

The Work Session of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington was called to order by Mayor Short at 7:00 P.M

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comm. Tobin, *Cullen, **Kaiser**, Mayor Short, Attorney Jansen, Administrator/Clerk Gallets, Senior Deputy Clerk Burd, Chief Financial Officer Lifer

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comm. Krickus

***Comm. Cullen arrived at 7:50 P.M.**

****Comm. Kaiser departed at 7:50 P.M.**

*****Comm. Kaiser returned at 8:52 P.M.**

Adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Observer Tribune and the Morristown Daily Record on January 5, 2004 and was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on the same date. Notices of this meeting were sent as there were requests.

2004 BUDGET DISCUSSION -

The Township Committee discussed and approved 2004 Operating and Expense budgets for Tax Assessment and the Planning Board.

The Township Committee discussed the budget submitted for the Municipal Prosecutor. The Committee will continue this discussion at the next budget meeting.

The Township Committee reviewed the Police Department and Dispatch Operating and Expense budget requests with Police Chief Ted Ehrenburg and Technical Specialist Ray Kenny. They discussed the anticipated expenses for training, vehicle maintenance and purchases, and maintenance contracts.

***Comm. Cullen arrived at 7:50 P.M.**

****Comm. Kaiser departed at 7:50 P.M.**

The Committee prioritized the following capital budget requests submitted for the Police Department: radios, cameras, a breathalyzer, lockers, a digital copier, six Dell computers, two laser jet printers, a satellite receiver, dictaphone and radio recording equipment, a security recorder and cameras, a synchronized clock, two Watch Guard web page fire walls, and building maintenance.

Mayor Short stated that the Township Committee will continue the 2004 budget review on January 19, 2004 at 7:00 P.M.

AGE RESTRICTED OVERLAY ZONE - The Township Committee will consider the introduction of an ordinance to amend Chapter 217, Zoning, and Chapter 175, Subdivision of Land, of the Code of the Township of Washington to establish the Village Age Restricted Overlay Zone and to rezone certain properties from the OR/I Zone District to the Village Age Restricted Overlay Zone at the January 19, 2004 meeting.

COMCAST CABLE – ORDINANCE AMENDMENT - The Township Committee will consider the introduction of an ordinance to amend the ordinance entitled “An Ordinance Granting a Franchise to Storer Cable Communications of Northwest New Jersey, Inc., to Own, Operate and Maintain a Cable Television System in the Township of Washington: Setting Forth Conditions Accompanying the Grant of Franchise and Providing for the Regulation and Use of Said System” at the February 16, 2004 meeting.

DRIVEWAY ORDINANCE AMENDMENT - The Township Committee will consider the introduction of an ordinance to amend Chapter 172, Streets and Sidewalks, of the Code of the Township of Washington regarding permits for repaving/resurfacing at the January 19, 2004 meeting.

*****Comm. Kaiser returned at 8:52 P.M.**

BELROSE COURT CONSERVATION EASEMENT EXCHANGE - The Township Committee will consider the introduction of an ordinance authorizing the sale of a development easement on property known as Block 35, Lot 4 and Block 38, Lot 15 as shown on the tax maps of the Township of Washington at the February 16, 2004 meeting.

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

AD HOC COMMITTEE – LONG VALLEY MAILING ADDRESS – Mayor Short and Assistant Administrator Burd will assist the postal authorities with their effort to locate a larger postal facility to allow all residents of Washington Township to be served by the Long Valley Post Office and to be given a Long Valley mailing address.

INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT – FAIRMOUNT FIRE/TEWKSBURY – The Township Committee discussed Tewksbury Township Administrator Landon’s request that Tewksbury Township submit direct donations to the Fairmount Fire Company as payment for their emergency services. Attorney Jansen stated that when a fire company does not own the apparatus, the appropriate method of contracting for emergency services is through the execution of an agreement with the municipality which owns the apparatus. Administrator Gallets will contact Administrator Landon to expedite the execution of the required Intermunicipal Services Agreement to authorize the Fairmount Fire Company volunteers to provide emergency services to Tewksbury Township.

HISTORIC MUSEUM - Administrator Gallets will advise Ms. Dorothy Cleveland, President of the Washington Township Historical Society, that the historic museum occupant is responsible for the maintenance of the fire extinguishers.

