

The Special Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington was called to order by Mayor Short at 7:05 P.M.

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** CFO Lifer, Administrator/Acting Clerk Burd, Office Manager Coppola

**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.

**Mayor Short** stated Comm. LiaBraaten's absence was due to illness. Mayor Short and **Comm. Kennedy** relayed their conversation with local school officials regarding the bill signed Jan. 18 allowing school elections to be moved to November. The consensus of the Township Committee was that the issue should be left to the Boards of Education to decide.

### **PUBLIC PORTION**

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

### **BUDGET OVERVIEW**

**CFO Lifer** started with a discussion about anticipated revenues. He then discussed anticipated surplus to be generated in 2012 by reviewing the individual revenues of which it is comprised.

### **BUDGET DISCUSSIONS**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT** - A discussion was held on the Police OE and capital budgets. **Chief Michael Bailey** discussed with the committee different vehicles which could be purchased and the two funding scenarios in his budget request. The township committee agreed to leave \$101,000 in the request for police vehicles and about \$30,000 for new equipment in capital for now in case equipment cannot be transferred from the Crown Victorias.

The capital requests for \$5,582 for 4 Computers and an MS Office License and for \$28,420 for reprogramming and replacing of radios were moved to amount pending. Requests for \$6,238 for Mobile Data Terminals and \$36,598 for MIRS portable radios were moved to tentative amount approved.

**PUBLIC SAFETY** - Dispatch, IT and Emergency Management budgets were also reviewed. The capital request for Web Authoring Software in the amount of \$1,750 was moved to tentative amount approved.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT** - The Administration, Mayor and Committee, Municipal Clerk, Finance, Audit, Tax Collection, Tax Assessment, Legal, Engineering and Planning budgets were discussed. The capital request from Planning for a replacement computer and printer in the amount of \$1500 was rejected.

### **PUBLIC PORTION**

**Mayor Short opened the meeting to the public.**

**John Worthington, 19B Pleasant Grove Road**, stated the \$6,000 line item for ADT and the Library line item from last year's budget both seemed like a lot of money. Chief Bailey provided details on what security measures ADT provided and Mayor Short stated the library appropriation is determined by state statute.

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

**Comm. Tobin requested two applicants for the Green Team interviewed before the budget meeting be appointed before the next Green Team meeting on Feb 8.**

Motion was made by Comm. Roehrich, seconded by Comm. Tobin to appoint Joseph Keyes and Ceridwen McGovern to the Ad Hoc Green Team Committee. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTENTIONS:** None

**ABSENT:** LiaBraaten

**The meeting adjourned at 9:40 P.M.**