

Township of Washington  
Council Meeting  
February 23, 2011  
Washington Township Municipal Building  
6:00 P.M.

Council President Del Borrello called the meeting to order. He asked everyone to stand for the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Council President Del Borrello delivered the Sunshine Law and the awareness for the town and video notice.

Roll Call: Mr. Newman – present, Mr. MacDowell – present, Mr. D’Orazio – present, Mr. Morley – present, Mr. Del Borrello – present, Mr. Chell – present, Mrs. Breslin – present, Mayor Lyons – present, and Ms. Tomczyk – present

PRESENTATION:

Mr. Del Borrello explained tonight there is a special presentation for the Township 175<sup>th</sup> birthday. Mr. Del Borrello presented a proclamation for the Township’s 175<sup>th</sup> birthday to the Historical Commission. Mr. Timmons introduced the president of the Chamber of Commerce. He stated Classic Cake donated the cake. He stated there is a book about the history of Washington Township for sale. Wendy president of Chamber of Commerce wished the Township Happy Birthday. 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from Bunker Hill gave reports on the history of Washington Township. Ms. Jeffery and Mr. Applebee gave a power point on the History of Washington Township. Ms. Michaelson presented the Township Tax Collector with a historical tax book. Everyone sang Happy Birthday to the Township. Nicholas Appice stated the annual car show will be held this year at the Old Stone Village. Mr. Del Borrello thanked Classic Cake for donating the cake.

Motion to take a recuse:  
All in favor

Motion to come back into session:  
All in favor

PROCLAMATIONS:

Mayor Lyons gave a proclamation to three Township wrestlers.

Mayor Lyons presented Washington Township High School Gymnastics Team with a proclamation.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Explanation of Budget Process:

Mrs. Breslin explained that Mr. D'Orazio asked Mrs. Breslin to give an explanation of Budget Process. Mrs. Breslin explained that the budget is a on going process. She explained the reports she sends every department showing their annual spending. After they review the reports she explained she then meets with the department heads about their next year budget. She explained that there are numerous items that can not be reduced such as pension bill and union contracts. Mrs. Breslin explained that our insurance and trash contract are both out for bid. Mrs. Breslin explained budgeting revenues. Mrs. Breslin explained a budget proposal is created. The Mayor submits a budget to the Council for their approval. Mr. Del Borrello asked if Council every gets to have a budget meeting. Mayor Lyons stated that the when department heads are brought in council members are more than welcome to attend. The Mayor stated any suggestion is welcome from Council at anytime. The Mayor stated if Council wants to designate two council members to meet with the department heads he is okay with that. He stated that he asked that all suggestions be forward to him as soon as possible. Council decided that the two person committee will be Mr. Del Borrello and Mr. Newman.

MUA:

Mr. D'Orazio stated he is the MUA liaison. Mr. D'Orazio explained the CFO of the MUA will work 2 days in Deptford and 3 days in Township. He explained the Deptford will give us 45,000 a year. Mr. D'Orazio presented a chart explaining the CFO of the MUA salary. He explained that she received a 32% raise. Her salary is \$92,400. He explained the Township is paying over 90,000 for over a 3 day week. Mr. D'Orzaio believes we need to treat the employee like a part-time employee.

Motion to Open to Public just on this issue: Mr. Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. MacDowell  
Roll Call 5 yes votes

Mrs. McCrea:

Mrs. McCrea stated that Mr. D'Orazio did not do his homework because he did not ask how much benefits are paid, her experience, and education level. He explained that the CFO serves both municipalities 5 days a week and that her work week increased by 25%. Mrs. McCrea disagrees with Mr. D'Orazio findings. Mr. Del Borrello asked what the CFO experience is. Mrs. McCrea stated she has a bachelor degree but 21 credits in accounting. Mr. Del Borrello asked if she has a CFO license. Mrs. McCrea stated the MUA CFO does not need one. Mrs. McCrea would have preferred if Mr. D'Orazio had spoke with the MUA before making such a presentation. Mr. D'Orazio asked when she received the credits. Mrs. McCrea stated he would have to look at her resume. Mr. Del Borrello stated that employees received 2% increase and there was an increase in rate but he feels her increase is unacceptable.

