

The Work Session Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington was called to order by Mayor Short at 7:34 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Roehrich, LiaBraaten, Tobin, Mayor Short

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Jansen, Assistant Administrator Coppola, Deputy Clerk DiGregorio

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comm. Kennedy, Administrator/Acting Clerk Burd

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 – STORMWATER

MANAGEMENT - **Beth Styler Barry, Musconetcong Watershed Association**, gave a presentation to the Township Committee regarding Stormwater Management. The DEP requires that the Township earn ten points toward Stormwater Management education. This presentation will satisfy 3 points of that requirement. **Mayor Short** stated that these stringent Stormwater regulations were put into place approximately 6 years ago. A paper copy of Ms. Barry's power point presentation is attached hereto and made a part hereof. The Committee thanked Ms. Barry for her presentation.

PRESENTATION – ISO REVIEW OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENTS – **Scott L. Rauch, CFPS and Robert Cobb, President of ISO Community Hazard Mitigation Services** gave a presentation to the Township Committee regarding ISO and the benefits of its review of the Township's infrastructure, water supply, communications and Fire Department every five years. They explained that the community is graded based on numerous criteria, including distance to the nearest fire station. The report is broken down nationally and by state and provides a myriad of information to assist in benchmarking for possible improvement. The field inspector, Mr. Rauch, conducted the review and a copy will be provided to the Mayor and Fire Chief. A short question and answer session took place between the Committee and the presenters. The Committee thanked Mrs. Rauch and Cobb for their time.

Mayor Short opened the meeting to the public regarding the ISO presentation.

A firefighter asked about the grading system and how the grades are calculated. Mr. Cobb explained the system.

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

PUBLIC PORTION

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

DISCUSSION

SALE OF PROPERTY FOR BOW HUNTING – **Assistant Administrator Coppola** stated that a bow hunting organization has inquired about the purchase of a piece of Township owned property for the purpose of bow hunting. The property does not have any trails or structures. The Committee is in favor of the sale. Attorney Jansen stated that several questions would need to be asked first such as how was the land first acquired, are there any restrictions, was open space money used, is it on the ROSI, etc. If the Committee would like to proceed Attorney Jansen stated that restrictions would first be put in place through the conveyance of easements from the municipality to itself. Then at a later point, the Township could offer the property for public sale where anyone can bid on it subject to those constraints.

DISPATCH PROBLEMS – **Mayor Short** stated that he has been hearing some complaints regarding the efficiency of County dispatch. The issue will be investigated until dispatch is running smoothly. This discussion will continue at Monday night's Regular Meeting when Chief Bailey can be present.

ANIMAL CONTROL – An agreement with Animal Control to continue services to Washington Township and Califon will be acted upon at Monday night's meeting. Some complaints have been received regarding Animal Control's response time. **Mayor Short** suggested Vice Mayor Roehrich, Mr. Norton, Chief Bailey and the Health Department meet and discuss how this process can be made more efficient. The contract will be changed to reflect an expiration date of December 31, 2012.

STATE TAX COURT APPEALS – A memo was received from Assistant Administrator Coppola. No action by the Committee is required at this time. It is taking years for the appeals to work their way through the system.

CENTURY LINK – A letter was sent by Centurylink regarding a change in personal property taxes. **Attorney Jansen** stated that this situation is complicated because of legislative changes. He further stated that it could be significant. Fred Semrau, Esq. is working on this issue. There is no action required on this by the Township at this time. United Telecom (Centurylink) contends it no longer provides dial tone access to 51% of the local telephone exchange(s).

PUBLIC PORTION

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

RAFFLE APPLICATIONS

Pet Adoption League	50/50	October 5, 2012
Pet Adoption League	Tricky Tray	October 5, 2012

Noted that the Chief of Police has signed the Findings and Determination Forms and all forms are in order. That the foregoing raffle applications be approved, subject to the Mayor signing the Findings and Determination Forms.

Motion was made by Comm. LiaBraaten, seconded by Comm. Roehrich that the above raffle applications be approved. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: Comm. Kennedy

The Township Committee went into Executive Session at 8:50 P.M.

RESOLUTION #R-112-12 - EXECUTIVE SESSION – Contract Negotiations – Shared Services Municipal Court Collective Bargaining – Superior Officers Association Collective Bargaining – Foreman’s Association

Motion was made by Comm. Roehrich, seconded by Comm. LiaBraaten that the Committee go into Executive Session. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: Comm. Kennedy

The Township Committee came out of Executive Session at 9:30 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 9:31 P.M.

Deborah Burd, Acting Township Clerk