The Special Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington was called to order by Mayor Short at 6:30 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.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

BUDGET DISCUSSION:

2009 MUNICIPAL BUDGET DISCUSSION

Budget cuts were discussed and the Township Committee went over the final capital decisions.

There was a discussion regarding the reorganization of the dispatching unit involving **Ray Kenny** and **Howard Ghetti** being placed into the Communications Workers of America union contract, and with **Bob Kelly** becoming a non-contracted technical representative.

Mayor Short explained that the committee received a $41,000 cut in state aid. Washington Township received a Community Development Block Grant of $32,000 for the Senior Center. A $128,000 radio grant was also received.

The Committee will sell the old tanker truck at auction on Gov Deals. The Township will pay 100% of the pension bill. The Board of Health will be contracting with Chester to provide health services for a price of $60,000 per year, prorated starting May 16, 2009.

Tom Granat, Fairmount Fire Company Chief, stated that the Township should not alter its staffing. **John Rafter, Shop Steward** stated that the Committee should look into the ramifications of a personnel reduction.

Dispatcher Joe Estwin stated that a technical company will charge $150 per hour. **Technical Specialist Ray Kenny** stated that it is disheartening that the Township Committee members do not know what he does and do not understand his job. **Chief of Police Michael Bailey** stated that he has a problem with the personnel proposal. He believes that the reductions are not feasible. **Laura Akin, 93 East Mill Road** stated current personnel needs should be examined and commended the Township Committee.

The Township Committee went into Executive Session at 8:15 P.M.

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, Tobin, Walsh, Mayor Short
NAYS: None **ABSTENTIONS:** None **ABSENT:** None

The Township Committee came out of Executive Session at 8:45 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 P.M.

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Dianne S. Gallets, Clerk