Mr. Newman stated that he had a sign document from the current MUA board members stating they will give up their benefits if the retired board members agree to give their benefit up. Mr. Del Borrello stated he believes it not right for them to be hiding behind other people. The Mayor does think we should ask former members to give up benefits. He stated there is no harm in asking.

Motion to Close: Mr. Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Morley  
Roll Call 5 yes votes

Mr. Del Borrello stated that he feels there is sufficient cause and reason that the MUA has acted improperly so he is enacting an investigating committee into the MUA. He believes that they have violated the open meeting act. Mr. Del Borrello stated he thinks Mr. D'Orazio should be on the committee and Mr. Newman also will be on the committee.

March 9, 2011 the fire budget will be discussed.

ORDINANCE #2-2011: AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE WASHINGTON SQUARE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

Public Hearing  
Mr. Del Borrello read Ordinance.

Motion to Open: Mr. Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. MacDowell  
All in favor

Ms. Binetti:  
Ms. Binetti stated that she is worried about the well head protection. The Mayor stated this will not be affected.

Motion to Close: Mr. Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Morley  
All in favor

Motion to Move Ordinance #2-2011: Mr. Morley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Newman  
Roll Call 5 yes votes

ORDINANCE #3-2011: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2-59 ADVISORY BOARD OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Public Hearing  
Mr. Del Borrello read Ordinance.

Motion to Open: Mr. MacDowell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Newman  
All in favor

Motion to Close: Mr. Morley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. MacDowell  
All in favor

Motion to Move Ordinance #3-2011: Mr. Morley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. MacDowell  
Roll Call 5 yes votes

ORDINANCE #4-2011: ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, CHAPTER 80 FOR FIELD USE FEES

First Reading

Mr. Del Borrello read Ordinance. Mr. Newman explained.

Motion to Move Ordinance #4-2011: Mr. Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. MacDowell  
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #33-2011: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF TAX ABATEMENT FROM TOWER COMMONS ASSOCIATES TO JEFFREY AND JOYCE KIMELMAN FOR THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 8, LOT 1.05, QUALIFIER C500 & C501 (123 EGG HARBOR ROAD)

Mr. Del Borrello read Resolution.

Motion to Move Resolution #33-2011: Mr. Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. MacDowell  
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #34-2011: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATION RESERVES

Mr. Del Borrello read Resolution.

Motion to Move Resolution #34-2011: Mr. MacDowell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Newman  
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #35-2011: RESOLUTION REFUNDING TAX OVERPAYMENTS

Mr. Del Borrello read Resolution.

Motion to Move Resolution #35-2011:  
Roll Call

RESOLUTION #36-2011: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP TO ACCEPT A GRANT FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE ALLIANCE TO PREVENT ALCOHOLISM & DRUG ABUSE

Mr. Del Borrello read Resolution.

Motion to Move Resolution #36-2011: Mr. Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Morley  
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #37-2011: RESOLUTION AMENDING THE TEMPORARY BUDGET

Mr. Del Borrello read Resolution.

Motion to Move Resolution #37-2011: Mr. Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. MacDowell  
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #38-2011: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH  
CONNER STRONG FOR RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Mr. Del Borrello read Resolution. Mr. Chell explained Resolution.

Motion to Table Resolution #38-2011: Mr. Del Borrello, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Morley  
Roll Call 2 yes, 3 no votes Mr. Newman, Mr. MacDowell, and Mr. D'Orazio

Motion to Move Resolution #38-2011: Mr. Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. MacDowell  
Roll Call 3 yes votes, 2 no votes Mr. Morley, Mr. Del Borrello

RESOLUTION #39-2011: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COUNCIL PRESIDENT  
TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER FOR  
SHARED SERVICES FOR PROVISION OF TAX ASSESSOR SERVICES

Mr. Del Borrello read Resolution. Mr. Chell explained Resolution. Mr. Newman explained why he believes we need an Assessor. Mr. Del Borrello expressed he would have like to be notified that we need an assessor prior to two days before Mr. Midure retirement.

