

Township of Washington
Council Meeting
February 9, 2011
Washington Township Municipal Building
7:00 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 Mrs. Bileci – present

ORDINANCE #1-2011: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 80-4 (A) (2) AND 80-4 (A)(3) TO CHANGE THE FEES FOR RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSES AND RETAIL DISTRIBUTION LICENSES IN ACCORDING WITH STATE STATUTE

First Reading

Mr. Del Borrello read Ordinance.

Mr. Morley stated that he not ready to move forward with this ordinance until cost saving is discussed for this year’s budget first. He suggested we table to Ordinance. The Mayor stated he is ready to talk about cost saving measure right now. The Mayor stated that this would be revenue for this year. Mr. Morley asked the Mayor if he will be submitting cost savings. The Mayor stated he does this on a daily bases. The Mayor stated that he believes we should be looking at revenues and cuts. Mr. Morley stated that he has not been informed of any cuts. The Mayor stated that he has communicated that there will be layoffs and possibly furlough days. The Mayor stated that if Council does not want to pass the Ordinance it fine the residents will just have to pay the difference. Mr. Del Borrello stated that Washington Township has a reputation of being unfriendly. The Mayor stated that he has been asking since July for suggestion on cost savings. He welcomes any suggestion. The Mayor explained we are not replacing anyone who is retiring. Mr. D’Orazio stated he does not believe we should pass this Ordinance. The Mayor stated if Council has any budget cuts he needs to know of them now because the budget process is underway. Chris thinks we should get the business opinion on this Ordinance. Mr. Newman stated he has a lot state fees that go up every day. He stated that the State does not call him and ask him what he thinks.

Motion to Move Ordinance #1-2011: Mr. Newman, 2nd Mr. MacDowell
Roll Call 2 yes votes, 3 no votes Mr. Del Borrello, Mr. Morley, Mr. D’Orazio

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

First Reading

Mr. Del Borrello read Ordinance. Mr. D'Orazio stated he went out and looked at the site. The Mayor believes this is a step in being business friendly. Mr. Morley explained that he does not think this is going to effect the area negatively

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

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

First Reading

Mr. Del Borrello read Ordinance. Mr. D'Orazio stated that this is what the board wants and he supports them.

Motion to Move Ordinance #3-2011: Mr. D'Orazio, 2nd Mr. Morley
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #30-2011: RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PERSON TO PERSON TRANSFER OF PLENARY RETAIL CONSUMPTION LICENSE #0813-33-022-004 FROM JACK'S BAR AND GRILLE, LLC TO JERMARK II, LLC

Mr. Del Borrello read Resolution.

Motion to Move Resolution #30-2011: Mr. MacDowell, 2nd Mr. Newman
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #31-2011: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF TAX ABATEMENT FROM DOUBLE HAWK, LLC TO TOWER COMMONS ASSOCIATES FOR THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 8, LOT 1.05 QUALIFIER C404 (123 EGG HARBOR ROAD)

Mr. Del Borrello read Resolution. Mr. Morley asked what year we are in with this tax abatement. Mr. Del Borrello stated they are in their last year.

Motion to Move Resolution #31-2011: Mr. Newman, 2nd Mr. Morley
Roll Call 5 yes votes

RESOLUTION #32-2011: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CLOSED SESSION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS THE STATUS OF CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SERGEANTS AND SUPERIOR OFFICERS

Mr. Del Borrello read Resolution.

Motion to Move Resolution #32-2011: Mr. Morley, 2nd Mr. D’Orazio
Roll Call 5 yes votes

BILL LIST #1:

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

JANUARY 2, 2011 MINUTES:

Motion to Move: Mr. Morley, 2nd Mr. D’Orazio
Roll Call 5 yes votes

BILL LIST #1 ADDENDUM:

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

ENGINEER LETTER DATED 12/8/2010 REGARDING IRVING LAKE WEIR WALL
AND BELLS LAKE ROAD:

Mr. Morley stated that he has visited and described the problem at the site. He stated there is a crack. Mr. D’Orazio stated he is worried about the safety of the drivers. Mr. Del Borrello asked for the Township Engineer to come forward. Annina Hogan stated that Public Works received phone calls about the bridge at that area. She stated the problem is the weir wall. Mrs. Hogan stated there is a crack in the wall. Mrs. Hogan stated this is a concern and needs to be addressed. It is not consider to be a bridge or dam. Mrs. Hogan stated this is Township responsibility and there needs to be a glide rail. Mr. Morley asked about the wood glide rails. Mayor Lyons stated there was a case that paid out millions because of in proper glide rails. He stated we cannot put up wood. Mr. D’Orazio asked when his first visit. Mrs. Hogan stated it was the Fall. Mrs. Hogan stated there has been movement from December to the present. Mr. Chell stated the Township is responsible. Mrs. Hogan stated if the water is low enough she believes you can make a repair without having to replace the whole wall.

