

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP REORGANIZATION MINUTES

JANUARY 1, 2008

The Clerk swore John Horensky and Richard J Strunk in as Township Committeemen for a three year term, prior to the beginning of the Reorganization Meeting.

Township Clerk Mary Ann O'Neil called the 2008 Reorganization Meeting to order at noon on this date at the Washington Township Municipal Building located at 33 Little Philadelphia Road, Washington, NJ.

SUNSHINE LAW COMPLIANCE - The Clerk noted that this meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Law of 1975 in as much as a notice had been published in the Star Gazette and transmitted to the Express Times, posted at the Municipal Building and a copy is in the Clerks office. This agenda is subject to change by order of the Township Committee and or during the scheduled meeting.

ROLL CALL: Dempski, present; Elbassiouny, present; Horensky, present; Mueller, present; Strunk, present.

SALUTE TO FLAG

NOMINATIONS FOR MAYOR

The Clerk asked for nominations for the Mayor of Washington Township for a one year term. Elbassiouny nominated David Dempski, Horensky seconded. . The Clerk asked if there were any further nominations for Mayor. Horensky moved to close the nominations and appoint David Dempski as Mayor, Elbassiouny seconded. All were in favor.

ROLL CALL: Dempski, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Horensky, yes; Mueller, yes; Strunk, yes.

NOMINATIONS FOR DEPUTY MAYOR

Horensky made a motion to appoint Samir Elbassiouny as Deputy Mayor for one year term, there was no second. Motion Died.

Mueller made a motion to appoint Richard J. Strunk for a one year term, as Deputy Mayor, Dempski seconded. Mueller made a motion to close the floor for Deputy Mayor and appoint Richard Strunk., Dempski seconded.

ROLL CALL: Mueller, yes; Dempski, yes; Elbassiouny, no; Strunk, yes; Horensky, no.

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY

The Mayor said they had solicited bids through a Fair and Open Process. It was advertised in the paper and several RFPs from professionals. Horensky made a motion that Michael Lavery be appointed as Township Attorney at a monthly retainer of \$3000 a month, exclusive of litigation costs, Elbassiouny seconded.

ROLL CALL: Horensky, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Mueller, yes; Strunk, no; Dempski, yes.

APPOINTMENTS

Strunk made a motion to approve the appointment of Mary Ann O'Neil, for a term of one year (12/31/08) to the following positions, Election Official, Affirmative Action Officer, Secretary to the Local Board of Health, Secretary to the Safety Committee, Custodian of Government Records, Public Agency Compliance Officer and Safety Coordinator, Mueller seconded. All were in favor.

Strunk made a motion to approve the appointment of Anna C Godfrey for a one year term (12/31/08) for Deputy Election Official and Deputy Custodian of Records and Deputy Township Clerk, Elbassiouny seconded. All were in favor.

Strunk made a motion to approve Jo Ann Fascenelli as Treasurer for a one year term ending 12/31/08, Horensky seconded. All were in favor.

Horensky made a motion to accept, with regrets, the resignation of Jo Ann Fascenelli, effective January 18, 2008, Elbassiouny seconded All were in favor.

Strunk stated for the record that Fascenelli was one of the best employees that the Township could ever have. He had the pleasure of working with her and she has seen the Township through some difficult situations and it will be a severe loss to the citizens of the Township that she is leaving this position. He wished her well and all the best in the future.

Mueller made a motion to put an ad for Treasurer in the newspaper and post on website, Strunk seconded. All were in favor.

Zoning Officer - Elbassiouny said the Committee has discussed before, that possibly with the new Code and Construction Office, they could include the Zoning Officer as one of their duties. He felt it was something the Committee should look into to cut cost, but at the same time have more enforcement. There will be

somebody on the road basically every day of the week to enforce the ordinances. Strunk was concerned that the

