

MARCH 18, 2023

BUDGET MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL, MARCH 18, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M. IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF BOROUGH HALL AND REMOTELY.

Council President Jeffrey Lee 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.

Council President Lee 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 Brian Holly, Jeffrey Lee, Michael Mangan, Gregg Olivera, and Lori Triggiano.

Absent: Council Member Bruce Bresnahan

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

Current Fund

Council Member Olivera thanked everyone that was involved in getting the budget completed.

Amy Spera presented the current fund budget on the large screen and went over the current fund which encompasses a majority of the Borough expenses as well as surplus, revenue and historical data. She stated that the current fund budget is seeing a 10.99% increase over 2022. She stated that this year's budget includes a one-time new grant which is the American Rescue Grant of \$607,000. She stated that if this grant is taken out of the budget it would be about a 6% increase in the budget. She stated that there are three portions to this budget, in CAP appropriations, outside of CAP appropriations and reserve for uncollected taxes. She went over the garbage and recycling increase of 50%, social security and Medicare payments, pension contributions for both public employees and police and fire. She went over the interlocal agreements with neighboring towns, grants, capital improvements, debt and deferred charges. She also went over revenues including historical data and the amount to be raised by taxation. She advised that the amount to be raised by taxation this year is \$4.1 million which establishes the tax rate for the year of .394 cents which is up 9/10 of a penny. She stated that there is an online budgeting-based system Cleargov where the public will be able to see the actual budget and show where their taxes are being used.

Council Member Lee asked that the Library, Sea Lavender and First Aid budget amounts be discussed as representatives are present.

Ms. Spera went over the request from the Sea Lavender group of \$1,000 increase which has been incorporated into the budget, First Aid requested \$56,000 and that was kept in the budget this year.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

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

Mike Lauber, 1140 Ivy Road, Wall, President of the First Aid stated that he submitted a proposal to the Administrator. He went over the reorganization of the organization due to the large change for them.

Council Member Holly inquired about the first aid building use for the shared services.

Mr. Lauber stated that they would be happy to discuss that with the shared services organization and they have not received any official type of proposal or letter requesting those services.

Council Member Lee stated that he would be appreciative if the First Aid would work with the shared services group to better protect the residents with quick responses.

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Mr. Lauber stated that his organization would be happy to consider any type of proposal to assist the current deployment of the resources.

Nancy Jordan, 261 Euclid Avenue, President Sea Lavender Garden Club thanked the council for consideration of their request for funding. She stated that they are celebrating their 30th Anniversary and they are delighted that the town is embracing a theme on beautification. She went over the gardens and the type of plants to be placed and some changes they are looking to complete along with the beautification projects.

Ms. Jordan as a resident asked that the recycling for the borough be looked into so the town could do a better job.

Dawn Burke, 49 Fletcher Avenue, President of Manasquan Public Library Board of Trustees thanked the council for their continued support of the library.

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

Council Member Mangan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 a.m., seconded by Council Member Triggiano. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara Ilaria
Municipal Clerk

DATE APPROVED 4-3-2023