

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY

Regular Minutes
May 19, 2009

The regular meeting of the Township Committee was held this date at the Washington Township Municipal Building, 211 Route 31 North, Washington, N.J. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Samir Elbassiouny. Michael Lavery, Township Attorney, Peter de Boer, Acting Administrator/Certified Public Works Manager and Mary Ann O'Neil, Township Clerk, Chief McDonald and Lt. Cicerelle, Barbara Emery, CFO, Dave Evans and John Mooney, Auditors were also present.

SUNSHINE LAW COMPLIANCE - The Mayor 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, transmitted to the Express Times and posted at the municipal building and a copy is on file in the Clerks Office. This agenda is subject to change by the order of the Washington Township Committee and/or during the scheduled meeting.

ROLL CALL: Elbassiouny, present; Horensky, present; Kovacs, present; Mueller, present. Strunk was absent.

SALUTE TO FLAG

APPROVAL OF 2009 BUDGET

Horensky made a motion to open Ordinance 09-11 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a CAP Bank to the public, Kovacs seconded. All were in favor. Nobody from the public wished to be heard. Horensky made a motion to close the public hearing, Kovacs seconded. All were in favor. Kovacs made a motion to approve Ordinance 09-11, after public hearing and second reading, Horensky seconded.

ROLL CALL: Kovacs, yes; Horensky, yes; Mueller, yes; Elbassiouny, yes.

The Mayor did a power point presentation of the budget. Horensky made a motion to open the floor to the public, Kovacs seconded. All were in favor. Nobody from the public wished to be heard. Horensky made a motion to close the floor the public, Mueller seconded. All were in favor.

Horensky made a motion to approve Resolution 09-59, Adoption of the 2009 Budget, Kovacs seconded.

ROLL CALL: Horensky, yes; Kovacs, yes; Mueller, yes; Elbassiouny, yes.

PROCLAMATIONS

The Mayor presented a proclamation to the Investors Savings Bank, who donated \$50,000 to Habitat for Humanity and a proclamation of Appreciation to Habitat for Humanity Volunteers for all the hours that were put in working on the house.

The Mayor read a proclamation on Older American Month and a proclamation designating June as Myasthenia Gravis Awareness Month.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kovacs made a motion to approve the Minutes of the meeting of March 17, 2009, Mueller seconded.

ROLL CALL; Kovacs, yes; Mueller, yes; Horensky, abstain; Elbassiouny, yes.

Horensky made a motion to approve the Budget Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2009, Kovacs seconded.

ROLL CALL: Horensky, yes; Kovacs, yes; Mueller, yes; Elbassiouny, yes.

Kovacs made a motion to approve the Minutes of the meeting of April 20, 2009, Horensky seconded.

ROLL CALL; Kovacs, yes; Horensky, yes; Mueller, abstain; Elbassiouny, yes.

ORDINANCES

Horensky made a motion to open Ordinance 09-10, Ordinance of the Township of Washington, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, Amending and Supplementing Chapter 97 of the Township Code to adopt an Updated Recycling Ordinance, to the public, Mueller seconded. All were in favor.

Cheryl Burket, resident, said there were some typos in the ordinance. Also, she questioned on how this would be enforced with commercial businesses. Horensky said the Recycling Coordinators could visit the various businesses and advise them of the ordinance that has been put in place and fines could be levied if they did not comply. She said the Township should make sure they advise every business owner in the Township. Lavery said, according the law, they are required to recycle. Berket said residents separate recyclables, but haulers may just dump together. Horensky said the haulers were made aware of the law in 1986 and they would be the ones fined for doing this.

Horensky made a motion to close the public hearing, Kovacs seconded. All were in favor.

Kovacs made a motion to approve Ordinance 09-10, after public hearing and second reading, Horensky seconded.

ROLL CALL: Kovacs, yes; Horensky, yes; Mueller, yes; Elbassiouny, yes.

RESOLUTIONS

The Mayor asked if anyone wanted to pull any resolutions, if not, they would be approved with a consent agenda. Horensky made a motion to approve Resolution 09-60 through and including 09-68., Kovacs seconded. Clerk advised 09-69 had been added. Horensky amended his motion to include 09-69, Kovacs seconded amendment motion.

ROLL CALL: Horensky, yes; Kovacs, yes; Mueller, yes; Elbassiouny, yes

09-60 Tax Sale Certificate Redemption, Block 38, Lot 22 C0018

09-61 Tax Sale Certificate Redemption, Block 38.03, Lot 16

09-62 Resolution Opposing Assembly Bill 3686 which proposes transfer of the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (GCADA) to the New Jersey Dept of Human Services

09-63 Return of Duplicate Permit Fee /Bill Hodge Electrical Construction

09-64 Authorize and Approve Salaries and Wages for Certain Employees (Joanne Fascenelli)

09-65 Resolution for the Purchase of a Road Side Mowing Tractor and Mower

09-66 Resolution for the Purchase of Two Police Vehicles

09-67 Resolution for the Implementation Grant Component

09-68 Resolution for the Purpose of Approving an Additional Provider as a 457(b) Government Deferred Compensation Plan.

