

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. Kennedy (**arrived late**), LiaBraaten, Roehrich, Tobin, Mayor Short

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Jansen, Administrator/Acting Clerk Burd, Deputy Clerk DiGregorio

Adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Observer Tribune and the Daily Record on January 9, 2012 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.

MAYOR'S UPDATE – **Mayor Short** stated that there was a meeting earlier that evening with the K-8 Board of Education concerning the bus maintenance facility. The Township will be moving forward with that facility.

Mayor Short also noted that Washington Township has formed a Citizen's Emergency Response Team (CERT). The first meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2012. There are currently 13 volunteers who will be trained to operate shelters, direct traffic, etc, during emergency procedures.

Mayor Short stated that he met with JCP&L last week and spoke to our Regional Representative, Stan Prater regarding the loss of power during the storms last fall. He further stated that each month, more residents are registering their private wells so that JCP&L will know to prioritize them for power restoration. JCP&L also expects the Tewksbury substation to come on line this fall. This station will also connect to the Chester substation. The Chester substation and the Drakestown substation have been connected. 40 out of 170 miles of power lines have been checked thus far, with the additional miles expected to be completed by the end of this summer. Numerous cut boxes, fuses and conductors have been replaced by JCP&L in its efforts to be proactive in the prevention of future power outages.

Mayor Short received a letter from the County Administrator, John Bonani, concerning Schooley's Mountain Road. Bids went out last Friday for some major improvements on the road. A second bid is expected to go out in the future for additional improvements.

The Township's Wastewater Management Plan, which has been pending for years, was published today in the Star Ledger. The Plan will now go into a public hearing phase before the NJDEP. An ordinance will be considered later in this meeting to conform with Highlands regulations. Mayor Short explained that this allows for the Plan to move forward.

EAGLE SCOUT RECOGNITION - – **Scout Jeffrey S. Garry, Troup 236** was recognized by the Township Committee for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Scout Garry was commended for his efforts.

BUDGET PRESENTATION – WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. Jeffrey Mohre, Superintendent, Washington Township Board of Education

Mr. Michael Rec, Board President, Washington Township Board of Education

Mr. Mohre and **Mr. Rec** made a presentation to the Township Committee regarding the final K-8 School District budget. As the budget came in under the 2% cap, new legislation dictates that it does not need to be put to a vote. The details of the budget were also disseminated in hard copy to the Committee. A copy is annexed hereto and made a part hereof. A short question and answer session followed between the Committee and the presenters regarding student demographics, technology, student programs, etc.

Mayor Short mentioned that very few lots in the Township are suitable for building under Highlands Regulations which may affect future student enrollment. He believes that student population growth will be affected by housing turnover more than new development. Further, Mayor Short mentioned that a K-8 Board of Education meeting will be held in the Municipal Building on April 18, 2012, with the mayors of Washington Township, the Mendhams and the Chesters. Also in attendance will be two representatives from each of the local and regional Boards of Education. It will be a closed meeting to discuss the future of the education system among the five towns.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mayor Short opened the meeting to the public.

Roslyn Werner, 25 Camp Washington Road, is concerned about effecting changes to Camp Washington Road. Ms. Werner requested that a sign be placed before the turn onto Camp Washington Road indicating weight restrictions. She explained that certain vehicles should remain on Schooley's Mountain Road as many of them cannot physically make the turns. Ms. Werner would like to see the weight limit down to 4 tons. She is concerned that the bypass

Camp Washington Road, among others, will be adversely affected. She feels that the GPS system, which indicates these shortcuts, needs to inform drivers that these roads have weight restrictions. **Mayor Short** stated that weight limit violations will be addressed by the Police Department. He further explained that the bypass is not scheduled to proceed. The Township is currently waiting for approval of the weight limit amendments the NJDOT which will hopefully correct the situation on Camp Washington Road.

