

EAST WINDSOR TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

February 19, 2020
Budget Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the East Windsor Township Council was called to order by Mayor Janice S. Mironov at 5:40 pm on Wednesday, February 19, 2020.

VERIFICATION:

The Municipal Clerk certified that the meeting was noticed as a Budget Review meeting on February 14, 2020. Notice was sent to the Trenton Times, filed in the office of the Municipal Clerk and posted in the East Windsor Township Municipal Building. All requirements of the "Open Public Meetings Act" have been satisfied.

ROLL CALL:

Present were: Mayor Janice S. Mironov, Council Members Denise Daniels, Marc Lippman, Perry Shapiro, Peter Yeager and John Zoller. Council Member Alan Rosenberg was absent. Also present were Township Manager James Brady, Municipal Clerk Kelly Lettera and Chief Finance Officer Laurie Finger.

PUBLIC FORUM:

No members of the public spoke.

Mayor Mironov stated the purpose of the Budget Review meetings are to have exchanges to publicly and informally review the work book pages and the various departments and other agency accounts, ask questions, obtain information and make changes as appropriate to the various budgets submitted. Another budget review meeting has been scheduled for February 25, 2020 at 5:30 pm to continue this process. Mayor Mironov noted that the Finance Office and the Township Manager are still reviewing a few items and recommendations that may be needed at a later time.

Department of Public Works

Department of Public Works Director William Askenstedt was present to discuss the department budget. The matters reviewed were road repairs and maintenance, snow removal, administration of Public Works, Ward Street building and grounds, Municipal Complex building and grounds, Police building and grounds, Senior Center buildings and grounds, Mechanics Police Vehicles, Administration and Public Works Vehicles, Condominium Association Services Act, parks and playgrounds, detention basin, Recycling Tonnage Grant, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Stormwater Management Grant, engineer, utilities, and the Garbage District. Mayor Mironov stated the Police Building and the Municipal Building electric bills are unacceptably and surprisingly very high after the new systems have been installed. She stated staff has been directed to work to decrease these electric costs and are seeking to control the cost by energy efficient light bulbs and the monitoring of the systems, but she is not supporting the requested \$15,000 increase in the electric service budget. Council unanimously decided to decrease the amount requested by \$15,000 and further requested that Mayor and Council receive quarterly reports monitoring the electric service costs.

Municipal Court

Municipal Court Administrator Kelli Hand and Deputy Court Clerk Jennifer Cortes were present to discuss the department budget. Matters reviewed were the decrease in revenue due to newly passed laws that limits what the Judge is able to charge for certain offenses, postage, building expenses and books and publications were also discussed.

Fire Prevention

Kevin Brink was present to discuss the Fire Prevention budget. Personnel and the newly mandated farm fire inspection requirements were discussed.

Mayor Mironov stated East Windsor Volunteer Fire Company No. 1, East Windsor Volunteer Fire Company No. 2, East Windsor Rescue No. 1 and East Windsor Rescue No. 2 accounts will be further reviewed after their budget presentations. Mayor Mironov requested the actuals for all accounts.

East Windsor Rescue No. 1

Chief Robert Manlio was present to review the budget. Matters discussed were supplies, medication, hard replaceable items costs, insurance and training funds.

East Windsor Volunteer Fire Company No. 1

Fire Chief Josh Matorin and President Jack Israel were present to review the budget. Chief Matorin also spoke about the annual business expenses, insurance, repairs and supplies and total annual expenses.

Better Beginnings Child Development Center

Luz Horta, Executive Director was present to discuss the operating expenses of the center. The services provided by the center, the current waiting list for day care services, lack of non-profit funding from Hightstown, fundraising through the Shining Star Gala, and the four star rating they have received from Growing NJ Kids. Appreciation was expressed for the Township's support.

Volunteer Fire Company No.2

Chief Mario Batista was present to review the budget. Matters reviewed included uniforms, equipment, additional training, insurance, and a needed bathroom repair.

Mayor Mironov adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Kelly Lettera
Municipal Clerk

Janice S. Mironov
Mayor