

The Work Session of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington was called to order by Mayor Roehrich at 7:32 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comm. Babb, LiaBraaten, Murello, Vice Mayor Short, Mayor Roehrich

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

Adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Observer Tribune and the Daily Record on January 7, 2016 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 - Tricia Nickel, Municipal Division Mgr., Morris-Sussex Vicinage, provided an overview of Criminal Justice Reform related to bail and speedy trial reforms that will go into effect January 1, 2017. The Morris/Sussex Vicinage has been involved in a pilot program for the reforms. The changes utilize a unified system that is intended to make the process more efficient. **Ms. Nickle** complimented the Washington Township Court and its staff, as well as Administrator Coppola for their professionalism and assistance.

PUBLIC PORTION. Mayor Roehrich opened the meeting to the public.

Daryl Goodrich, 4 Portsmouth Ct., requested that Yorkshire Estates be added to the list of 2017 Township roads to be paved. **Mr. Goodrich** submitted a petition signed by homeowners in the neighborhood. Mr. Goodrich complained about the lack of a base course on the roads, which is contrary to Township Ordinance requirements. **Comm. Short** stated that the Residual Site Improvements Standards superseded the Township Code years ago.

Scott Haus, 7A North Bridge Dr., expressed hope that his road will be repaved in 2017.

Marty Wagner, 9 North Bridge Dr., said he submitted a petition 5 years ago and his road has still not been fixed. He would like it to be considered for paving in 2017.

Abby Wagner, 9 North Bridge Dr., would like her road paved.

Bruce Lovenberg, 1 North Bridge Dr., stated that his neighborhood is 30 years old and only patching has been done.

Patricia Agnolet, 12 North Bridge Dr., stated there are no sidewalks and children are walking or riding bikes in the street. It is unsafe.

Kim Kavin, 15 Tall Timber Dr., would like road repairs be made to her street.

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

DISCUSSIONS

Road Paving List - Administrator Coppola stated that in previous years road repairs were discussed at budget time. By moving up the discussion and the establishment of priorities to prior to budget time, the Township will be able to put road jobs out to bid and apply for grants earlier in an attempt to get funding. **Mr. Coppola** discussed funding and costs for the last few years. **Superintendent Scott Frech** stated that the Township has over 140 miles of roads and the Township provides enough funds to repave approximately 2 miles per year. It is difficult to prioritize a very long list of needed road repairs. A list of possible roads to be paved, in no order of priority, with photographs, was displayed for the public. **Mayor Roehrich** reiterated that it's a difficult and expensive process to prioritize and implement road repairs when there are limited resources. **Administrator Coppola** provided estimated engineering costs for each road on the list. A total for fixing all the roads on the list would be close to \$4 million, and the estimated budget for 2017 will be around \$725K. **Vice Mayor Short** and **Comm. Murello** suggested roads that they thought should be a priority. **Comm. LiaBraaten** stated that road maintenance is difficult and the Township will never get caught up. **Comm. LiaBraaten** suggested considering a discussion on bonding.

PUBLIC PORTION. Mayor Roehrich opened the meeting to the public.

Several residents, who did not identify themselves, further commented on the condition of roads in the Township. **Mayor Roehrich** stated that the road repair discussion will continue at the September 14 meeting, when the Committee will establish a priority list.

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

Ralph & David's Law Resolution- The resolution supports the passage of A-3686 which would establish the crime of strict liability vehicular homicide if someone causes a death by driving while drunk or under the influence. **Comm. Murello** would like to support this resolution. **Mayor Roehrich** expressed concerns about strict liability. **Vice Mayor Short** recommended putting a resolution on the agenda for Monday.

