

MINUTES OF BUDGET MEETING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2019

The regular meeting of the Frelinghuysen Township Committee was held in the Municipal Building, 210 Main Street, Johnsonburg, New Jersey on Wednesday, February 7, 2019 and was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor, Frank Desiderio.

SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT:

Under the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by posting notice on the Township bulletin board and by e mailing notice to the New Jersey Herald and The Express-Times.

ROLL CALL:

Those present were: Mayor Frank Desiderio, Deputy Mayor Chris Stracco, Committeeman Todd McPeek, Committeeman Charlie Marra, CFO Danette Dyer, and Municipal Clerk Donna Zilberfarb.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Service Electric – Mr. Stracco will reach out to Congressman Gottheimer but doesn't believe that it will work in the development.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Blairstown Hose Company, Chief Calvin Inscho, discussed their needs of updating their turnout gear, air packs, extrication equipment and asked for a donation as well as capital needs. After discussion a motion was made by Mr. Marra to approve \$20,000 for capital purchases and to hold \$5,000 for a donation until after the auditor goes through the budget, seconded by Mr. McPeek. All were in favor.
- Hope Township Fire Department, Chief Mike Marino and Treasurer Chad Koonz, presented what they needed this year for capital and annual donation. After discussion, a motion was made to approve \$16,000 for capital needs to include turnout gear and bottles, and \$7,000 for donation, seconded by Mr. Marra. All were in favor.

Chad Koonz also explained that they would be needing a new truck in 2022 and asked if they could bank their capital request each year to put towards the purchase. Ms. Dyer will look into that and get back to them.

- Green Township Fire Department, Chief Mike Rose, discussed their capital needs and the annual donation. After discussion a motion was made by Mr. Stracco to approve \$17,500 for capital for a thermal camera, ice rescue equipment, replacement hose, and personal protection equipment, and \$7,000 for donation, seconded by Mr. Marra. All were in favor. Mr. Rose also let the committee know that they would be replacing their truck in a year and half.
- Allamuchy Green First Aid requested \$10,000 for their annual donation. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Stracco to approve \$9,000 for the annual donation, seconded by Mr. Marra. All were in favor.
- Blairstown Ambulance Corps requested \$7,500 for their annual donation. A motion was made by Mr. Stracco to approve \$7,500 for the annual donation, seconded by Mr. Marra. All were in favor.
- A motion was made by Mr. Stracco to approve \$300.00 for the historic committee for their budget, seconded by Mr. McPeek. All were in favor. \$400 will be added to buildings and grounds for the barn project at the FFP.
- Ms. Dyer let the committee know that the website can be purchased via capital funding. Ms. Zilberfarb will get prices and bring back to the committee.
- The demolition of the barn was discussed and it was determined by Mr. Desiderio that minimal costs would be involved if the township does the work. He will check with the insurance company to make sure the town can do the work. Mr. Desiderio feels \$15,000 would be enough to demo the barn with a machine rental and dumpster costs. Mr. Marra asked about doing a controlled burn with the fire departments to demo that building which he feels would be very minimal cost.

- Motion was made by Mr. Stracco to approve \$4,500 for the recreation budget, plus \$6,000 for dugout costs in capital, seconded by Mr. McPeek. All were in favor.
- Motion was made by Mr. Stracco to approve \$3,000 for the land use board, seconded by Mr. Marra. All were in favor.
- Motion was made by Mr. Stracco to approve \$500 for the July 4th Celebration for the Rotary Club, seconded by Mr. Marra. All were in favor.
- Mr. Stracco discussed the stormwater management changes and asked if the town needed to allocate any monies for this. Ms. Zilberfarb will follow up with Mr. Sterbenz and ask him to come to a meeting to give an update to the committee.
- Mr. Stracco suggested the town look into solar projects.
- Mr. Desiderio discussed the salt shed and discussed putting a shed that holds 1500 tons of salt on the route 94 property. He stated the sale of the property on Route 94 was supposed to fund the new salt shed and dpw garage. Ms. Dyer explained that the sale was supposed to fund the debt service. Mr. Desiderio also asked the town to think about sub dividing the other property on Route 94 into 2 acre lots and selling them. He also suggested getting a grant writer to see if the town can get a grant for the salt shed.
- After discussion, Mr. McPeek made a motion to approve \$143,000 for o/e for the dpw and \$194,500 for capital, including \$1,500 for a flammable cabinet, \$19,000 for a roller, \$3,000 for tools, \$3,000 for a pickup bed, \$7,000 for cross drains, \$1,000 for signs, \$110,000 for a salt shed, and \$50,000 for paving, seconded by Mr. Desiderio. All were in favor.
- Motion was made by Mr. Stracco to approve \$600.00 for cross drain/catch basin work at FFP, seconded by Mr. Marra. All were in favor.

OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC:

Motion was made by Mr. Stracco, seconded by Mr. Marra limiting it to 15 minutes to open meeting to the public. All were in favor. Spoke were:

- Loren Greco asked about the \$4,000 for the tables and chairs for the recreation center and where that money came from. Mr. Desiderio explained that it was remaining in the recreation budget from last year.
- Mr. Greco also asked why the barn at FFP can't just be knocked down. Mr. Desiderio explained the issues with Green Acres and if it is a historical building or not.

Motion was made by Mr. Stracco, seconded by Mr. Marra to close to the public. All were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, motion was made by Mr. Desiderio, seconded by Mr. Stracco to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 p.m. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Zilberfarb, RMC