DRIVEWAY SLOPE WAIVER REQUEST – Attorney James Laughlin requested that the Township Committee authorize the Board of Adjustment to approve a driveway slope waiver application that was submitted by the owners of Block 54, Lots 43 and 49. The Township Committee will discuss options offered by Attorney DeBona, including the introduction of an ordinance to amend the existing steep slope ordinance to provide for a waiver provision, during the execution session portion of this meeting. Administrator Gallets will contact Mr. Laughlin to advise how the Township Committee will proceed regarding this matter.

NEPOTISM AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST – The Township Committee will consider a resolution authorizing the adoption of township policies concerning conflicts of interest, nepotism, the use of township vehicles, the use of cellular and wireless telephones, and sexual harassment at the January 19, 2004 meeting.

PROPERTY TAX REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM - The Township Committee will consider the adoption of a resolution to state the Committee’s opposition to the State’s failure to allocate budgetary funding to support the “Property Tax Reimbursement Program” and to call for an amendment to the 2004 State budget to provide this funding at the January 19, 2004 meeting.

Mayor Short recused himself from the discussion concerning the dedication of a road right-of-way easement for Block 20, Lot 81.

MISSION ROAD – DEDICATION OF ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY - Administrator Gallets will forward a letter to Mr. Mark S. Denisiuk of Ferriero Engineering, Inc., stating that the Township Committee would like to have the right-of-way dedicated for the distance of Block 20, Lot 81, to allow Mr. Migliaccio to improve the portion of Mission Road which leads up to his driveway. Administrator Gallets will state that the dedication would be one-half of the total fifty foot dedication which is required for all new subdivisions.

Mayor Short returned to the meeting.

UPPER RARITAN RIVER COMPACT – Mayor Short will discuss Attorney Paula DeBona’s recommendations concerning the Upper Raritan River Compact with the representatives of eight towns who will meet at our temporary municipal offices on January 28, 2004 at 4:00 P.M. The Washington Township Committee will discuss the Upper Raritan River Compact further at the February 2004 Work Session.

HIDDEN HILLS – EXTENSION TO DEVELOPERS AGREEMENT - The Township Committee will consider a resolution to authorize the execution of an extension of the Developer’s Agreement for K. Hovnanian at Washington, LLC, the developer of the subdivision known as Hidden Hills, Section I, to October 24, 2004, which is the expiration date of Sections II, III and IV. Administrator Gallets will request that K. Hovnanian at Washington, LLC submit a letter which states their intention to assist the Morris County Park Commission with the realignment of the portion of Patriot’s Path to be located in the Hidden Hills development.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES – SCHEDULE INTERVIEWS – Members of the Township Committee will interview candidates for appointment to various Township board and committee positions at 6:00 P.M. on January 19, 2004.

EHMANN – ROAD DESIGN APPROVAL – Attorney Jansen will compose a letter to be sent to Attorney Jim Knox, who represents Mr. Peter Ehmann, which will state that the applicant must obtain approval of the conventional plan submitted for the Ehmann major subdivision from the Washington Township Planning Board.

COMMITTEE PROJECTS/2004 COMMITTEE GOALS – The Township Committee will discuss their projects and goals for 2004 at the January 19, 2004 meeting.

Mayor Short reopened the meeting to the public.

Mr. Mark Oaks, Chester, New Jersey asked if the Township Committee is aware that an applicant has requested that the payment of taxes due for two properties, located on West Valley Brook Road and owned by William P. Kanski and Sons, Inc., be postponed until after the Planning Board has had an opportunity to consider the application.

Administrator Gallets stated that the Township Committee will discuss the request at the January 19, 2004 meeting at 8:00 P.M.

The Township Committee went into Executive Session at 9:55 P.M. upon approval of the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION #R-14-04 – EXECUTIVE SESSION -
ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGE: DRIVEWAY SLOPE WAIVER
LAND ACQUISITION: BLOCK 22, LOT 29; BLOCK 28, LOT 11.04;
BLOCK 23, LOT 166**

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

AYES: Comm. Tobin, Cullen, Kaiser, Mayor Short
NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENT: Comm. Krickus

The Township Committee came out of Executive Session at 10:05 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 10:06 P.M.

Dianne S. Gallets, Clerk