Zoning Officer, at a minimum, is a difficult job and doesn't make a lot of friends. The Code and Construction job is also difficult. Strunk said they could possibly overlap false public perception as to what the office is doing and it is better to keep the positions separated. He has seen municipalities do similar things and it has never really worked out as the best thing. The Mayor said a proposal should be prepared for the next meeting so they can get a good grasp on the cost, plus and minus's and discuss it at the January meeting. Elbassiouny said there are a lot of citizens complaining about the lack of enforcement, due to the job being a part time position. He said that the Zoning Officer is doing a great job and has his full support. Elbassiouny said, for this town to move to the next level and top having the complaints, they have to have the Zoning Officer be more diligent during the day on inspections. Elbassiouny said it is very difficult to have someone in one or two nights a week to enforce the code. Elbassiouny said it has nothing to do with the Zoning Officer or what he does, a building inspector travels through the Township every single day, so it makes more sense for them to do it. Strunk felt that the public go to the Zoning Officer with information to enforce. If there is an enforcement issue with the Zoning Officer, then he has to be told and directed as a management team that he is to do his job. Strunk did not think necessarily that the Township should be going out hunting for issues, but if somebody brings something in to the Zoning Officer, it should be acted on. If this is not being done, it has to be done. Then if that person is not doing it, he should be given a Correction Action Plan so he knows what is expected in the job. Elbassiouny asked that this appointment be held off until the next meeting. The Mayor said they could possibly look into increasing the salary of the official. They have to find the best means of enforcing the zoning laws in a professional and expedient manner. Strunk made a motion to approve Tom Bocko as Zoning Officer, until the end of January, after a review of the position has been reviewed, Mueller seconded.

ROLL CALL: Strunk, yes; Mueller, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Horensky, yes; Dempksi, yes.

Horensky made a motion to appoint Gary and Betty Wysocki as Animal Control Officers for a one year term, expiring 12/31/08, Mueller seconded. All were in favor.

Horensky made a motion to approve Daniel Wyckoff to the Office of Aging for Washington Township for a one year term expiring 12/31/08, Elbassiouny seconded. All were in favor.

The Mayor said the engineer was done through a Fair and Open Process and quotations were received from various entities. The Mayor asked for a motion for following, to appoint the Township for Township Engineer as Finelli Associates, for a three year term, expiring 12/31/10, at \$120/hr to cover general engineering, compliance services, environmental services, new NJDOT grants, street openings, storm water, township survey work and support of Commissions and Committees as authorized by the governing body, pending availability of funds. Also, that Medina Consultants be hired at \$125/hr for processing existing NJDOT grants, closing out any 2007 Land Use Board Application Reviews, processing driveway permits and serving as the back up geologist if Land Use Board should need one. Elbassiouny made a motion to approved recommended motion by the Mayor, Mueller seconded. Strunk said he felt, due to problems that have incurred in the past, the Committee needs to give them some additional written guidance, particularly what a cap is for a driveway permit and some of the areas that were discussed in transition, so there is no doubt what the Township is going to be charged. The Mayor said a letter is going out to each profession service alerting them to the fact that there are budgetary constraints and they also need to define, what is a liable public action and set aside additional funds so they can process the occasional call from residents. The Mayor asked deBoer to prepare a list of the things that he had been discussing with Medina, so that there can be a proper transition to Finelli.

ROLL CALL: Elbassiouny, yes; Mueller, yes; Horensky, yes; Strunk, yes; Dempksi, yes.

Horensky made a motion for a one year term for the Shared Court Administrator Jerrilyn Harris, Strunk seconded. All were in favor.

Mueller made a motion for a one year term for the Prosecutor, Brett Morrow, Strunk seconded. Elbassiouny said he felt it would be a good idea for the police department make a recommendation on who the Prosecutor should be from now on. Horensky said they have to be careful, because of the prosecutor also being for Mansfield Township, so there has to be coordination between the Townships. Horensky asked that next November, Chief Mc Donald should provide a synopsis of performance of professionals hired that the public interact with on a regular basis. The Mayor said there was no time to do it this year. Elbassiouny said he doesn't know this person and he doesn't feel comfortable hiring somebody that he has no way of judging their performance whatsoever. Mueller said he was unaware of any problems. Elbassiouny said he felt this should be done with all departments, to come back with recommendations. He also felt all department heads should be part of the hiring process and sit in on interviews. The Mayor asked that the chief provide some feed back before the next meeting. Strunk felt they should go with the appointment of Morrow, but they should not start it at this point. Elbassiouny said he had no issues either, but they have to start somewhere. Mueller asked how this will work with the shared court, is this acceptable? Will they end up using two prosecutors? The Mayor said it is just a matter of due diligence. Mueller said he just felt this is something that should have been discussed a long time ago, not at the Reorganization Meeting.

ROLL CALL Mueller, yes. Strunk, yes; Elbassiouny, no; Horensky, no; Dempksi, no.

Elbassiouny made a motion to appoint Brett Morrow for a one month period pending further review on last years performance at the next meeting, Horensky seconded.

