

The Regular Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington was called to order by Mayor Short at 7:38 P.M.

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

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

Adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Observer Tribune and the Daily Record on January 9, 2014 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 provided an update on road work in the Township. Work on Schooley's Mountain Road began today, and the total project should take three weeks. The Route 46 Bridge will be closed August 16 for ten days. Newburgh Road Bridge work continues. The entire length of Bartley Road will be repaved with the work scheduled for October. The County is aware that this is a major route to West Morris Central High School and we are trying to have the County amend the work schedule. With regard to West Mill Road we are still waiting to hear if the grant application will be approved.

Mayor Short and **Administrator Coppola** met with officials regarding Cooper Chemical on Parker Road. The owners would like to redevelop the 15 acres. The current zone is Office/Research/Industrial. This would be a Brownfield Redevelopment project. They still owe \$2,000,000 for municipal taxes.

The Green Festival and Family Fun Day will be held on August 16 at Rock Sprig Park, noon to 4:00 PM.

The Washington Township Police Department will celebrate its 50th Anniversary on September 13 at 3:00PM. It will include refreshments for the public.

DPW Bucket Truck: A \$150,000 Budget request that was deferred to see if a used truck could be purchased was worth the wait. At a recent Gov Deals Auction the Township acquired a truck for \$6.00. After a mechanical inspection a few thousand dollars will be invested, but this is truly a wonderful savings for the municipality. **Comm. Tobin** also indicated that this truck is not only beneficial for the care of trees but will be helpful for making repairs to multi-level municipal owned buildings.

PROCLAMATION. Mayor Short, on behalf of the Washington Township Committee, read into the record a proclamation promoting the Morristown Festival of Books and the 'One Community, One Book' program.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT PRESENTATION. Scout Jack Layfield, Troop 436, presented his proposal for a kiosk near the basketball and tennis courts in Rock Spring Park. The total cost would be \$996.85, which he will fund with material donations from stores and monetary donations from family and friends. If his budget allows, he would like to incorporate a bench into his design. The Committee commended Jack on his professional presentation and thanked him for considering this worthy and much needed project.

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

Fred Smith, 167 Kings Highway questioned the proposed Village Center. **Mayor Short** explained that this is simply a concept. There is no official application before any Board. **Mr. Smith** stated that he does not believe the town needs more housing.

Maureen Storey, 8 East Mill Road said she was informed by a local business person that construction on the Village Center will commence in eighteen to twenty four months. **Mayor Short** answered no that this is still only a concept. If it were to proceed there is much work to be done, including the adoption of an Ordinance, State approval, and Planning Board review and approval. **Ms Storey** questioned whether the municipal parcel would be sold. Mayor Short answered that it would be either sold or exchanged for a value equated to the cost of constructing a community center. **Ms. Storey** was also concerned about the noise of the fire siren at the proposed firehouse on Fairmount Road and the impact it will have on the sheep at The Valley Shepherd.

Sue Jones, 127 Kings Highway requested an update on the project, specifically the traffic study. **Mayor Short** deferred the response to **Comm. Tobin**. **Comm. Tobin** reported that perhaps the final meeting of the subcommittee is being scheduled, which could be followed by the steps that Township must follow if redevelopment is pursued. **Mayor Short** advised that the traffic studies are available in the Planning Office.

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

RO-12-14 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS TO PROVIDE FOR HIGHLANDS AREA EXEMPTIONS – INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF MORRIS TO PROVIDE FOR HIGHLANDS AREA EXEMPTIONS** be introduced and read by title on first reading by the Township Committee

and that the Clerk be authorized to advertise said Ordinance in full or by summary in the Observer Tribune according to law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at a meeting of the Township Committee on August 18, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at the Washington Township Municipal Building, 43 Schooley’s Mountain Road, Long Valley, New Jersey at which time and place all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning same.

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

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

RO-13-14 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LAND USE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON TO UPDATE SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT – INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Washington that an Ordinance entitled **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LAND USE ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON TO UPDATE SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT** be introduced and read by title on first reading by the Township Committee and that the Clerk be authorized to advertise said Ordinance in full or by summary in the Observer Tribune according to law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Ordinance shall be further considered for final passage at a meeting of the Township Committee on August 18, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at the Washington Township Municipal Building, 43 Schooley’s Mountain Road, Long Valley, New Jersey at which time and place all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard concerning same.

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

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

ACCEPT RESIGNATION

That the following resignation be accepted:

Chris Kitzerow, Member Recreation Committee, effective July 21, 2014.