Motion was made by **Vice Mayor Short**, seconded by **Comm. LiaBraaten** that a resolution supporting Ralph & David's Law be considered at the Regular Committee Meeting on August 15, 2016. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Comm. Babb, LiaBraaten, Murello, Vice Mayor Short,
NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: Mayor Roehrich

Refurbishment Project for Schooley's Mountain Ladder Truck Quint 3-9 – Dave Cooke, Schooley's Mountain Fire Company Chief, provided details about additional repairs needed for the refurbishment of the vehicle. The Committee agreed and will proceed with a resolution authorizing a change order at the Regular Committee meeting on Monday.

Security Fencing at Police Headquarters – Chief Almer stated that in response to safety concerns, white vinyl fencing is being requested to create a barrier around police cars, personal vehicles, and the police station. Total cost for material to cover all requested fencing is \$8,434.

Motion was made by **Vice Mayor Short**, seconded by **Comm. Murello** to take \$2,500 from the Committee Projects budget line item to be used to purchase materials for a 150' section of fence along E. Springtown Road. The rest of the request can be revisited at budget time. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Comm. Babb, LiaBraaten, Murello, Vice Mayor Short, Mayor Roehrich

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

Solicitor's Permit Ordinance – Municipal Clerk DiGregorio explained the proposed ordinance changes. The Clerk would like to amend certain outdated procedures and modify certain ordinance provisions. **Attorney Jansen** explained the constraints imposed by numerous federal court decisions. The attorney's office and the Clerk will meet to discuss what changes can be implemented.

School Funding Formula – Comm. LiaBraaten shared information about the current school funding bills, including a prepared analysis by Sen. Bucco's staff, and information from Gov. Christie's office about school funding within the state.

Mayor Roehrich proposed a September Special Meeting for the public to learn about the Regional School Board question that will be on the November ballot. The Committee will decide upon a date and publicize that date to the public as soon as possible.

League of Municipalities Resolution - The Committee will move forward with the request for a resolution addressing the use of official seals.

APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC EVENT – HIGHLANDS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CHICKEN BBQ

An application has been received from the Highlands Presbyterian Church for a BBQ Event on August 13, 2016 from 4:00 PM until 7:00 PM at 12 Pleasant Grove Road, Long Valley. Recommendations have been received from the Police Department, the Board of Health, the Zoning Officer, Construction Official, and Fire Prevention Official.

That the foregoing application be approved subject to the conditions of the Police Department, the Board of Health, the Zoning Officer, Construction Official, and Fire Prevention Official.

APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC EVENT – GREEN FESTIVAL AND FIREWORKS

An application has been received from the Long Valley Green Team for a Green Festival and Fireworks Event to be held on Saturday, September 10, 2016 (rain date September 24, 2016) from 4:00 PM until 10:00 PM at Long Valley Middle School, 51 West Mill Road, Long Valley. Recommendations have been received from the Police Department, the Board of Health, the Zoning Officer, Construction Official, and Fire Prevention Official.

That the foregoing application be approved subject to the conditions of the Police Department, the Board of Health, the Zoning Officer, Construction Official, and Fire Prevention Official.

Motion was made by **Vice Mayor Short**, seconded by **Comm. LiaBraaten** that the Highlands Presbyterian Chicken BBQ and Green Festival & Fireworks applications for public events be approved. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Comm. Babb, LiaBraaten, Murello, Vice Mayor Short, Mayor Roehrich

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

AUTHORIZE SOCIAL AFFAIR PERMIT – FAIRMOUNT FIRE COMPANY

An application has been received from the Fairmount Fire Company for a Social Affair to be held on Saturday, August 27, 2016 between the hours of 4:00 PM and 10:00 P.M. to be held at Fairmount Firehouse, 12 Parker Road, Long Valley, New Jersey. Noted that the Chief of Police has signed the application.

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.

Motion was made by **Vice Mayor Short**, seconded by **Comm. LiaBraaten** to approve the Fairmount Fire Company's Social Affairs Permit application. Motion was carried forward by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Comm. Babb, LiaBraaten, Murello, Vice Mayor Short, Mayor Roehrich

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

PUBLIC PORTION – **Mayor Roehrich** opened the meeting to the public.