Motion to Table Resolution#39-2011: Mr. Del Borrello, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. D'Orazio  
Roll Call 2 yes, 3 no votes Mr. Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. MacDowell, and Mr. Morley

Motion to Move Resolution #39-2011: Mr. Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. MacDowell  
Roll Call 4 yes votes, 1 no vote Mr. Del Borrello

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST #1:

Motion to Move: Mr. Morley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. D'Orazio  
Roll Call 5 yes votes

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST #2:

Motion to Move: Mr. Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. MacDowell  
Roll Call 5 yes votes

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 26, 2011 MINUTES:

Motion to Move: Mr. D'Orazio, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Morley  
Roll Call 5 yes votes

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 9, 2011 MINUTES:

Motion to Move: Mr. D'Orazio, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Morley

Roll Call 5 yes votes

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Mr. Alterman:

Mr. Alterman represents the PBA Union. Mr. Alterman stated he wants to talk about the threat of lay offs. He stated that this is one of the most proactive police departments. Mr. Alterman stated they do not want to be threatened they would like to know why they received lay off notices. Mr. Alterman does not want public safety affected. The Mayor stated that a union rep was present and advised that the lay off notice was coming out. Mr. Alterman does not agree that was an appropriate way to notify everyone. Mr. Alterman explained there has been multiple police officers who have retired that have not been replaced. Mr. Micucci asked where the money is. The Mayor explained all of the appropriations such as health insurance, pension, and salaries that went up. Mr. Del Borrello stated that the Township received a one time revenue from the MUA last year. Mr. Alterman stated he hopes the Township is going to take 5% of the MUA surplus. Mr. Alterman expressed the importance of public safety. Mr. Morley stated the Township is looking at 11% increase.

Mrs. Naylor:

Mrs. Naylor stated she is the Clerical Union Rep. Mrs. Naylor stated she wanted to know why everyone would receive a lay off notice but we posted a job at the court. Mrs. Naylor stated that she believes that the clerical union can absorb the job. The Mayor stated this is something he would discuss. The Mayor stated that he has every intention to fill the position to run the court. Mr. Del Borrello stated it does not make sense that we would be hiring when we are going laying off. The Mayor stated the state recommends how many people the court needs and we are 3 people under their recommendation. Mr. D'Orazio questioned not knowing this information. The Mayor stated that if you want to know something come and ask. He makes all information available. He stated he has asked for budget ideas since November of last year and no one has expressed any suggestions. The Mayor stated that he has been working on selling off assets because that is easier than laying off people. The Mayor stated communication is a two way street. He stated everyone up here has a difficult job. Mr. Del Borrello stated that the Mayor has made the business administrator and solicitor available to the new members. Mr. Del Borrello stated he would have never thought to ask if we would be hiring when we sent out lay off notices.

Mr. McCaffery:

Mr. McCaffery stated he is the Public Works Union Rep. He stated that in the lay off notice it states Council is not willing to raise taxes. Mr. McCaffery stated before Council makes that decision he ask that they come and sit with them and listen what they have given up over the last couple years. Mr. McCaffery stated that the road department in one year has gone from 36 to 23. He stated the 23 people serve the Township of more than 60,000 people. Mr. McCaffery explained public works did not receive a raise last year and took furlough days. Mr. McCaffery would like the line of communication to stay open between the union and council. Mr. Del Borrello stated he is willing to sit

down with unions to see what concessions they are willing to make because he believes the tax payers want a zero tax increase. Mr. McCaffery explained he is a resident. He stated that he hears things such as no leaf collection and he feels if the public was fully educated they would want their taxes to go up instead of not having leaf collection, snow removal or police lay offs. Mr. McCaffery stated that we have the same staffing level as Pitman.

