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January 15, 2008

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The Special Meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington was called to order by Mayor Tobin at 7:10 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comm. Popper, Short, Nedd, Mayor Tobin, CFO Lifer, Administrator/Clerk Gallets

MEMBERS ABSENT: Comm. Walsh, Assistant Administrator Burd

Adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Observer Tribune and The Morristown Daily Record on January 8, 2008 and was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on the same date. This meeting is being held at the Washington Township Senior Citizen Center, East Springtown Road, Long Valley, New Jersey. Notices of this meeting were sent, as there were requests.

DISCUSSION:

2008 BUDGET OVERVIEW – **Kevin Lifer, Washington Township CFO**, made a presentation to the Township Committee regarding the 2008 Municipal Budget.

The Township Committee has agreed to not take a salary.

CFO Lifer stated that the surplus is up, and he and Comm. Nedd discussed overall budget issues.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) Budget Meeting will be on January 23, 2008.

It was discussed that a draft contract will be sent to Chester Borough for annual joint dispatching services.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET

Michael Bailey, Chief of Police reviewed the Police operating expense budget. There were no changes suggested at the present. The Police Capital Budget was discussed. The purchase of three police cars and one truck as a patrol vehicle was discussed. The truck and all vehicle equipment will be capitalized.

The Dispatching/911 Budget was discussed. Chief Bailey stated that 911 communications are fully functional and no extra expenditures are needed in 2008. The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) requests the capital purchase of a laptop computer.

Mayor Tobin opened the meeting to the public.

Harlin Parker, 525 Naughtright Road, inquired whether less expensive foreign cars, such as Toyotas, could be purchased for the Police Department in place of expensive Ford police cars. Chief Bailey explained that the heavy usage and steep terrain in our town require robust police patrol vehicles.

Tom Lopezzo, 47 Flintlock Drive, questioned the cost of utilizing 11 resolutions in advertising for professional services as compared to lower rates in other townships. Administrator Gallets will investigate whether a single ad can be used in the future.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Dianne S. Gallets, Clerk