

The Work Session of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington was called to order by Mayor Roehrich at 7:31 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Comm. Babb, LiaBraaten, Murello, Vice Mayor Short, Mayor Roehrich

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrator Coppola, Attorney Jansen, Municipal Clerk DiGregorio

ABSENT: None

Adequate notice of this meeting was sent to the Daily Records and Observer Tribune on January 7, 2016 and was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on the same date. This meeting is being held at the Washington Township Municipal Building, 43 Schooley's Mountain Road, Long Valley, New Jersey. Notices of this meeting were sent as there were requests.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC PORTION. Mayor Roehrich opened the meeting to the public. There being no questions or comments, Mayor Roehrich closed the meeting to the public.

PRESENTATION - Online Trails Map Project by Scout Alec DiLullo. Scout DiLullo created an interactive map of existing trails in Washington Township. He provided the Committee with a description of the various features of the map, including GPS coordinates and elevations. The map will be put on the Washington Township website where residents can access the information.

DISCUSSION

Set Date for 2018 Reorganization Meeting – The Committee agreed to schedule the meeting for January 6, 2018 at 10:00 A.M.

Energy Aggregation – Administrator Coppola provided an overview of energy aggregation, which could result in cost savings for the Township and its residents. The Committee would like to explore this option further.

Administrator Coppola will get more information.

Trails Committee - The Trails Committee was formed in 2016, Administrator Coppola wanted to confirm that the Trails Committee would continue. The Committee would like for the Trails Committee to continue as they have been an asset to the Township and done a lot of good work in their short existence.

Budget Meeting Dates/Times. Administrator Coppola discussed dates for upcoming Budget Meetings. The Committee agreed to have the meetings on January 24, February 2, February 7, and February 16. In prior years the Committee needed to have 3 meetings to develop the budget, hence the February 16 date will be used only if necessary. Meetings will be held at the Senior Center beginning at 7:00 PM.

GIS - Zoning Officer, Ryan Conklin, has created a trial on line Zoning Map utilizing GIS. There is an annual subscription cost for the GIS service; Administrator Coppola asked if the Committee would like to utilize the service. The map is currently available on the Township website. The Committee agreed that the annual expense is worth it and indicated that it would like to continue with the service.

PUBLIC PORTION. Mayor Roehrich reopened the meeting to the public.

Tyler Oborn – asked about integrating the Open Space Map into the GIS map demonstrated tonight. Administrator Coppola stated that it was possible.

Gregg Forsbrey – asked if the historic districts are on the map. Administrator Coppola confirmed that they are shown on the map.

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

COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND UPDATES

Chief Almer – thanked the Committee and Administrator Coppola for their help with all that has been accomplished in the past 16 months since he took over as Chief of Police. Chief Almer distributed a summary of accomplishments. Mayor Roehrich and Vice Mayor Short thanked Chief Almer for all that he has done. Chief Almer also explained the “Coffee with a Cop” Program which involves officers talking with residents about concerns and programs. Chief Almer is looking to implement new programs. Chief Almer also thanked his staff and commended the group of officers that he works with.

Vice Mayor Short noted that he had been advised that the Freeholders are considering imposing a requirement that apprenticeship programs must be established by contractors who wish to bid on county construction contracts. Both Comm. Murello and Vice Mayor Short feel that this change would preclude small contractors from bidding on projects, which would result in higher process. The Committee will consider a resolution in opposition to this practice at the Regular Meeting on December 19.

Mayor Roehrich provided an update on the volunteer committee interviews conducted prior to tonight's Township Committee Work Session. An appointments resolution will be considered at the Regular Meeting.

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December 14, 2016

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RESOLUTION #R-183-16 – EXECUTIVE SESSION:

LITIGATION: Update Declaratory Judgment -
Affordable Housing Litigation

Motion was made by **Vice Mayor Short**, seconded by **Comm. Murello** that the foregoing resolution be adopted. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Comm. Babb, LiaBraaten, Murello, Vice Mayor Short, Mayor Roehrich

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

The Township Committee went into Executive Session at 8:20 P.M.

The Township Committee came out of Executive Session at 9:00 P.M.

Motion to adjourn was made by Vice Mayor Short, seconded by Comm. Murello. All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned 9:01 P.M.

Nina DiGregorio, Municipal Clerk