ROLL: Elbassiouny, yes; Horensky, yes; Mueller, no; Strunk, no; Dempski, yes.

Strunk made a motion to appoint Donald Farino as Public Defender for a one year period, ending 12/31/08, Mueller seconded. All were in favor.

Elbassiouny made a motion to appoint Jenny Cortez as Back Up Court Administrator, Horensky seconded. All were in favor.

Strunk made a motion to approve, for a one year term expiring 12/31/08, Pete de Boer and JoAnn Fascenelli as Recycling Coordinators, Horensky seconded. All were in favor.

Elbassiouny made a motion to approve, for a one year term expiring 12/31/08, David Evans of the firm Nisivoccio & Company, as Auditor, Horensky seconded.

ROLL CALL: Elbassiouny, yes; Horensky, yes; Mueller, yes; Strunk, no; Dempski, yes.

Horensky made a motion to approve, for a one year term expiring 12/31/08, Steve Rogut, of the firm Rogut Mc Carthy, as Bond Counsel, Elbassiouny seconded. All were in favor.

Elbassiouny made a motion that Medina Consultants be used as a back up consultant for Land Use Board for a one year period expiring 12/31/08, in case there are any conflicts where developers are retaining existing geologist, Horensky seconded. All were in favor, except Strunk who voted no.

Strunk made a motion to approve Pat Kollar as Municipal Alliance Coordinator for a one year term expiring 12/31/08, Elbassiouny seconded. All were in favor.

Elbassiouny made a motion to approve Barry Mueller as the Township Committee to be a member of the Municipal Alliance, Horensky seconded. All were in favor. Strunk asked if another member of the Committee could attend as long as there was no quorum, which was acceptable.

The Mayor said there was an urgent need to fill the Emergency Management Coordinator Position. There had been an e-mail received from an interested party and one of the requirements is that they must be a Township Resident to serve in this position. Previously, Jim Vergos had been looked at to fill in as deputy, but they were not sure he had the education to fill the position. The Mayor asked for a motion to have James Vergos serve as Emergency Management Coordinator for a period of three year. Horensky said they had already approved Officer Cicerelle at the last meeting to fill the position. There is a question of residency, but he understood that Cicerelle has his house up for sale and will be moving into the township. Horensky asked for support for Cicerelle in this position and may have all the requirements to fill this position. Strunk said his question was, which was not resolved, if Cicerelle was on duty and had to assume the new position, would they have to call another officer in to fill the spot. The Chief said, if the situation came about that he would have to take the roll of Emergency Management, they would call everybody out anyway. Lavery will research whether this will be a new term or it would be filling an unexpired term. Mueller asked if there was another township resident interested in the position, nobody had heard of any other interest by anybody. Elbassiouny said, on a temporary basis, Jim Vergos should be appointed as Acting Emergency Management Coordinator fo a term not to exceed 90 days, pending course verification, Horensky seconded. Strunk asked Vergos to submit his qualifications. Vergos said he will be inquiring about the qualifications for the position. Cicerelle said there are two courses that must be attended to get the certification.

ROLL CALL: Elbassiouny, yes; Horensky, yes; Mueller, yes; Strunk, abstain; Dempski, yes.

Horensky made a motion to approve, for a one year term expiring 12/31/08, Bruce Smith as Sewerage Consultant, Elbassiouny seconded. All were in favor.

Mueller made a motion to approve, for a one year term expiring 12/31/08, CREW Engineering for wastewater engineering, Horensky seconded. All were in favor.

Strunk made a motion to approve, for a one year term expiring 12/31/08, Martin Allen, to handle Tax Litigation at \$130/hr, Horensky seconded. All were in favor.

Horensky made a motion to approve, for a one year term expiring 12/31/08, Edward Glynn for existing Litigation in process and continue as special litigation, Elbassiouny seconded.

ROLL CALL: Horensky, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Mueller, yes; Strunk, yes; Dempski, yes.

ORDINANCE

Horensky made a motion to approve Ordinance 08-01 Salary Ordinance on first reading, Elbassiouny seconded.

ROLL CALL: Horensky, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Mueller, yes; Strunk, yes; Dempski, yes.

Public Hearing and Second Reading will be January 15, 2008.

Elbassiouny made a motion to approve Ordinance 08-02 Ordinance Reauthorizing the Open Space Trust Fund for the Twp of Washington, Horensky seconded.