09-69 Resolution of the Township of Washington Authorizing the Mayor to execute a Treatment Works Approval Application for the Regency at Hawk Pointe Wastewater Treatment Works Project.

STAFF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

de Boer, Certified Public Works, had nothing from the Department of Public Works at this time.

There has been discussion on what roads they intend to tar and chip and working with the summer schedule.

de Boer, Acting Administrator, said they recently had a township employee donate bone marrow, for the second time to save the life of a child. He requested that a proclamation be done honoring this employee at the June meeting.

de Boer passed out the information requested at a previous meeting on the Usage needs of the Parks and Recreation Building at 33 Little Philadelphia Road. Mueller said this information was needed before the Committee made any other commitments on the use of the building.

de Boer said he has been meeting with the Washington Borough Manager, which he will discuss in Executive Session. He chaired the quarterly Safety Committee Meeting, met with employees on the change in the health insurance and is getting information together for Affirmative Action with the State. They have picked all files up from Attorney Ed Glynn and they are now in the Township's offices. The DPW has picked up half the files from Franklin Township. He also had the monthly staff meeting.

Chief Mc Donald passed out his Monthly Report.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Sharon Cooper, Brown and Brown, said on the automobile accident that happened last Friday, as of today, it is tentatively amicably settled.

She has checked into sink hole remediation. They are going out to market to try and find something on this. Also, PAIC recently returned \$7107 in surplus to the Township. The CFO has asked that it be applied on the third installment of insurance.

Public portion ended at 8:20 p.m.

de Boer also reported that he had the IT person develop two new programs, by block and lot and by road. Every Township Resident is in this program. It is a good tool for the employees. It is also in the Zoning Officers's laptop for his convenience. Also, there is now a spreadsheet for the convenience center and curbside passes.

NEW BUSINESS

The Mayor said the Committee must set up a special meeting to discuss shared services with the Washington Borough Police Department. Kovacs made a motion that the Township Committee hold a Special Meeting at the Township Building at 6:00 p.m. on June 3, 2009, where the Mayor said there will be discussion on two pending ordinances and amending the Master Plan and addressing two deficiencies. Also there will be a shared meeting on June 3, 2009 with Washington Borough at their building at 7:30 p.m., Horensky seconded.

ROLL CALL: Kovacs, yes; Horensky, yes; Mueller, yes; Elbassiouny, yes.

There was discussion on extending affordable COAH as advised by Scarlett Doyle, Planner. Lavery advised the Township Committee must extend the date. He will research further for next meeting and do an ordinance.

REPORT FROM OFFICIALS

Barry Mueller had no report.

Michael A Kovacs said he missed the last Corridor 57 meeting, but did read the minutes from the meeting.

John Horensky had no report.

Mayor Samir Elbassiouny said his discussion was for Executive Session.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Kovacs made a motion to approve the bills, Mueller seconded.

ROLL CALL: Kovacs, yes; Mueller, yes; Horensky, yes to the ones he signed; Elbassiouny, yes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Horensky made a motion to approve Resolution 09-70 to go into Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. for the purpose of discussion a teamster matter, contractual PBA matter and a personnel issue, action may or may not be taken Kovacs seconded. All were in favor.

The doors were opened. Horensky made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 10:26 p.m., Mueller seconded. All were in favor.

Lavery said the Township Committee came out of Executive Session at 10:26 p.m. where they discussed four matters, teamsters contract, PBA contract, Shared Services Police Contract and personnel matter dealing with Assessors hours. No official action was taken and minutes will be available when the Committee deems there is no harm to the public interest,

Horensky said based upon discussion during Executive Session and PBA Contract, he made a motion to approve Resolution 09-71, amending the existing PBA Contract that would include the addition of a new position, that being, Patrol First Class (PFC), which would be a Step 5 with no increase in salary, Kovacs seconded.

ROLL CALL; Horensky, yes; Kovacs, yes; Mueller, yes; Elbassiouny, yes.

Horensky said as a result of conversations during executive session on the existing PBA Contract, which expires 12/31/09 and in order to expedite the matter, the police are comfortable with the contract currently written and go along with approved amendment. He made a motion that the Committee approve the extension of the existing contract from the PBA for the period of time January 1, 2010 until December 3, . 2012. This would avoid a situation of going through negotiations. Kovacs said Chief Mc Donald also had a change to make on the chart, which the Chief said has been done already. It would have the step of First Class Patrolman Class (FCP), instead of Corporal, and there would be no pay increase, Kovacs seconded.

ROLL CALL: Horensky, yes; Kovacs, yes; Mueller, no; Elbassiouny, yes.

Kovacs made a motion that the Teamsters Local 1218, who also had the same contract as previously in effect, with the written change on page 27, be approved, Horensky seconded, only for the purpose of discussion. After further discussion, Horensky asked this contract be held until more discussion was held on seasonal employees and other issues. Kovacs, withdrew his motion and Horensky withdrew his second to the motion.

There being nothing further to come before the Committee, Horensky made a motion to adjourn at 10:43 p.m., Elbassiouny seconded. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann O'Neil RMC/CMC/MMC
Township Clerk