

SPECIAL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES  
BUDGET MEETING  
January 23, 2010

The Special Budget meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranbury was held at 9:00 a.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room. Answering present to the roll call were: Township Committee members: Winthrop Cody, David Cook, Richard Stannard, James Taylor and Mayor David Stout. Also present were: Christine Smeltzer, Administrator, Denise Marabello, Chief Financial Officer and Kathleen R. Cunningham, Clerk. Mayor Stout led in the salute to the flag and Ms. Cunningham 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:

- (1) Posted on January 19, 2010 on the Bulletin Board of the Municipal Office at 23-A North Main Street, Cranbury, New Jersey and remains posted at that location.
- (2) Communicated to the Cranbury Press, Home News Tribune and Trenton Times on January 19, 2010.
- (3) Was filed on January 19, 2010 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, and
- (4) Sent to those individuals who have requested personal notice.

Police Chief Ed Kahler presented to the Township Committee his proposed 2010 budget items for the Office of Emergency Management/C.E.R.T. Chief Kahler reported he had approximately a little over \$1,000 left in the 2009 budget due to the Swine Flu issue did not knowing if the OEM would need additional monies. Chief Kahler stated he is requesting for this year \$8,100 (the same amount he requested in 2009) due to recruiting more C.E.R.T. volunteers, needing equipment for the new volunteers, uniforms and training of the C.E.R.T. volunteers. Chief Kahler reported the new shelter at the Police Station is not stocked up with supplies and there is a need to have it stocked should a disaster occur. The C.E.R.T. overtime includes officers who oversee the C.E.R.T. volunteers. The Township Committee approved \$6,000 to be used for C.E.R.T. with \$1,000 in the miscellaneous fund under the Finance Director.

Ms. Smeltzer, Township Administrator, reminded everyone that it is anticipated the Arbitrator will make his decision this year and the funds need to be in place to pay the police officers their respective back increases.

The Township Committee discussed with Chief Kahler the issue of overtime vs. hiring a new officer.

The Township Committee members unanimously agreed to hold the Police Department's request for computers until the computer subcommittee (Mr. Cody and a resident who has volunteered to help him) reviews its needs.

The Township Committee unanimously agreed to move forward with three promotions in the Police Department.

Chief Kahler reported he has spoken with the Monroe Township Police Department concerning the leasing of vehicles for their Police Department and they are happy with the arrangement. They lease a vehicle for a three-year period of time from the County and at the end of the lease are able to purchase the vehicle back for \$1.00. Ms. Marabello reported it is handled through the M.C.I.A. as the new fire truck the Township purchased several years ago was. However the debt payment is inside cap. The Township is able to pay for it over a period of five years. She stated

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Chief Edward Kahler (Continued)

a certain time table is involved and the earliest the Police Department would be able to order a vehicle would be September for delivery in March 2011. Township Committee members requested leasing options be pursued for next year's police vehicles.

The Township Committee discussed with Chief Kahler his capital request items.

The Township Committee discussed with the Fire Company/First Aid their budget requests.

Mr. Charles Smith, President of Volunteer Fire Company and Mr. John Nichols, Captain of the Cranbury First Aid discussed with the Township Committee a request to utilize the Township's facilities to "gas up" their vehicles. The Township Committee unanimously agreed to cover the fuel costs for both the Fire Company and First Aid vehicles, and Ms. Marabello reported she will add \$2,400 to the Public Works budget to cover the costs.

Mr. Smith reported the First Aid Squad is in the process of changing dispatch facilities and in order to do so will need to be able to locate space on the existing antenna on top of the fire house. As there is a question concerning the "load", the Township's engineer will have to determine if it is ok.

The Township Committee reviewed and approved this year's contribution to the First Aid Squad and Fire Company.

The Township Committee discussed with Mr. Jerry Thorne, Public Works Director his proposed 2010 budget. Mayor Stout reported to Mr. Thorne that all miscellaneous items are being moved to the Finance Department and will be under the control of the Finance Director.

The Township Committee discussed with the Fire Official, Mr. DiStasio, his proposed 2010 budget.

The Mayor opened the meeting to public questions and comments. There being no comments, the Mayor closed the public part of the meeting.

On motion by Mr. Stannard, seconded by Mr. Taylor and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

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Kathleen R. Cunningham, Clerk