ROLL CALL: Elbassiouny, yes; Horensky, yes; Mueller, yes; Strunk, yes; Dempski, yes.

Public Hearing and Second Reading will be January 15, 2008.

RESOLUTIONS

The Mayor asked if anyone wanted to pull any resolutions, otherwise they would be done with a Consent Motion for all resolutions. Strunk asked that 08-05, 08-08 and 08-24 be pulled. Mueller made a motion to approve Resolutions 08-01 through 08-04, through 08-06, 08-07 and 08-09 through and including 08-23 be approved, Horensky seconded.

ROLL CALL: Mueller, yes; Horensky, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Strunk, yes; Dempski, yes.

- 08-01 Resolution Authorizing Township of Washington Officials to Sign Checks
- 08-02 Cash Management Plan
- 08-03 Temporary Budget
- 08-04 Establishing Petty Cash Funds
- 08-06 Resolution Designation Official Newspapers
- 08-07 Interest on Delinquent Taxes and Assessments
- 08-09 Regular Meetings of the Township Committee and Board of Health
- 08-10 Resolution Designating a Public Agency Compliance Officer (PACO)
- 08-11 Resolution Adopting a Uniform Notice of Claim
- 08-12 Resolution Appointing Public Alliance Insurance Coverage Fund Commissioner
- 08-13 Resolution Authorizing the Award of Fair and Open Contract for Township Attorney
- 08-14 Resolution Authorizing the Award of Fair and Open Contract for Special Litigation Counsel
- 08-15 Resolution Authorizing the Award of Fair and Open Contract for Special Tax Litigation
- 08-16 Resolution Authorizing the Award of Fair and Open Contract for Various Engineering Services
- 08-17 Resolution Authorizing the Award of Fair and Open Contract for Auditing & Accounting Services
- 08-18 Resolution Authorizing the Award of Fair and Open Contract for Township Bond Counsel
- 08-19 Award of Contract for Professional Services Without Public Bid - Public Defender (D Farino)
- 08-20 Award of Contract for Professional Services Without Public Bid - Municipal Alliance Coordinator (P Kollar)
- 08-21 Award of Contract for Professional Services Without Public Bid - Sewerage Consultant (B Smith)
- 08-22 Award of Contract for Professional Services Without Public Bid - Temporary Tax Assessor
- 08-23 Award of Contract for Professional Services Without Public Bid - Temporary CFO

The Mayor said the Police Department and DPW have unions, but there is no union representing the Administrative Staff. This year there are two different raise points, option a (police 4%) or option b (4.5% DPW), for the Administrative Staff that are not represented by a union. Elbassiouny made a motion to approve Resolution 08-05, Option a, Salary Resolution which would be 4%, Mueller seconded. The Mayor said that it is important to note that the DPW workers are hourly and obviously, their pay is not as great as a salaried worker, so it is fair that they have a higher raise than the salaried workers.

ROLL CALL: Elbassiouny, yes; Mueller, yes; Horensky, yes; Strunk, no; Dempski, yes.

Strunk asked if other items on memo from Finance would be discussed. His main concern was, in reviewing the chief's contract, with his new wage of \$99,700, there was no waiver in the contract on longevity, which is another \$5,000. Horensky said during the discussion with the chief, he indicated that he would be giving longevity up. Strunk asked if it was in writing. Chief McDonald was not sure it was in the contract, but would get it in writing to the Committee. He stated for the record, that he was waiving longevity.

Strunk asked Elbassiouny the reason for the \$2/hour raise for the construction person that has only been with the Township for about 9 months. Elbassiouny said that this person has been doing excellent work for the Township, was hired at the lowest rate they could possibly give her to get her started. She has since taken on a lot more responsibilities. The office is very busy and she is not entitled to any benefits from the Township. This was a way to subsidize her a little bit so she could afford health insurance, which she will be paying. Strunk asked if the Township was picking up 10% of the coverage, Elbassiouny said they are going to do that.

Strunk asked, in regard to the base rate of \$20,000 for the Construction Code Official, was there designated hours so the Township knows what they are getting for their money. Elbassiouny said the Construction Official is basically like the Chief of Police, his hours are whatever they need to be, because everything has to be signed through him. Right now he is working between four and eight hours a week. Strunk said in the Chief's contract, the Chief is to work 40 hours. Elbassiouny said the Construction Official has no set hours, because he works different hours or on call for emergency calls.

