

MARCH 20, 2021

BUDGET MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL, MARCH 20, 2021 AT 9:00 A.M. IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF BOROUGH HALL AND REMOTELY.

Mayor Edward Donovan read the statement re: Open Public Meetings Act of 1975 and that adequate notice has been provided by transmitting the Resolution of Annual Meetings to the Asbury Park Press and the Coast Star, by posting it in the Borough Hall on a bulletin board reserved for such announcements, and by posting it on the official website of the borough.

Mayor Donovan welcomed the audience and invited them to join in a moment of silent prayer and a salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL: Present: Council Members Jason Bryant, Jeffrey Lee, Michael Mangan, Gregg Olivera, Rich Read, and James Walsh.

Absent: None

Council Member Read arrived at 9:06 am

Also present was CFO Amy Spera and Borough Administrator Thomas Flarity.

CURRENT FUND

Amy Spera stated that this is the largest of the 3 budgets and one that encompasses the collection of taxes to support the municipal needs and operations. She stated that there are 2 restrictions that the Borough needs to adhere to which are the tax levy cap restriction and the appropriation cap restriction. She advised that the tax levy cap is based on a 2% cap which means that you are not supposed to increase taxes by more than 2% over the prior year, but there are some exceptions to this rule. She stated that the appropriations cap is calculated by the state and they advise what percentage the borough can increase within the cap which is 1% this year. She went over the Cost of Living Adjustment. She presented the budget to council and the audience. She went over pension increases, salary and wage increases, departmental operating expenses, professional fees, and tipping fees for garbage disposal. She went over the court revenues and expenses. She stated that the budget increase for this year would be 1.56% increase. She went over the requests for the Sea Lavender Group, First Aid and the Library.

There was discussion on surplus and what it is used for and how money is put into surplus. There was also discussion on annual payments that the borough makes.

Ms. Spera went over the debt for the Borough and stated that the debt stays steady every year.

There was discussion on garbage and recycling contract and tipping fees.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Council Member Bryant made a motion to open the meeting up to the public, seconded by Council Member Read. Motion carried unanimously.

Nancy Jordan, 261 Euclid Avenue, President Sea Lavender Garden Club thanked the council for their support to help beautify Manasquan.

Council Member Bryant made a motion to close the public portion, seconded by Council Member Lee. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Lee made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 a.m., seconded by Council Member Walsh. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Barbara Ilaria
Municipal Clerk

DATE APPROVED 4/5/2021