Ms. Werner also commented that a call from JCP&L regarding preparation for a storm can be ineffectual. She asked that perhaps the Police Station remain open during such times so that residents have a place to obtain water or seek shelter. **Mayor Short** commented that the Police Department was open last fall during the storms, but it was not well publicized. Better communication will be a Township focus. The MUA will also provide fresh water during storms. Mayor Short explained that large signs will be erected during storms to direct residents to water, shelters, battery charging centers, etc. This is part of the Citizen's Emergency Response Team (CERT) function discussed earlier.

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

RO-04-12 AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)– SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK be read by title upon second reading and a hearing held thereon.

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

AYES: Comm. Kennedy, LiaBraaten, Roehrich, Tobin, Mayor Short

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

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

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK be adopted upon final reading and that said ordinance be published in the Observer Tribune according to law.

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

AYES: Comm. Kennedy, LiaBraaten, Roehrich, Tobin, Mayor Short

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

RO-05-12 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND CHAPTER 159, SITE PLAN REVIEW, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON REGARDING SITE PLAN ESCROW FEES FOR AGRICULTURAL USES – SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

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 159, SITE PLAN REVIEW, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON REGARDING SITE PLAN ESCROW FEES FOR AGRICULTURAL USES be read by title upon second reading and a hearing held thereon.

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

AYES: Comm. Kennedy, LiaBraaten, Roehrich, Tobin, Mayor Short

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

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

Attorney Jansen explained the intent of the ordinance.

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 159, SITE PLAN REVIEW, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON REGARDING SITE PLAN ESCROW FEES FOR AGRICULTURAL USES be adopted upon final reading and that said ordinance be published in the Observer Tribune according to law.

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

AYES: Comm. Kennedy, LiaBraaten, Roehrich, Tobin, Mayor Short

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO AMEND CHAPTER 39, ALARM SYSTEMS, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON – SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING

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 39, ALARM SYSTEMS, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON be read by title upon second reading and a hearing held thereon.

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

AYES: Comm. Kennedy, LiaBraaten, Roehrich, Tobin, Mayor Short

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

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

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 39, ALARM SYSTEMS, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON be adopted upon final reading and that said ordinance be published in the Observer Tribune according to law.

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

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

RO-07-12 CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF VARIOUS ROADS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$975,000 THERFOR AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH SUM SO APPROPRIATED SHALL BE RAISED FROM NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANTS AND FROM THE TOWNSHIP’S CAPITAL FUND BALANCE – INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF VARIOUS ROADS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$975,000 THERFOR AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH SUM SO APPROPRIATED SHALL BE RAISED FROM NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANTS AND FROM THE TOWNSHIP’S CAPITAL FUND BALANCE be introduced and read by title on first reading by the Township Committee.

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

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

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled CAPITAL ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF VARIOUS ROADS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$975,000 THERFOR AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH SUM SO APPROPRIATED SHALL BE RAISED FROM NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANTS AND FROM THE TOWNSHIP’S CAPITAL FUND BALANCE 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 May 21, 2012 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. Tobin, seconded by Comm. LiaBraaten that the foregoing resolution be approved. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

RO-08-12 AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT AN ASSIGNMENT OF AN EASEMENT ON BLOCK 28, LOT 15 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY – INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT AN ASSIGNMENT OF AN EASEMENT ON BLOCK 28, LOT 15 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY be introduced and read by title on first reading by the Township Committee.

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

AYES: Comm. Kennedy, LiaBraaten, Roehrich, Tobin, 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 TO ACCEPT AN ASSIGNMENT OF AN EASEMENT ON BLOCK 28, LOT 15 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY 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 May 21, 2012 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. Roehrich, seconded by Comm. Tobin that the foregoing resolution be approved. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

RO-09-12 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LAND USE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON TO UPDATE SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT – 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 TO UPDATE SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT be introduced and read by title on first reading by the Township Committee.

