 Drakestown Road, stated that his road had a similar problem to Wherli Road and that he may have an answer. He stated that they put up Woodfield Estates across the street and then they paved the road (stated in humor).

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

It was noted that the Committee would be coming out of Executive Session into Open Session to take further action.

The Township Committee went into Executive Session at 8:40 P.M.

**RESOLUTION R-65-09** -EXECUTIVE SESSION – **LAND ACQUISITION: TRIPLE A ROD AND BOW AND GUN CLUB**  
**LITIGATION: MURATA**

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

