

The Work Session Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington was called to order by Mayor Short at 7:35 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comm. Kennedy, Roehrich, Tobin, Mayor Short

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comm. LiaBraaten

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.

PRESENTATION – BARE ROOT PLANTING AND TREE FARM DISCUSSION- **Steve Zaikowski, Chairman of the Shade Tree Commission**, gave a presentation to the Township Committee regarding the planting of trees in Washington Township, in part due to the need to replace trees destroyed during the September 2011 storm. Mr. Zaikowski proposed making the tree replacement a community project. He asked if the Committee would be willing to commit approximately \$1,250 for this replanting effort in next year's budget, a \$250 increase over the 2012 budget. Mr. Zaikowski wants to begin the program by planting 25 trees next year. He would like to set up a replanting program over the next few years. The Committee agreed to implement this plan over the next few years.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

RESOLUTION #R-73-12 RECOMMENDATION OF AWARD OF STATE AID BID – East Valley Brook Road

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: Comm. LiaBraaten

RESOLUTION #R-74-12 RECOMMENDATION OF AWARD OF STATE AID BID - Wehrli Road

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: Comm. LiaBraaten

DISCUSSION

REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION – A meeting was held on June 7th and meetings have been held monthly regarding the Township's share of expenses and other issues. There are three options being considered. \$10,000 has been committed to study the possible reorganization of the Regional Board of Education system. The first option is to combine all five municipalities in a K-12 district. The second is to have two K-12 districts, one in Washington Township and one for the Mendhams/Chesters. The third option is to have one K-12 for Washington Township and a 9-12 district for the Mendhams/Chesters. A vote needs to be taken to put up the \$10,000 to perform the study. A lengthy discussion was held regarding the possible redistribution of students. The Committee agreed that an objective study would provide facts to the public. **Mayor Short** stated that videotaping of the meetings was discussed at a cost of \$80 per session. It was decided that Comcast should be used, at no additional cost. Mayor Short indicated that he would not be present at the July 19, 2012 meeting.

WTFD STUDY- Officials from the Fire Department were in attendance as Fire Commissioner Comm. Tobin stated that it was discussed at the last Fire Department Meeting whether it is necessary to have another Fire Department study. There were some comments from the Fire Department representatives that the study is a waste of money. The number of vehicles, geographic distribution and coordination with surrounding towns were some of the topics discussed. The Fire Department provided input on their equipment. Given that the study will be conducted, the Fire Departments will review the Committee's survey criteria and respond with their input as to what should be reviewed in the study, as well as the names and references of those being considered to conduct the study and offer feedback.

IT FUNCTIONS – **Comm. Tobin** will provide some information on Monday evening regarding potential shared services with Mt. Olive.

LETTER REGARDING WEIGHT LIMIT – **Comm. Tobin** asked if Senator Bucco was contacted yet regarding weight limits on Schooley’s Mountain Road. He feels that the NJDOT letter is being ignored. Senator Bucco has not gotten involved yet.

LIQUOR LICENSE – **Mayor Short** stated that there is interest in the possible issuance of another liquor license. It will be further discussed on Monday evening.

The Township Committee went into Executive Session at 10:30 P.M.

RESOLUTION #R-75-12 - EXECUTIVE SESSION – PENDING LITIGATION: Costa Percham
COLLECTIVE BARGAINING: Police
LAND ACQUISITION: OFP

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: Comm. LiaBraaten

The Township Committee came out of Executive Session at 10:50 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 P.M.

Deborah Burd, Acting Township Clerk