

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING  
BUDGET MEETING  
REMOTE ACCESS – ZOOM  
JANUARY 30, 2021

The Township Committee Budget Meeting of the Township of Cranbury was held at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom. Answering present to the roll call were Township Committee members: Barbara Rogers, Evelyn Spann and Matt Scott, Jay Taylor and Mayor Michael Ferrante. Also present were Denise Marabello, Township Administrator/CFO and Debra Rubin, Municipal Clerk. Ms. Rubin gave the following Open Public Meetings Act statement:

In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, it is hereby announced and shall be entered into the minutes of this meeting that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided:

Posted on January 25, 2021 on the Bulletin Board of the Municipal Office at 23-A North Main Street, Cranbury, New Jersey and remains posted at that location.

Communicated to the Cranbury Press, Home News Tribune and Trenton Times on January 25, 2021.

Filed on January 25, 2021 at the Cranbury Municipal Office, 23-A North Main Street, Cranbury, New Jersey, posted on the Township's web site and remains on file for public inspection.

Sent to those individuals who have requested personal notice.

Lieutenant DeChiara discussed requests made within the Capital Budget which include vehicle purchases, a live scan fingerprint machine, body cameras, and Middlesex County radio system. All were approved by the Township Committee.

The Fire Company asked to have the Chevy Tahoe capital request moved to 2022 and the replacement of the second story firehouse flooring included with building repairs. (Mr. Taylor recused himself and left Zoom during this discussion)

**Capital Plan** – Various items were discussed and approved. The Township Committee asked that the Walking Trail in Village Park be moved to 2022 so that Parks can do further research and planning of all Park's space.

**Fire and First Aid Contribution** – The Township Committee agreed to provide the maximum contribution of \$156,064 to the Fire Company and \$70,000.00 to the First Aid Squad with an additional \$35,000.00 upon receipt of an audit. (Mr. Taylor abstained from Fire Company discussion).

**Use of Surplus and Tax Rate** – Mr. Ferrante, Mr. Scott and Dr. Rogers agreed to a flat municipal tax rate for Cranbury residents. Ms. Spann agreed to a flat tax rate however would like a tax decrease considered in the future. Mr. Taylor requested a 1 cent tax decrease and \$250,000.00 used toward paying down debt.

**Operating Expense Increase** – Ms. Marabello presented the line-item increases including \$5000.00 for EDAC and \$5000.00 for the Cranbury Business Association. The Township Committee approved both.

#### **Public Comment -**

The Mayor opened the meeting to public comment.

Sally O'Grady thanked the Township Committee for all their hard work on the budget and wanted to clarify that the lighting of the path mentioned in the capital discussion is not part of the Walking Trail request.

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Mayor Ferrante closed the meeting to public comment.

On motion by Mr. Ferrante, seconded by Mr. Scott and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

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Debra A. Rubin, RMC  
Municipal Clerk