

MINUTES OF THE BUDGET MEETING OF
THE TEANECK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2012

Mayor Hameeduddin called the Budget Meeting of the Teaneck Township Council to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked all those present to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: C. Parker, C. Stern, DM. Gussen, C. Honis, C. Katz, C. Toffler
Mayor Hameeduddin

Absent: None.

Also Present: W. Rupp- Ferrara, Turitz, Harraka & Goldberg Esqs.; W. Broughton,
Township Manager; J. Evelina, Township Clerk; I. Abbasi, Executive
Assistant.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by Resolution 268-11, setting the 2012 meeting dates, sending a copy to THE RECORD and THE JEWISH STANDARD, filing a copy in the Township Clerk's Office and posting it on the Municipal Building bulletin board, and the Mayor hereby directs that this statement be included in the minutes.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR GOOD AND WELFARE OR PUBLIC INPUT ON ANY MATTERS ON THIS AGENDA

Mayor Hameeduddin inquired whether any member of the Council had any comments prior to opening the meeting to any comments from the public.

No member of Council commented.

Mayor Hameeduddin declared Good and Welfare and Public Input on Any Matter on the Agenda open to members of the public. Members of the public who came forward provided the following information, and comments were limited to five minutes per person.

Leslie McKeon, Teaneck – spoke on the utilization of volunteer services; responded to a comment made by DM. Gussen last week on challenging the budget to which she expressed opposition; expressed her position that Teaneck is not a consumer-friendly community; and spoke about the 4-day work week and property taxes.

Ken Hoffman, Teaneck – spoke on behalf of the Teaneck Junior Soccer League on the recent racial Wi-Fi matter at the Richard Rodda Center; and thanked the Teaneck Department of Public Works for their services.

There being no further persons who wished to speak, Mayor Hameeduddin declared that the public comment portion of the meeting was closed.

Mayor Hameeduddin inquired whether any member of the Council or the Manager wished to respond to the public comments.

Mayor Hameeduddin responded to comments regarding the 4-day work week and advised the public that due to the negotiation process with unions, the schedule cannot simply be changed.

C. Toffler spoke in opposition of the 4-day work week.

Township Manager added that Teaneck is one of the most customer-friendly municipalities in New Jersey State; advised that public that the 4-day work week was an initiative of the Council who requested that the Manager implement the pilot schedule; and responded to a question

which he received with respect to the 4-day work week and the process by which a building permit is obtained by advising that pursuant to State Law, the Building Department must respond within 20 business days.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

1. Police Department Budget – Presentation by Police Chief Robert Wilson

Chief Wilson spoke about the tightness of the budget; advised Council that currently, 92 police officers are actively employed and four (4) additional officers are in the process of being hired; advised Council with respect to the increase in the crime rate; and spoke about the CLEAR Program.

The Township Manager spoke about the lead collectors behind the Pistol Range.

DM. Gussen asked for clarity on the difference between the Building Maintenance supplies and supplies.

Chief Wilson spoke on the installation of cameras in the Police Building, Municipal Building and within the community; and start-up costs in the area of \$100,000.

C. Yitz spoke on the recent discussion with the dispatchers and salaries.

DM. Gussen questioned the line item for tuition dues and/or training.

Council requested further discussion on the funding for Narrow Banding.

Chief Wilson also discussed the police fleet and associated costs for the six (6) added police cars.

DM. Gussen spoke about the difference in cost between the Chevrolet Caprice and the Dodge Chargers.

2. Public Works/Engineering Budget – Presentation by Director of Public Works, Francis Wilson

Council discussed Account numbers 440, 470, 480 regarding Capital, Salary & Wages.

Public Works Director Wilson spoke on the increase in oil costs.

The Township Manager discussed the increase to the Tree Trimming Program in the amounts of \$75,000 to 150,000; spoke about the \$50,000 cost for Tree Planting. He added that additional funds were added for contractors in the leaf removal operations.

3. Various Budget Accounts – Review.
Capital Budget – Review.

The Township Manager advised that the Environmental Commission has the need to conduct an Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI) Study which is mandated by the State; informed that current funds are at \$10,000; and advised that the Commission will be applying for an additional \$5,000 grant.

Council discussed the total budgeted funds for the Department of Public Works against what was actually expended.

The Township Manager advised Council of his recommendations with respect to personnel in the Department of Public Works, specifically, one laborer/Tree Climber for the Tree Department; one laborer for the Maintenance Department; and one laborer for the Garage Division.

DM. Gussen discussed the stairs in the Beverly Road Municipal Lot.

Township Engineer McKearnin spoke about the visibility concern at said location; and the Township Manager noted that the area will continue to be monitored.

The Township Manager discussed the installation of a generator at the Richard Rodda Community Center and various interior/exterior upgrades.

The Township Manager also added Council of the need for a ladder truck for the Fire Department; spoke about a truck donation for a refurbished ladder which will also require a cab and chaise.

Fire Chief Verley spoke about the 1990 LTI replacement and various Fire Department needs.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember C. Toffler moved to adjourn at 8:53 p.m. Seconded by C. Stern

Roll Call:

In Favor: C. Parker, C. Stern, DM. Gussen, C. Honis, C. Katz, C. Toffler, Mayor Hameeduddin.

Opposed: None.

Absent: None.