Strunk asked about the Land Use Board Secretary. It was brought up at the last meeting that the new person puts in two hours a week, plus meetings. She wanted an increase to \$20,000. The last individual put in three days a week, plus meetings, and got \$17,500 and he had difficulty with that. Kerry Pflug, Chairperson of the Land Use Board, said she has scheduled office hours one day a week and as per needed or required or requested. Pflug said she was hired with the understanding that they would be giving her \$20,000 salary. Strunk asked the Clerk what hours she was notified the Land Use Secretary would be working. The Clerk said they were notified by her

that she would be working Tuesdays from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Strunk said he had a problem when the last person was putting in three full days in the office, there seems to be a disparity there. Dempski said the Land Use Board meets twice a month and they must make sure there is enough time for the secretary to meet with the public, developers and people wanting permits. He was concerned about one day a week being adequate to serve the people properly. This will be reviewed when they get into the final budget.

Strunk said he agrees with Elbassiouny on the 4%, but the other issues need to be reviewed.
ROLL CALL: Elbassiouny, yes; :Mueller, yes; Horensky, yes; Strunk, no; Dempski, yes.

Horensky made a motion to approve Resolution 08-08, Tax Assessors/Township Attorney Stipulations, Elbassiouny seconded.

ROLL CALL: Horensky, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Mueller, yes; Strunk, yes; Dempski, yes.

Elbassiouny made a motion to approve the 2008-24 Budget Appropriation Transfer, Horensky seconded. Strunk asked why the police had exceeded their budget and needed the \$4,000 transfer. Chief Mc Donald said at one point in the year it was necessary for Sgt Wolf's medical insurance had been taken out of his O&E and other transfers taken out of his O&E for vehicle repairs, which were then transferred back. The Chief said, according to his calculations over \$4,000 was left in his budget, so anything taken out of his budget during the year, without his knowledge, he cannot account for it. Strunk said there are still open questions on the transfer, the Chief said yes. The Chief said he knows where his budget stands, but he does not know as far as Finance knows. Strunk said he was unclear and there is a confusion between what the chief believes he has and what Finance says he has, he has concerns over this until it would be resolved, so he knows exactly what he is voting on.

ROLL CALL: Elbassiouny, yes; Horensky, yes; Mueller, yes; Strunk, no ;Dempski, yes.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARDS

Economic Development Commission - The Mayor reappointed Vanessa Gallante to a five (5) year term, expiring 12/31/12.

Recreation Commission - The Mayor appointed Walter Godfrey and Darlene Schott to a five (5) year term, expiring 12/31/12 and reappointed James Miller as Alternate 2, with a term expiring 12/31/08.

Historic Preservation Commission - The Mayor reappointed Barry Mueller and Brian Wilcox to four (4) year terms expiring 12/31/11.

Environmental Commission - The Mayor said the Chairman of the Commission has resigned mid year and the Commission needs to be rejuvenated. He reappointed the following people to three year (3) terms expiring 12/31/10, Al Ivany, Ron Greenwald and Charles Shields. He appointed Al Ivany to be Chairman of the Commission for a term expiring 12/31/08.

Land Use Board - The Mayor serves as a Class I member for a period of one (1) year. He appointed Evan Howell, Washington Township Tax Collector, as a Class II for a one (1) year term expiring 12/31/08. He reappointed Robert Klingel as a Class IV Member with a four year (4) term expiring 12/31/11. He is still looking for candidates for Alternate 2 position, which is still open. Strunk asked about the appointment of a Committeeman on Land Use Board. The Mayor said he was getting to it and with this form of government, there are also Township Committee appointments.

Open Space Advisory Committee - The Mayor said there are two three year (3) terms and the membership is based on other Commissions and Committees. He asked for a motion to reappoint Robert Klingle as Land Use Board Member, with a term expiring 12/31/10 and Greg Terhune, representing the Historic Preservation Commission with a term expiring 12/31/08. Horensky made a motion to appoint Robert Klingle and Greg Terhune to terms on Open Space Advisory Committee as recommended by the Mayor, Elbassiouny seconded. All were in favor.

The Mayor said, to also serve on the Land Use Board, there is a Class III Member, which is a member of the governing body, selected by the Governing Body for a one year term. He asked for a motion of the Governing Body to serve on Land Use Board. Horensky made a motion have Samir Elbassiouny serve as Class III Member, there was no second, motion died. Strunk said he felt he was the most qualified and willing to serve.

