

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: Kennedy, LiaBraaten, Roehrich, Tobin, Mayor Short

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Jansen, Administrator/Acting Clerk Burd, Assistant Administrator Coppola

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.

MAYORS UPDATE - Mayor Short stated that on November 21 there will be a non denominational Thanksgiving Service at the Zion Lutheran Church. All are invited.

Mayor Short announced there will be a tree lighting ceremony at the Zion Lutheran Church on December 2nd; all residents are invited to attend.

The Mayor read a statement about Hurricane Sandy and provided copies of his statement to the press that were present at the meeting. The Mayor outlined the township’s preparations and communications prior to, during, and after the storm. He also outlined plans for a post storm analysis, ongoing FEMA needs assessment, suggested legislation and future communications with JCP&L and BPU. There will be a citizens committee to review township disaster communications.

PRESENTATION - WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP VETERAN’S ASSOCIATION. The Veterans submitted a request to rename and/or recognize two private driveways and one public roadway in honor of deceased veterans: E. Fields, James ‘Jamie’ Smith, and John L. Lindaberry. The Township will introduce an ordinance next year. Veterans in attendance: Larry Opal, Woody Burgener, Martin Fleisher, Thomas McBride, and Bob Weiss.

Motion was made by Comm. Tobin, seconded by Comm. Kennedy to authorize Attorney Jansen to draft an ordinance to be considered in January 2013.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

PUBLIC PORTION

Mayor Short opened the meeting to the public.

Comm. Tobin praised Duke Energy from North Carolina, WRNJ, his daughter Theresa, Washington Township Library, DPW, fellow committeemen and local churches and businesses that helped during the storm. He also stated there are lessons to be learned and things to change going forward.

Resident **Roger Marvin, 11 Kim Lane**, thanked Mayor Short for his communication efforts during the storm, and said he looks forward to a volunteer committee to discuss storm issues.

Resident **John Hennessy, 8 Ryan Court**, thanked the Veterans Association for their presentation. Mr. Hennessy is a parishioner at St. Luke’s. He thanked all the volunteers and donors that helped St. Luke’s make over 1,000 meals. He stated that St. Luke’s would like to be a certified shelter and asked the Township Committee for assistance in obtaining a grant to purchase a generator for the facility.

Resident **Kathlyn Carter, Fairview Ave.**, thanked Mayor Short for his efforts during the storm, and shared her frustration with JCP&L. She requested that we seek input from the out of state power companies that came to help during the storm, in an effort to save taxpayer dollars on an investigation.

Mayor Short commented that after the 2011 storm, JCP&L asked residents with wells to register with them so they could be put on a priority restoration list and receive phone calls before anticipated outages. Those calls were never made by JCP&L. Mayor Short also encouraged residents to sign up for the Nixle reverse 911 service.

Resident **Wendy Lyons, Beacon Hill Road**, thanked the committee members for their efforts during the storm. She also shared her frustrations with JCP&L and requested contact information for key people at JCP&L so that she could voice her concerns. She also asked for recommended actions residents could take with First Energy and the Board of Public Utilities. Ms. Lyons likes the idea of subsidizing generator costs for residents, and would like to see JCP&L incur some of that expense. She asked if Fire Companies could check on horse businesses in town and provide water.

RESOLUTION #R-137-12 TRANSFER OF FUNDS

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

RESOLUTION #R-138-12 RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWING SERVICES OF SNM RECOVERY LLC

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, LiaBraaten, Roehrich, Tobin, Mayor Short

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

*** ACCEPT RESIGNATION**

That the following resignation be accepted: Kathleen Balella, Records Secretary, Washington Township Police Department, and effective November 2, 2012.

*** APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP – NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMAN’S ASSOCIATION**

Applications have been received for membership in the New Jersey State Fireman’s Association from Jason R. Fischer and Nicholas P. Sandor.

That the foregoing applications for membership be approved and be forwarded to New Jersey Fireman’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

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

Motion was made by Comm. Tobin, seconded by Comm. Roehrich 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

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

DISCUSSION

REORGANIZATION MEETING. The reorganization meeting for 2013 is tentatively set for January 7, 2013 at 7:00 p.m., contingent upon the availability by Comm. Kennedy.

POLICE LIGHT BAR PACKAGE – IOM #25. The Chief requested approval to pre purchase 2 police light bar packages in 2012 for the new police cars at a reduced rate. Chief Bailey indicated that the package includes siren, siren box, and light bar. A resolution will be prepared for consideration in December.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES REVIEW – IOM #26. The Committee agreed to request proposals for Labor Attorney services.

HASTINGS SQUARE – OVERNIGHT PARKING – IOM #26. Hastings Square residents/board members Oksana Tabatchouk and Alan Parnau requested that overnight parking at Hastings be allowed on one side of the street only. Chief Bailey stated that the roads are wide enough to allow this. The current Township ordinance states that there shall be no overnight parking on any township streets from November 1 – April 15, and no parking on streets when snow covered. Mayor Short would like to include DPW in further discussions. Chief Bailey would like to send traffic personnel to visit the site to review and recommend proper signage if needed. There will be a further discussion at the December Work Session meeting.

SOLAR PANELS – LIBRARY – IOM #26. A program is available through the Morris County Improvement Authority. LV Middle School is participating in the program. The program was offered to Washington Township for the Library because another property cancelled. Proposal is to install ground mounted solar panels near the library, and surround the area with fencing. Energy savings is estimated to be \$8,600 per year. Project completion date is December 2012. The Committee requested more information about enlarging the array, including additional facilities and the flexibility of the deadline.

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 10:03 P.M.

**RESOLUTION #R-139-12 – EXECUTIVE SESSION. – Contract Negotiations: IT, Mansfield Twp.
Fire, Tewksbury Twp.
Public Health, Chester Twp.
Website & Email, Califon
Land Acquisition: Borgenicht Trust – IOM #25**

Motion was made by Comm. Roehrich, seconded by Comm. Kennedy that the foregoing resolution be adopted. 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 10:15 P.M

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 P.M.

Deborah Burd, Acting Township Clerk