Motion was made by Comm. Tobin, seconded by Comm. LiaBraaten that the foregoing resolution be approved. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Comm. Kennedy, LiaBraaten, Tobin, Mayor Short
NAYS: Comm. Roehrich
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 TO UPDATE SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT 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 May 21, 2012 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. Tobin, seconded by Comm. LiaBraaten that the foregoing resolution be approved. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

PUBLIC HEARING – 2012 MUNICIPAL BUDGET – Mayor Short gave a brief overview of the 2012 Municipal Budget.

Mayor Short opened the meeting to the public on the 2012 Municipal Budget. There being no comments or questions, Mayor Short closed the hearing on the budget.

RESOLUTION #R-43-12 – ADOPT 2012 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

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

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

That the foregoing special permit for a social affair be approved and the Clerk be authorized to sign the permit application and forward it to the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

***APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP – LONG VALLEY FIRST AID SQUAD**

An Application has been received for membership in the Long Valley First Aid Squad from Joshua Berth.

That the foregoing application for membership be approved and be forwarded to Long Valley First Aid Squad.

***APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP – FAIRMOUNT FIRE COMPANY**

An Application has been received for membership in the Fairmount Fire Company from Christopher Fischer.

That the foregoing application for membership be approved and be forwarded to Fairmount Fire Company.

***APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP – NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION**

An Application has been received for membership in the New Jersey State Firemen’s Association from Christopher Fischer.

That the foregoing application for membership be approved and be forwarded to New Jersey Firemen’s Association.

***PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS**

That the vouchers be approved and that the Treasurer shall issue warrants in payment when there are sufficient funds to meet them. The bill list is on file in the finance office.

***MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

That the following monthly department reports be accepted and placed on file in the Township Clerk’s office:

Washington Township Board of Health, Washington Township Municipal Court,
Washington Township Police Department, Washington Township Tax Collector

Mayor Short asked if anyone on the Committee or any member of the public wanted anything removed from the consent agenda and considered separately. Comm. Kennedy asked a couple of questions regarding vouchers and engineering costs. He will be provided with the information he requested. There was no further response.

All items proceeded by an (*) were approved as part of the consent agenda.

Motion was made by Comm. Roehrich, seconded by Comm. Tobin that the foregoing consent agenda be approved. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Comm. Kennedy, LiaBraaten, Roehrich, Tobin, Mayor Short

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

CORRESPONDENCE NOTED FOR THE RECORD

A letter from the Highlands Council endorsing the Wastewater Management Plan

A letter from The Arc/Morris expressing appreciation for the generous donation of \$18,250.00 for the Washington Township Group Home

DISCUSSION

FAIRVIEW AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS – At the last meeting, an Executive Session was held by the Township Committee to discuss legal issues related to requested Fairview Avenue improvements. The Township Committee decided to authorize Township Engineer, Leon Hall, review the request with the other engineer involved and to provide recommendations before any further discussion is held. Mayor Short commented that the Viggiano’s have applied for an Emergency Permit from the NJDEP. Ms. Marie commented that she is anxious to try something to rectify their problem and advised the Committee that a cap will be placed on further engineering costs to be borne by them. She feels that she has already spent too much money on engineering costs. Ms. Marie clarified that raising the road means only raising the dip in the road. Four homes have now been affected by this drainage issue. She further commented that misdirected water flowing down Naughtright Road has increased with every storm. Mayor Short

stated that the Township is attempting to rectify the situation. The issue of easements will be provided by the Committee in the future.

ESCROW FEES FOR AGRICULTURAL USES- Attorney Jansen provided the Committee with an update of what is being done in response to Mr. Lake's most recent request. Mr. Banisch will be providing the Committee with a recommendation at the next Work Session Meeting.

PUBLIC SESSION

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

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

AYES: Comm. Kennedy, LiaBraaten, Roehrich, Tobin, Mayor Short

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: None

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Deborah Burd, Acting Township Clerk