Mr. Rogale:

Mr. Rogale asked how much per house would an 11% increase be. The Mayor stated about \$145 per the average assessed. Mr. Rogale stated on Resolution #38 Mr. Del Borrello stated we all know who this is. Mr. Rogale asked Mr. Del Borrello who did he mean Connor Strong was. Mr. Del Borrello stated it is a Nocross firm. Mr. Rogale asked Mr. Del Borrello does this mean if he doesn't like someone and they submit a RFP he won't do business with them. Mr. Del Borrello stated he want to go back out for a better price for the tax payers of Washington Township. Mr. Rogale asked Mr. Del Borrello if he is a tax payer. Mr. Del Borrello stated he pays taxes thru his rent in the hunt club. Mr. Rogale asked Mr. Del Borrello if he was a homeowner and he stated no.

Mrs. Lafferty:

Mrs. Lafferty stated that earlier tonight Mr. Del Borrello questioned the qualifications of an employee of the MUA. Mrs. Lafferty stated she finds this interesting since earlier this year Mr. Del Borrello replaced her with a less qualified person. Mr. Del Borrello stated you can not get a Zoning Officer license until you are appointed to that position. Mrs. Lafferty stated that she does not believe the new zoning officer does not issue violations. Mr. D'Orazio stated you keep saying you were fired your appointment was up. He stated you were just not reappointed. Mrs. Lafferty asked what money are you saving the tax payer. Mr. Del Borrello about \$45,000 is being saved in benefits and salary. Mrs. Lafferty stated she did not take the benefits.

Mr. Timmons:

Mr. Timmons stated that this Township over the last few years has been faced with hardship. Mr. Timmons stated he believes there is a communication problem. Mr. Timmons stated he believes that he believes that the investigation of the MUA will show no wrong doing. Mr. Newman stated Mr. Timmons I assure you that is why I asked to be on it. He feels that it was inappropriate to talk about a personal issue at the MUA out in public. Mr. Timmons hopes we did not leave ourselves open for a lawsuit. He asked that Council start communicating with each other.

Mr. Lakrits:

Mr. Lakris stated he believes that the Township Park is the jewel of the Township. He expressed how upset he is that we lost the 3 full time park rangers. The Mayor explained that this was a hard decision. He stated it was decision that had to be made due to the financial situation of the Township.

Mr. Aronovitch:

Mr. Aronovitch stated that the help from the rangers was wonderful last year when he organized a charity walk. Mr. Aronovitch stated he does not believe laying the rangers off was the wrong decision. Mayor Lyons stated that nobody understand more than him what the rangers did for this Township. He stated it was difficult decision that needs to be made. Mayor Lyons stated he is trying to sell every asset that we do not need.

Lions President:

He stated that the Lions Club has been in the Township 57 years. He one services they offer is glasses for people who cannot afford them. He explained about the Lions Club. He invited everyone to come out and get involved.

Mrs. McCrea:

Mrs. McCrea stated that she would like to OPRA for the presentation on the MUA to please make sure the documents provided were not destroyed.

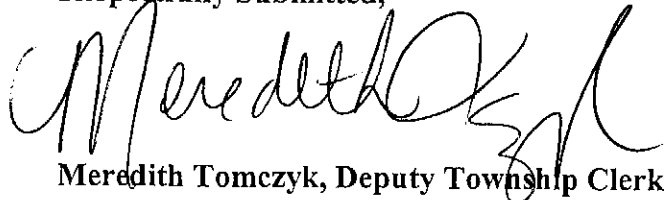
Motion to Close: Mr. Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. MacDowell  
All in favor

Mayor Lyons stated the lay offs that just occurred are permanent. He also wanted to commend public works on the last snow storm.

Mr. D'Orazio thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting. He stated that he is a father, son, and husband and has not received a paycheck in over 6 years. He stated that he does feel the pain of the employees. He stated he wants to give the tax payers a raise. He stated that the budget needs to be reduced. Mr. D'Orazio reviewed all the items Council has done to help save the Township money. Mr. D'Orazio asked everyone to attend meetings of the Township. The Mayor stated he does not take benefits and is not paid for not taking benefits.

Motion to Adjourn: Mr. Newman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Morley  
Roll Call 5 yes votes

**Respectfully Submitted,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Meredith Tomczyk', written in a cursive style.

**Meredith Tomczyk, Deputy Township Clerk**