

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comm. Babb, LiaBraaten, Roehrich, Tobin, Mayor Short

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Jansen, Administrator Coppola, Municipal Clerk DiGregorio, Office Manager Lyons

Adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Observer Tribune and the Daily Record on January 2, 2013 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.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

RESOLUTION

A Highlands Water Usage Tax was discussed. The Committee will consider a Resolution at the January 20, 2014 meeting.

ORDINANCE

The renewal of the **Verizon Municipal Consent** was discussed. **Mark Bocchieri**, Verizon Director of External Affairs and Area Manager was present. The Committee discussed with **Mr. Bocchieri** that approximately 22 telephone poles are in need of repair. An Ordinance will be introduced at the January 20, 2014 meeting, but if the poles are not repaired by the February 17, 2014 Meeting, when the Ordinance is scheduled to be adopted, the Committee will likely vote against the Ordinance. **Mr. Bocchieri** assured the Committee that the work would be completed.

DISCUSSIONS

Budget Meeting Dates. The Committee agreed to meet at 6:00 PM at the Senior Center on the following dates: February 4, February 11, February 18, and February 25. The final meeting is scheduled at 7:00 PM. on March 4.

Conservation Easement Adjustment Request. **Bill McKernan**, 23 Fieldstone Drive, has owned his property for 20 years. A pool was installed with all the proper permits. A conservation easement on his property was never mentioned. He has been informed that the pool and a fence are within the easement and that 600 square feet are affected. **Mr. McKernan** suggested an easement swap so that he does not have to move the pool or fence. The Committee agreed to this approach. An Ordinance will be introduced after Mr. McKernan secures a new survey, has his attorney prepare the appropriate easement amendment, and monies are posted in escrow to defer municipal professionals’ expenses.

East Mill Road Sidewalk Permit Extension. The Freshwater Wetlands Permit expires on March 12. The Committee agreed to file for a five year extension and later explore funding to complete East Mill Road sidewalks.

RAFFLE APPLICATION

An Application has been received for the following raffle:

Long Valley Competition Cheer Association 50/50 February 7, 2014

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 Form.

Motion to approve the Raffle Application was made by **Comm. Roehrich**, seconded by **Comm. Tobin**. The motion was carried forward by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Comm. Babb, LiaBraaten, Roehrich, Tobin, Mayor Short
NAYS: None **ABSENT:** None **ABSTENTIONS:** None

DISCUSSION

Immunity for Volunteers. **Comm. Tobin** recommended that the Township support proposed legislation that would extend immunity to Volunteer Emergency Responders. The Committee agreed to explore the matter further.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

Motion to adjourn was made by **Comm. Roehrich**, seconded by **Comm. Tobin**. Motion carried forward by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Comm. Babb, LiaBraaten, Roehrich, Tobin, Mayor Short
NAYS: None **ABSENT:** None **ABSTENTIONS:** None

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 P.M.