

April 23, 2014
Municipal Building
121 Evergreen Road
New Egypt, NJ 08533

The Special Meeting of the Township of Plumsted Committee was called to order by Mayor Leutwyler.

STATEMENT: "This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. It was presented for publication to the Asbury Park and The Times and posted on the Bulletin Board."

THOSE OFFICIALS PRESENT:

COMMITTEEMAN WYSONG COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI MAYOR LEUTWYLER
COMMITTEEMAN TROTTA ADMINISTRATOR DANCER CLERK HENDRICKSON

Deputy Mayor Sorchik was in attendance via phone.

The purpose of this meeting was to conduct the Public Hearing on the 2014 Municipal Budget.

The meeting was opened with the flag salute.

Committeeman Trotta did a PowerPoint presentation on the 2014 budget. Committeeman Trotta said the Budget was introduced on March 13, 2014. Trotta said last year's budget was \$3,481,862.00, this year's budget 2014 \$3,453,151.00 a decrease of \$28,711.00. He continued by saying last year's salaries were \$1,188,231.00 and this year's is 1,197,816.00 a 0.8% increase this is way below the 2009 salary line item. Last year's operating expenses were \$1,214,341.00; 2014's operating expenses are \$1,421,548.00, this is a \$207,207.00 increase. The increase is mostly comprised of Courtesy Busing, School Resource Officer and Health and Pension. The Township is staying within the 2% CAP law. There will be approximately a one (1) cent tax increase with the municipal tax rate being .23 cents. This will be approximately a 4.6% increase in the Township portion of the tax bill.

Trotta said if you look at the average ratable base this year, it is \$785,150,772. In 2013, it was \$785,909,959; this is a decrease of \$759,187.00 in the ratable base or 1/10 of 1%. This is a huge difference from prior years. Trotta reviewed the overall tax increase for the Township's taxing entities. With regard to the tax appeals, there has been a lot of tax loss over the last number of years. Last year the Township lost \$334,000 in tax appeals which was low in comparison to previous years.

Mayor Leutwyler thanked Committeeman Trotta for the presentation.

Mayor Leutwyler asked for public comments on the 2014 Budget. There were none.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN WYSONG, THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2014 MUNICIPAL BUDGET WAS CLOSED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

June d. Madden, CFO for Plumsted Township said she heard back from the State. They still need clarification and had questions that needed to be answered. She doubts that the budget will be able to be finally adopted at the May 7th meeting. Administrator Dancer explained the process for amendments to the budget. Madden explained the potential amendments to the budget. Dancer explained it was the intent to keep the overall budget the same, making changes to line items. Madden briefly discussed the purchase of new computers due to Microsoft no longer supporting the XP program. She also discussed the purchase of new servers. Madden asked the Fee Accountant about putting the money coming from the bonding company into the budget as a revenue; he recommended not doing that unless the Township has the check in hand. The Fee Accountant will advise the Finance Office what to do with the check once it comes in.

Ms. Madden said that one of the clarifications that the State needed was the \$25,000.00 in Capital Reserve that was cancelled based on the State's recommendation, the Township reappropriated to help the budget in 2013. This will go into the "levy CAP workbook" under the Capital section, the State is saying the \$25,000 should be put under debt service. Administrator Dancer explained the Township is cash funded; it has nothing to do with debt service. These Capital Reserves were actually raised in cash and when they were cancelled, the Township did not incur any indebtedness. Dancer said he thought there should be some clarification with the budget examiner or the Director that there is no debit service.

Committeeman Wysong asked if the budget changes were more 10%, would there need to be another public hearing. He was told yes. It was doubtful that the budget would be ready for adoption by the May 7th meeting. Wysong asked how the Township was with the Temporary Budget, Madden said it should be okay until the end of May.

Mayor Leutwyler asked if there was anything else from the Committee; there was nothing.

Administrator Dancer thanked Committeeman Trotta for preparing the PowerPoint and also thanked Vince Lotito for his technical assistance. Leutwyler thanked Trotta and Madden for their preparation of the PowerPoint and budget.

There was no further discussion for the meeting.

ON MOTION OF COMMITTEEMAN MARINARI, SECONDED BY COMMITTEEMAN WYSONG, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED. ROLL CALL VOTE: ALL AYES.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy J. Hendrickson, RMC
Municipal Clerk