Mr. Larzelere:

Mr. Larzelere presented the Council with pictures. He went over each picture with the Council. Mr. Del Borrello stated the best course of action is to continue working with the Township Engineer. Mayor Lyons asked what are we instruction the Engineer to do. The Mayor suggested that we let Township Engineer and Public Works Director to get together to and discuss this problem and report with solutions. Council agreed.

FOURTH OF JULY:

Mayor Lyons stated that the Township did cancel the parade last year. He stated that the parade committee works all year on the parade so he needs to give them an answer now. Mr. Del Borrello stated he does not believe we should have a parade of \$50,000 when employees are going to be laid off and furlough days. Mr. D'Orazio wanted to know if we could set up an account and try and get business to donate for the parade. Mayor Lyons stated we could but last year the only reason the fireworks happened is because one person stated they would foot the bill. He stated it take a lot of time and a lot of donation for the parade. He stated that we cannot decide in March to have parade. Mr. MacDowell stated that he does not believe we should have the parade if we are going to be having layoffs. Mr. Del Borrello stated he believes the parade committee should work on finding ways to cut the cost of the parade even if that means cutting down on the parade route. The Mayor stated the fireworks go out to bid every year. If we want to spend less money on the fireworks we need to rewrite the specs of the bid. Mr. D'Orazio asked is it safe to say no to opening an account for donations. Mr. Morley stated that need to be discussed earlier. Council was in agreement not to have a Fourth of July parade.

POD ORDINANCE:

Mr. D'Orazio expressed he would like to make some changes to the POD Ordinance. Mr. D'Orazio stated he would like to know what the revenue and expenses would be from the Ordinance. Mr. D'Orazio expressed his concern with the Ordinance. The Mayor stated that he believes most of the time the residential pod is due to fire. Mr. D'Orazio stated he believes they should go thru the process but be able to use it as long as they need. Mr. D'Orazio explained the changes he would like made to the commercial side of the POD Ordinance. Mr. Del Borrello stated he does believe we should all talk about the Ordinance. The Mayor stated that he does believe there are some good ideas but he does not believe that business should be able to avoid building on by just getting a POD instead of paying taxes on an expansion.

REPORTS:

Mr. Newman stated that baseball and softball registration are underway.

Mr. D'Orazio stated Economic Development Board is looking forward to bring more business to the Township. He stated that the Board is going to have a meeting for the business in the Township to meet with department heads.

Mr. Del Borrello stated that the Township will be 175. He stated the Historical Commission will be making a presentation at 6pm at the next Council Meeting. He stated the Veterans Committee is working on Memorial Day. He stated the Board approved 3 new plaques.

Mayor Lyons stated the Township is reducing positions. The Mayor stated since Council wants a zero budget. The Mayor stated there will be layoffs. He stated notices will go very soon.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Motion to Open: Mr. MacDowell, 2nd Mr. Morley
All in favor

Mr. Lakrits:

Mr. Lakrits stated that the fire election will be February 19, 2011. He stated he believes the budget and date of the election should be on the Township website. Mr. Newman stated the date of the election is on the website. Mr. Morley stated he has the information for him.

Mr. Yerkes:

Mr. Yerkes stated he is very upset with Council attitude about the Fourth of July Parade. Mr. Yerkes stated it does not need to be a parade but their needs to be something. He stated because if nothing happens the young people forget the people who fought and funded the war. He stated there needs to be a gathering. Mayor Lyons stated that Super Sat. cost are much lower than 4th of July because Super Sat is contained to the park. The Mayor stated that we do honor the Vets on Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Mr. Morley stated that type of parades that Mr. Yerkes is talking about are not the type of parades that come thru the Township. Mr. Morley stated it's the cost drivers that come to the parade are making it not possible. Mr. Del Borrello stated he does believe something does need to occur and that is why he asked Mr. MacDowell to ask the committee to come up with alternatives.

Ms. Ketting:

Ms. Ketting stated she believes there should be a 4th of July parade. She stated that her dad fought in Vietnam War and did not get a welcome home. She believes that the Vets do deserve to be honor. The Mayor stated that the Vets are honored on Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Mr. Del Borrello explained where the Veterans Park is. He also told her he would help her apply for a plaque for her father on the Veteran Wall.

Motion to Close: Mr. Newman, 2nd Mr. MacDowell
All in favor

Motion to go into Close Session: Mr. Newman, 2nd Mr. MacDowell
All in favor

Motion to come out of Close Session: Mr. Newman, 2nd Mr. MacDowell
All in favor

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennica Bileci, Township Clerk