

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, Roehrich, 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 December 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.

BUDGET DISCUSSION:

2010 GENERAL BUDGET OVERVIEW – CFO Kevin Lifer explained the overall budget estimates. We are currently going to have to cut \$675,000 to come within the state mandated tax levy cap.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mayor Short opened the meeting to the public.

Roger Friday, 7 Jones Lane, stated that the tax reassessment is unfair. Mr. Friday stated that various areas are getting reductions in their assessments. He opined that less teachers and less police would save tax dollars. Mr. Friday further complained that the senior bus does not go on Jones Lane in bad weather.

Forest Burgner, Wherli Road, complimented the Township Committee for all of their hard work. He suggested that to increase revenue to the Township, we should call other townships for shared services and consider renting Township owned land.

David Johnson, 119A W. Springtown Road stated that people do not realize how much they really pay in taxes. He feels that the budget is less.

Kevin Nedd, 65 Kim Lane, stated that 2.5% is an expenditure cap. He asked what is the position of the Township Committee on a tax increase? **Mayor Short** stated that he has a goal of 0%. Mr. Nedd wanted to hear what everyone else's goal was?

Martin Fleisher, 12 Zellers Road, asked who supplies the money for the schools?

Mr. Burgner commented on the serenity of living in Washington Township.

Jody Price, 62 Old Farmers Road, asked if the Township needs so many sports fields?

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

The next budget meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2010. The Police budget will be discussed.

The Township Committee went into Executive Session at 8:45 P.M.

RESOLUTION #R-22-10 - EXECUTIVE SESSION – CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS: SHARED SERVICES - FINANCE OFFICER

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

The Township Committee came out of Executive Session at 9:14 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.