Motion to accept the resignation was made by **Comm. Tobin**, seconded by **Comm. Roehrich** The motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

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

RESOLUTION #R-110-14 REFUND TO TAX LIEN HOLDERS

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

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

RESOLUTION #R-111-14 AUTHORIZE A REFUND TO THE HACKETTSTOWN MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

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

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

RESOLUTION #R-112-14 REJECT BIDS – SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS TO EAST MILL ROAD

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

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

RESOLUTION #R-113-14 AUTHORIZE THE SUBMISSION OF A RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES (ROID) GRANT APPLICATION

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

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

RESOLUTION #R-114-14 AUTHORIZE CHANGE ORDER #2 WITH TOP LINE CONSTRUCTION, CORP. FOR ADDITIONAL IMPROVEMENTS TO NAUGHRIGHT ROAD

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. Babb, LiaBraaten, Tobin, Roehrich, Mayor Short
NAYS: None **ABSENT: None** **ABSTENTIONS: None**

RESOLUTION #R-115-14 AUTHORIZE RELEASE OF MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE – HOMELESS SOLUTIONS, INC.

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

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

RESOLUTION #R-116- 14 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK OF PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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

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

RESOLUTION #R-117- 14 RESOLUTION TO PROMOTE THE PRESERVATION, GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW JERSEY MILITARY FACILITIES

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

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

***RAFFLE APPLICATION(S)**

Applications have been received for the following raffles:

Friends & Neighbors of Allamuchy, NJ	On Premise 50/50	September 3, 2014
Lady Tigers Soccer	Off Premise 50/50	December 7, 2014
LV Presbyterian Church	Tricky Tray	February 6, 2015

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

***APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC EVENT – GREEN LIVING FESTIVAL**

An application has been received from the Washington Township Green Team for the Green Living Festival to be held on Saturday, August 16, 2014 between the hours of 12:00 PM and 4:00 PM at Rock Spring Park. The rain date is August 17. Recommendations have been received from the Police Department, the Board of Health, the Zoning Officer, Construction Official and Fire Prevention Official.

***AUTHORIZE SPECIAL PERMIT FOR SOCIAL AFFAIR –FAIRMOUNT FIRE COMPANY**

An application has been received from Fairmount Fire Company for a Social Affair to be held on Saturday, November 8, 2014 between the hours of 5:00 PM and 11:00 P.M. to be held at the 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.

***APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP – FAIRMOUNT FIRE COMPANY**

An Application has been received for junior firefighter membership in the Fairmount Fire Company from Benjamin Reid Berth.

That the foregoing application for junior firefighter membership be approved and be forwarded to Fairmount Fire Company.

***APPROVE MINUTES**

June 11, 2014 Work Session
June 16, 2014 Regular Meeting
June 30, 2014 Special Meeting

***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,
Washington Township Zoning Official

Mayor Short asked if anyone on the Committee or any member of the public wanted anything removed from the consent agenda and considered separately. There was no response.

All items preceded by an (*) were approved as part of the consent agenda on a motion made by **Comm. Roehrich**, seconded by **Comm. Tobin** on the following roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

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

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Comm. Tobin reported that the Board of Health still reports a decrease in the number of pet licenses being issued, with an increase in animal bites. **Comm. Tobin** suggested there be an insert in the upcoming tax bill mailing informing residents that they are required by law to license their animals. . Also, there needs to be more cooperation from Police to report animals they suspect are not licensed.

Administrator Coppola answered that the Township has sent letters to those pet owner who have not renewed pet licenses in recent years. Summonses have been issued for those who have not responded and Animal Control notified the Township of any responses involving unlicensed animals. Everything is being done, short of an animal canvass. **Mayor Short** requested that **Comm. Tobin** obtain recommendations from the Board of Health so the Township Committee can discuss this matter at next month's meeting. **Comm. Tobin** suggested that Mr. Coppola contact the Board of Health rather than himself.

Comm. LiaBraaten reported that a new Incident Command Vehicle will soon be delivered to the Schooley's Mountain Fire Company. Previous discussions regarding having two incident command vehicles were not resolved. **Comm. LiaBraaten** expressed the Fire Department's need for two incident command vehicles. After some discussion it was agreed that the soon to be former incident command vehicle, [Durango] will continue to be insured for the remainder of the year, however, fuel and maintenance will be at the expense of the Fire Company's Corporate Budget. **Comm. Babb** abstained from the development of this consensus. In October, **Comm. LiaBraaten** and **Comm. Babb** will have ready for Township Committee consideration a Municipal Vehicle Policy.

Motion to adjourn was made by **Comm. Roehrich**, seconded by **Comm. Tobin**. Motion was carried on the following roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 P.M.

*Denotes Consent Agenda