

The Reorganization Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington was called to order by Acting Township Clerk Burd at 7:20 P.M.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney DeBona, Administrator/Acting Clerk Burd, Assistant Administrator Coppola, Deputy Clerk DiGregorio

Adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Observer Tribune and the Daily Record on December 20, 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.

INVOCATION

Father Michael Drury gave the invocation.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS SWORN IN BY ACTING TOWNSHIP CLERK

Acting Township Clerk Burd administered the oath of office to Ken Short and Bill Roehrich.

ACTING TOWNSHIP CLERK TAKES NOMINATIONS FOR MAYOR FOR 2013

Comm. Roehrich nominates Mayor Ken Short to serve as Mayor of Washington Township for the year 2013. The motion was seconded by Comm. LiaBraaten. There being no other nominations, the motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: Mayor Short

NEW MAYOR TAKES NOMINATIONS FOR VICE MAYOR FOR 2013

Mayor Short nominates Comm. Roehrich to serve as Vice Mayor of Washington Township for the year 2013. The motion was seconded by Comm. LiaBraaten. There being no other nominations, the motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: Comm. Roehrich.

MAYOR'S PUBLIC OFFICAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND UPDATE

Mayor Short thanked **Carolyn Krickus** representing Freeholder Elect **John Krickus**, **Amy Bucco** from Sen. Anthony Bucco's and Assemblyman Bucco's office for attending the reorganization meeting this evening. . **Mayor Short** thanked his fellow Committeemen for the appointment to the position and thanked them for their hard work and volunteerism.

Mayor Short acknowledged that 2012 was a difficult year. It was mandated that budgets not exceed a 2% increase in 2013. Washington Township had an increase of 1.39%, the lowest percentage increase in the last 5 years.

Washington Township made several improvements in 2012: approximately 5 miles of roadways were repaved; an ambulance, two police vehicles, a senior citizen bus, and a fire truck were purchased; new radio equipment was acquired, 7 acres of open space to connect two large parcels of land within the municipality near Fairview Ave were also obtained.

Washington Township participated in a Fire Review funded by the County to evaluate the efficiency of the Fire Department and equipment. The results will be available later this month. The Township worked with the BOE on the Bus Maintenance Facility that will be completed by June 2013. **Scott Frech**, DPW Supervisor, will act as Project Manager. This facility will save taxpayers approximately \$125,000 each year in bus maintenance cost.

The Budget for 2013 will prove to be challenging. The Highlands Act, the stagnant economy, loss of revenue from commercial tax appeals, and increased healthcare and pension costs will contribute to the challenging budgets. Departments within the municipality were asked to submit flat budgets. **Mayor Short** invites all residents to attend Township budget meetings and Board of Education meetings to share their concerns.

The State of New Jersey has chosen Washington Township as a model for shared services agreements with other towns. Revenue of \$500,000 comes into the municipality due to these shared services agreements. We will continue to work with surrounding towns to save money.

There will be some personnel changes in 2013. **Acting Administrator Burd** and **Police Chief Bailey** have announced their intent to retire in 2013.

Mayor Short listed goals for 2013, including: continuation of road maintenance for some of the 147 miles of township roadways, purchase of digital signboards for communications during emergencies, purchase of generators for some

Township buildings, upgrade our communication systems; create more public access to the Washington Township trails, work on downtown sidewalks, look at relocating Long Valley Fire Dept to a better facility/location, the 275th Year Township Anniversary Celebration, continuing talks with utility companies, and to double the size of our CERT Teams.

Mayor Short thanked Township volunteers for all they do for Washington Township.

CHIEF BAILEY INTRODUCED NEW WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP POLICEMEN

Officers Daniel Parish and Derek Heymer were introduced to the Township Committee.

SWEARING IN OF FIRE DEPARTMENT AND FIRST AID SQUAD OFFICERS

Deputy Clerk DiGregorio administered oaths of office for the 2013 year to the Fire Department Chiefs, Fairmount Fire Company Officers, Long Valley Fire Company Officers, Schooley’s Mountain Fire Company Officers, and Long Valley First Aid Squad Officers.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

RECESS

Mayor Short suspended the meeting to allow for a recess at 7:55 PM. The meeting reconvened at 8:10 PM.