Mueller made a motion to appoint R J Strunk as Class III Member of Land Use Board, Dempski seconded.
ROLL CALL; Mueller, yes; Dempski, yes; Horensky, no; Elbassiouny, yes; Strunk, yes.

LIAISONS

The Mayor said that each member of the Governing Body gets assigned various liaisons during the year. There are three critical portions as a liaison, one it provided oversight of various professionals, commissions and employees, an advocate and also fosters communications. He made the following appointments:

Samir Elbassiouny

Washington Township Board of Education
Shared Code & Construction Office
Zoning Officer

John Horensky
Animal Control

Warren Hills Regional Board of Education
Emergency Management
Fire District/Fire Department/Fire Official
First Aid Squad
Public Health Officer
Public Utilities
Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

Barry Mueller
Department of Public Works
Historic Preservation Commission
Municipal Alliance
Recycling
Recreation Commission Administrator/Recreation Commission
Warren County Community College
Warren-Morris Council of Government (shared services)

Jeff Strunk
Budget & Finance
Economic Development Commission
Finance Department
Tax Assessor
Tax Collector
Warren County Solid Waste Advisory Committee

David Dempski
Clean Communities Coordinator/without stipend
Environmental Commission
Farmland Preservation/Open Space
Police Department
Shared Municipal Court
Township Attorney
Township Auditor
Township Clerk
Township Deputy Clerk
Township Engineer
Township Web Site/Public Information

The Mayor asked Samir Elbassiouny and Barry Mueller to continue working on the Shared Services Committee to develop and proposal for that.

The Mayor said that later in the year they should create Shared Municipal Court Review Committee, which will expire at the end of the year. He is still evaluating a Building and Grounds Liaison.

NEW BUSINESS

The Mayor said that last year the State had mandated Introduction and Adoption Dates for Municipal Budgets due to the aid question. He called the auditor, who feels strongly that this year they will have the same problem of not being ready in terms of tax rates and aid, so it will probably run the same way. They will probably be introducing by March 12, 2008 and you must adopt by approximately April 24, 2008. Horensky made a motion to approve the Budget Workshop for January 19 and February 9 at 10:00 a.m., Strunk seconded. All were in favor.

The Mayor is looking for a resolution to sell the property at the corner of Brass Castle and Route 57 at the January 15, 2008 meeting, which would lead to an auction date of February 6, 2008. The ad would have to go in the newspapers for two consecutive weeks prior to the auction and the second notice can be no earlier than 7 days.

The Mayor said the auction will have to be on a Wednesday because of the way the papers are printed. There was discussion on the auction and the terms. Horensky suggested that the information be reviewed by the legal counsel and auditor take a look at the implications, just because you want to push something too fast. Strunk was concerned about the staff being out of the building and into the new building, because there is always a problem with hitting the target date. They need to get a schedule and set a target to get out of the building. The Mayor will do more research on this information.

The Mayor said they would be interviewing for the position of Tax Assessor, but in the meantime he was looking for a motion to appoint Lydia Schmidt to be acting Tax Assessor for a period not to exceed 90 days. Elbassiouny made a motion to appoint Lydia Schmidt as Acting Tax Assessor for a period not to exceed 90 days, Strunk seconded.

ROLL CALL: Elbassiouny, yes; Strunk, yes; Horensky, yes; Mueller, yes; Dempski, yes.

The Mayor said that he has a call into Jersey Professional Management Services, temporary firm, to send a quotation on their service.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Mayor said that, pending availability of funds, the New Hampton NJ DOT Grant for \$71,731.00 was approved at the last meeting. He reviewed what was available from State Grants, which is 75% of the cost of the project. He was looking for clarification from the Governing Body, because he did not feel comfortable making a decision on this. They do have enough money to do both projects with money available, between the State Grants and Bonds that were issued for this project. The problem is Medina has indicated that there will be additional engineering inspection fees which are customary with any type of construction project. The Mayor talked with Medina, who informed him that approximately \$6000 was required for their services for both projects. The Mayor asked the Committee to authorize \$6000 from the Capital Ordinance passed to facilitate engineering review for the New Hampton Road Calming Project. This will also be required when they get the new bid amount for the Bowerstown Brass Castle Sidewalk Project, it would be \$6000 each project. Horensky made a motion to authorization to include an additional \$6000 for the New Hampton Road Traffic Calming Device, pending availability of funds out of proper ordinance, Elbassiouny seconded.

