

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
BUDGET MEETING
JANUARY 21, 2023

The Township Committee Budget Meeting of the Township of Cranbury was held at 9:00 a.m. in the Meeting Room of Town Hall. Answering present to roll call were Township Committee members: Eman El-Badawi, Lisa Knierim, Dr. Barbara Rogers, Matthew Scott and Mayor Michael Ferrante. Also present were Denise Marabello, Township Administrator/Director of Finance and Debra Rubin, Municipal Clerk. Mayor Ferrante led in the salute to the flag, and Ms. Rubin read 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 provide:

Posted on January 9, 2023 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 13, 2023.

Filed on January 9, 2023 at the Cranbury Municipal Office, 23-A North Main Street, Cranbury, New Jersey, posted on the Township's website and remains on file for public inspection.

Sent to those individuals who have requested personal notice.

Capital Plan -

Police – Lt. DeChiara and Chief Owens discussed requests made within the Capital Budget. All were approved by the Township Committee.

Fire Company – Chief Smith, Deputy Chief Kervan and Jay Taylor discussed their budget requests including the purchase of an additional SUV for the Fire Company. It was approved to be paid for out of 2022 capital money. The SUV will be purchased following the bid process. Moving forward, the future replacement of the SUV purchased by the Fire Company will be the responsibility of the Fire Company.

Recreation – Ken Jacobs, Recreation Director and Lisa Rue of the Recreation Commission, were present to discuss budget requests which included an all-inclusive playground and pickleball courts. In 2023's capital plan \$12,000 will be set aside for research into the all-inclusive playground and \$12,000 will be set aside for research into pickle ball.

Parks Commission – Sally O'Grady, Parks Chairperson and Brendan Hanson, Co-Chair of the Parks Commission, were present to discuss budget requests. The process of updating the Recreation and Open Space Inventory will begin.

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Historic Preservation Commission – Susan Ryan, HPC Chairperson and Jennifer Suttmeier, Commission member, were present to discuss budget requests which included signage replacement throughout the Township.

The remaining capital items were discussed.

Salary Pool – The Township Committee approved a 5% salary pool.

Increases In Operating Line Items – Discussed any significant changes from 2022 to 2023 budget.

Use of Surplus and Tax Rates – The tax rate will remain stable. The use of an additional \$1,000,000 in surplus was approved to offset the funding of capital projects.

Public Comment – Mayor Ferrante opened the meeting to the public.

Hearing and seeing none, Mayor Ferrante closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

Adjournment

On a motion by Ms. El-Badawi, seconded by Mr. Scott and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Debra A. Rubin

Debra A. Rubin, RMC
Municipal Clerk