

## TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, WARREN COUNTY

Budget Meeting Minutes  
March 14, 2015

The budget meeting of the Township Committee was held on this date at the Washington Township Municipal Building, 211 Route 31 North, Washington, N.J. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Mayor Robert Klingel.

SUNSHINE LAW COMPLIANCE – The Mayor noted this meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Law of 1975 in as much as a notice has been published in the Star-Gazette and transmitted to the Express-Times, posted at the Municipal Building and a copy is on file in the Clerk's office. This agenda is subject to change by order of the Washington Township Committee before and/or during the scheduled meeting.

### ROLL CALL

Iacobucci, present; Klingel, present; Kovacs, present; Willan, present  
Rossi, absent

### STAFF PRESENT

Anna C. Godfrey, Township Clerk; Peter deBoer, Township Administrator/Certified Public Works Manager; John Mooney, Municipal Auditor; Kevin McCarthy, Chief Financial Officer; Chief McDonald; Deputy Chief Cicerelle, Lieutenant Teter; Sergeant Bee and his K-9 Partner Arek; Officer Casella and his K-9 Partner Storm; and Jeff Cooper, Assistant Municipal Supervisor of Public Works

### SALUTE TO THE FLAG

### PROCLAMATION

Chief McDonald read and presented a proclamation recognizing William Peskoff for his continued support of the Washington Township Police Department's K-9 Unit. Mayor Klingel stated W. Peskoff's generous donations are greatly appreciated by the Township.

### RESOLUTION

K. McCarthy explained funds from the sale of the old municipal building will be used to pay for the tax maps and stated there will be no impact to the 2015 tax rate. A motion was made by Kovacs, seconded by Willan, to approve Resolution 15-49, Resolution Awarding an Extraordinary Unspecifiable Service Contract to Civil Solutions to Produce New Digital Tax Maps, Emergency Services Mapping and Zoning Map. Mrs. Iacobucci noted the method of payment was not written in the resolution. J. Mooney explained the funding, which is not part of the resolution.

ROLL CALL: Kovacs, yes; Willan, yes; Iacobucci, yes; Klingel, yes

### 2015 BUDGET DISCUSSION

J. Mooney explained the Township is still well below the expenditure cap and the tax levy cap. The amended budget document reflects \$9,100 in cuts made at the last budget meeting and the \$22,000 of revenue being brought in through the sale of municipal assets. The average assessed home of \$250,000 will now see an approximate increase of \$39.00 for the year or \$3.27 per month. J. Mooney spoke about the bonds that were questioned at the last budget meeting, adding that nothing can be done with them at this point. The Committee discussed with J. Mooney.

The Committee discussed the amended budget document. Mrs. Iacobucci would like the Environmental Commission to have a \$500 line item in the budget for subscriptions and new member training. The Committee agreed \$500 will be moved as an Environmental Commission line item. Mr. deBoer spoke about the electrical services and the traffic light at the corner of Route 57 and Brass Castle Road. The Committee discussed.

J. Cooper updated the Committee on the aging DPW vehicles and which ones are in need of replacement over the next few years. The Committee discussed.

Chief McDonald had no capital purchases to discuss.

### PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Mayor Klingel opened the meeting to the public.

Jeff Duckworth, 28 Coleman Hill Road, asked the last time the Township did not have a tax increase. Mrs. Iacobucci replied it was 1999. J. Duckworth questioned the need to have a cushion on some of the line items. Mayor Klingel spoke about unanticipated expenses throughout the year and the fact that monies cannot be transferred until November. J. Duckworth discussed with K. McCarthy and J. Mooney. J. Duckworth would like to see the Township's budget remain flat. Mr. Kovacs discussed pay increases with J. Duckworth.

Joel Schnetzer, 240 Cemetery Hill Road, asked how the Township compensates for a change in the amount of uncollected taxes. J. Mooney explained.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Klingel closed the public portion of the meeting.

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Kovacs, to introduce the 2015 Budget at the March 17, 2015 meeting.

ROLL CALL: Willan, yes; Kovacs, yes; Iacobucci, yes; Klingel, yes

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Iacobucci, seconded by Willan, to approve Resolution 15-49A, Resolution Authorizing Executive Session for a Meeting Not Open to the Public in Accordance With the Provisions of the NJ Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 at 11:00 a.m. All were in favor. Mayor Klingel explained the Committee will be discussing two contractual matters dealing with the Department of Public Works and a personnel matter dealing with the Police Department.

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Kovacs, to come out of Executive Session at 11:58 a.m. All were in favor. Mayor Klingel stated the Committee discussed two contractual matters dealing with the Department of Public Works and a personnel matter dealing with the Police Department. No official action was taken. Copies of these minutes will be available at such time the Committee determines there is no harm to the public interest.

A motion was made by Iacobucci, seconded by Kovacs, to replace a retiring Police Officer and authorize the advertisement of the same.

ROLL CALL: Iacobucci, yes; Kovacs, yes; Willan, yes; Klingel, yes

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Kovacs, to approve the contract for Peter deBoer, Resolution 2015-49B, as written pending approval of the revised Salary Ordinance. The position is to take effect April 1, 2015.

ROLL CALL: Willan, yes; Kovacs, yes; Iacobucci, yes; Klingel, yes

A motion was made by Willan, seconded by Iacobucci, to approve the contract for Jeff Cooper, Resolution 2015-49C, as written. The position is to take effect April 1, 2015.

ROLL CALL: Willan, yes; Iacobucci, yes; Kovacs, yes; Klingel, yes

Mr. Willan discussed the increase and transfer of those salaries with K. McCarthy.

Mrs. Iacobucci updated the Committee on the Township and Regional school budgets.

#### ADJORNMENT

Hearing no further business to come before the Committee, a motion was made by Iacobucci, seconded by Kovacs, to adjourn the meeting at 12:10 p.m. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna C. Godfrey, RMC  
Township Clerk