ROLL CALL: Horensky, yes; Elbassiouny, yes; Mueller, no; Strunk, no; Dempski, yes.

PUBLIC CONCERNS AND QUESTIONS

John Lombard, Asbury Anderson Road, said he was here today and welcomed the new board. He looked forward to having a board that is going to function in not only compliance, but with good faith with the public. He said this board has functioned inappropriately at times and he is asking this board to function with the heart and soul of the people at hand and they are up front and honest. He hoped the public would be included in the budget process, not like last year when they accepted a budget and then 3 months later they asked for another \$3 million dollars, then six days later, that budget was shot down to \$500,000, then another process where it would be \$250,000. He wants this to end. He said it has to be acknowledged that it did occur on this board and even as of December 30th people on the board said they will not function in cohesion they will not operate in good faith and that was stated. It was appalling, because you are already making divisions on the board.

The Mayor said that going forward they will talk, debate, maybe even yell and scream, but come to a common ground and move on. He does not want Washington Township to be a one issue town. The building is important, but not the only thing they need to do this year. There are a lot of State Mandates coming down This is a Committee of five - not one. They have different levels of experience, background and view points and he treasures each one. He said Budget Meetings are public meetings and you should come. Usually the only people that attend is the Chief of Police and Public Works Manager. Everything they do is open to the public and can take active participation.

RJ Strunk said he wanted to make a motion to go back to taping the Executive Sessions, because, historically when they had past issues the tapes have been valuable for all people to get the information. The people from the Township should know what was discussed in Executive Session. The Mayor said he intends to introduce a resolution at the next meeting on this situation.

Strunk said he issued an e-mail to everybody expressing his concern last January regarding the DPW using 100% salt and he wants to introduce a motion that they go back to standard used prior to 2006, which is roughly 2/3 sand and grits and 1/3 salt or whatever the mix was in 2003 or 2005. They could save money and it would increase public safety. The Mayor said that deBoer should have adequate time to prepare this and it could be heard at the next meeting. Strunk said he had adequate time to get the Committee feedback, Mueller seconded. ROLL CALL: Strunk, yes; Mueller, yes; Elbassiouny, no; Horensky, no; Dempski, no.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEEMAN

R J Strunk had no report.

John Horensky had no report.

Samir Elbassiouny said he had one comment. He, through discussions over the year, encouraged the Committee to do their best for the Township as a whole. All political stuff should be dropped and he hoped it is the case this year. There has been a lot of negative and false information presented to the Committee and Governing Body through members of the public. He wished this would stop. If there are questions, then come to the Committee and ask them, not come and make accusations without fact to support them. They make some very tough decisions on the Governing Body and they need the people's support. They are here to serve the Township and

are taxpayers just like the other residents. If there are concerns, he has his cell telephone listed and they can call him or they can come before the entire meeting. He just heard the budget is done under the table, that is absolutely false. Everything done by the Committee is right out open public, with the exception of Executive Session on the recommendation of the Township Attorney.

He said a lot of people are trying to say there is a wedge between this committee, that is absolutely is not true. This Committee worked together all year long and the only issue they had was a problem with the different points of view on the new building. Everybody did what is right and voted the way the thought was right. It has nothing to do with personal issues, it is just difference of opinion. They are entitled to their difference of opinion. Everybody on the Committee will do what is right for the Township. They show solid support for one another and will move forward with the Township in the future.

Barry Mueller said he is looking forward to a productive year with the Township Committee.

Mayor David Dempski echoed Mueller's sentiments about working together. He invited everybody's input and judgement. He thanked the public for coming to the meeting today.

Strunk said he looked forward to the public's comments and being a member of the public last year, he researched for information that was available that anybody could be able to find. It is important to do you research and come up with good information, which was invaluable to him last year to come before the Committee. He encouraged people to come up and speak, it is their right to do so.

Strunk asked if the Committee was going to go to two meetings a month. The Mayor said that they may be having a second meeting a month, from February through August, which would be a workshop meeting, just to discuss the new building.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mueller made a motion to pay the bills, Horensky seconded.

ROLL CALL: Horensky, yes; Mueller, yes; Dempski, yes; Elbassiouny, abstain; Strunk said he wasn't allowed to do them and had sufficient time to review them.

There being nothing further to come before the Committee, Horensky made a motion to adjourn at 1:40 p.m. Strunk seconded. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann O'Neil MMC
Township Clerk