***RESOLUTION #R-01-13** **DESIGNATION OF THE OBSERVER TRIBUNE AS THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON – 2013**

***RESOLUTION #R-02-13** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS EXCEEDING \$17, 500**

***RESOLUTION #R-03-13** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACTS NOT TO EXCEED \$17, 500**

***RESOLUTION #R-04-13** **DATES AND TIMES FOR REGULAR AND WORK MEETINGS OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE FOR 2013**

RESOLUTION #R-05-13 **TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS**

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

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

RESOLUTION #R-06-13 **APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS TOWNSHIP POSITIONS - 2013**

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

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

***RESOLUTION #R-07-13** **APPOINTMENTS – MORRIS COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REVENUE SHARING COMMITTEE – 2013**

RESOLUTION #R-08-13 **TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS, VARIOUS BOARD/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Mayor Short read into the record Committee assignments and various Board/Committee appointments.

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

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

***RESOLUTION #R-09-13** **DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES FOR TOWNSHIP FUNDS - 2013**

***RESOLUTION #R-10-13**

AUTHORIZE THE CANCELLATION OF SMALL BALANCE AND CREDITS AND THE ANNUAL SALE OF DELINQUENT TAXES FOR 2012 AND SET RATE OF INTEREST ON DELINQUENT TAXES - 2013

All items proceeded by a (*) were approved as part of the consent agenda on a motion made by Comm. Roehrich, seconded by Comm. Kennedy. Motion was carried on the following role call vote:

AYES: Kennedy, LiaBraaten, Roehrich, Tobin, Mayor Short
NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

RESOLUTION #R-11-13

AUTHORIZE THE RENEWAL OF THE INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR THE SHARED SERVICES OF A CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON AND THE TOWNSHIP OF CHESTER

Motion was made by Comm. Roehrich, seconded by Comm. Kennedy that the foregoing resolution be adopted. Motion was carried by the following role call:

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

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

RESOLUTION #R-12-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF AN ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES AGREEMENT

Motion was made by Comm. Roehrich, seconded by Comm. Kennedy that the foregoing resolution be adopted. Motion was carried by the following role call:

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

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

RESOLUTION #R-13-13

AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF AN INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON AND THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON TO PROVIDE ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES TO THE BOROUGH OF CALIFON

Motion was made by Comm. Roehrich, seconded by Comm. Kennedy that the foregoing resolution be adopted. Motion was carried by the following role call:

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

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

RESOLUTION #R-14-13

APPOINTMENTS / ADJUSTMENTS

Motion was made by Comm. Roehrich, seconded by Comm. Kennedy that the foregoing resolution be adopted. Motion was carried by the following role call:

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

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

RESOLUTION #R-15-13

AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF AN INTERLOCAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH TEWKSBURY TOWNSHIP

Motion was made by Comm. Roehrich, seconded by Comm. Kennedy that the foregoing resolution be adopted. Motion was carried by the following role call:

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

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

DISCUSSION

DPW – Personnel. A trained machine operator is resigning from the DPW, Scott Frech requests permission to advertise the job opening. Committee agreed to the request.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

ADDENDUM

Deputy Court Administrator Position was added to the agenda. Two part time positions recently resigned. Administrator Burd requests one full time position to replace the two part time positions. Committee agreed.

Motion was made by Comm. LiaBraaten, seconded by Comm. Tobin that Washington Township will advertise for a full time Deputy Court Administrator. Motion was carried by the following roll call:

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

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

PUBLIC PORTION

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

The Township Committee went into Executive Session at 8:30 PM

RESOLUTION #R-16-13 – EXECUTIVE SESSION

**Contract Negotiations: Califon Policing
Personnel – Zoning Department**

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

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

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

The Township Committee came out of Executive Session at 8:43 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 P.M.

Deborah Burd, Acting Township Clerk