

March 18, 2014

Budget meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Victory Gardens, held on March 18, 2014.

Mayor Holeman called the meeting to order and declared a quorum present.
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of Our Country.
Please remain standing for a moment of silence for our military.

This meeting has been advertised in one newspaper, The Daily Record, in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act.

ATTENDANCE: Councilwoman Cegelka, Councilwoman Cheatham, Councilman Glass, Councilwoman Hedgepath, Councilman Lorenzo.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Garcia Montes.

Chief Financial Officer, Amy Maronpot is also present at tonight's meeting. The purpose of tonight's meeting is to discuss the 2014 municipal budget. After the last meeting we should be able to wrap this up tonight the Mayor said.

The Mayor said that we need to put aside somewhere in the budget \$1,500 for tables and chairs for the fire house for our parties. I did speak to Bill Isselin and he said the table and chairs would not fall under anything for recycling.

Councilwoman Cegelka asked if we are doing any trees this year? Yes. Where is that money located in the budget. Amy said there was some in Clerk O & E and some in Bldg & Grds. Why are they separated? We do that because you don't want to do a decrease out of Clerk O & E. We may need that during the year. Did you get a letter from RVRSA stating how much the fees will be this year? We are being assessed \$96,011. That is about right the Clerk said. We always have a little higher in the account than what we need.

Councilman Glass asked if social security and unemployment should that go up with the new employee? I think we are covered with that.

Councilwoman Cegelka asked will workers comp go up because of the issue with Mrs. Bly? No that happened this year the Clerk said. If we see an increase it will be next year. We already have our quotes for this year.

Amy said we may be able to reduce RVRSA by \$3,000 but if we do that I want to increase Road O & E because of all the salt we bought.

Councilwoman Cegelka asked about the DOT grant. It says grant not in budget last year but expended. What does that mean? Amy said we got a DOT grant and spent it but it was not put in the 2013 budget so we have to do it this year. There will be nothing spent against it for this year because we spent it last year.

The Mayor asked what is CIF? That is the Capital Improvement Fund. We did not put anything in there for this budget year because Bill Schroeder said we are very healthy in this account and don't need to put it in this year. We have old projects to cancel and that will add to this. We have \$365,000 in this account. The Clerk said we need to clean those accounts up and should get it done this year. Amy agreed.

Councilman Glass asked what RUT was? Reserve for Uncollected Taxes.

Councilwoman Cegelka said that she spoke to Bill Schroeder today and she asked him about the handicapped door and if we can't get a grant can we take that from Capital and he said yes. Would we be able to take the recording system out of there? Amy said she isn't sure. She would have to check because it is based on the useful life. In my other towns if something like that is bought it does not come out of capital.

Councilman Glass said he feels we should put something in the Capital Fund every year. It is a good thing to do every year.

The Clerk said it was Bill Schroeders point that we shouldn't put any in this line item as it will make our budget and tax increase higher. It isn't necessary for us to put it in this year but we can do it next year and even increase because it won't bother anything with the CAP. Amy said that is correct.

There are two other places where we might be able to take money from. You have \$1,500 in Capital Improvement for the playground and drainage for \$5,000. We can take \$5,000 from here and just put it in Capital Improvement. The Clerk said we need to keep it in drainage because we always need it. It seems every other year we need to do work on the drains because they cave in.

Councilwoman Cegelka asked how come we keep putting this in for the playground and we don't use it? Councilwoman Cheatham said that Councilwoman Montes was looking for more money for the playground so we put it in. But if we don't use that it does back into fund balance. Yes, it does.

The Clerk said if you take the \$1,500 from Capital/playground and use that money for chairs and tables for the parties, then you still aren't putting money in capital. You are just moving it from one place and buying chairs. Correct Amy said.

Councilwoman Cegelka asked how much health insurance was going up? \$30,000? No, not that much Amy said. We have the employees contributions that offset that. It will be about \$20,000.

Councilwoman Cegelka said in garbage we had \$10,000 left. Amy said that is the December payment from last year. There is never a balance left in garbage. Amy will check on the contract amount.

The Mayor asked if there were any other questions on the budget? None. Amy said this is a good budget. We changed some things around. The hardest thing this year was the snow and the over time for the men. We may have to do transfers come the end of the year.

Do we have quotes for HO Baker? Yes.

Package Policy	\$24,537
Workers Comp	15,966
Volunteer Accident	492
Employee Dishonesty	458
Bond -Amy	250
Bond - Lorraine	456

Hartford Insurance is not in yet.

Councilwoman Cegelka asked if we heard anything from Dover about having to pay for medical insurance for fire fighters? Yes, I spoke with them. We do not have to pay for insurance for fire fighters or EMS. That was changed. Volunteers are exempt from Obamacare. There was an outcry across the Country because it would blow apart everyones budget so it was dropped.

Motion to open the meeting to the public by Councilwoman Cheatham, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

Jim Janone - Does anyone ask for quotes for the insurance for trucks, etc.? We have talked with companies about health insurance. We are looking to go with SHBP in October. What about with HO Baker? Dave looks for those on different markets. Our rating isn't that good. We are an assigned risk. We can't get into the JIF because of the record. We have had accidents from fire department, and DPW.

Is there any money in the budget for the website? Nothing in a line item. How come nothing gets put in for sewer line cameras or storm drains? We don't need it the Clerk said. We have one of the best infrastructures in the County. We have done many projects on sewer lines and storm drains throughout the years. We have blown liners into lines and I think we had two major breaks one on Roosevelt and one on Adams Avenue where we actually had to rip up the roads. There is nothing for a generator in the budget. We are going for a grant.

Also DPW items they were never bought. If we need something we can get it out of the Sts & Rds budget. It wasn't that much money.

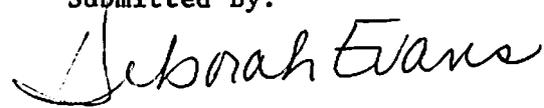
Motion to close the meeting to the public by Councilwoman Cheatham, seconded by Councilman Glass and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

There will be no other budget meetings. Amy will turn everything over to Bill Schroeder and he will get us something as to what increase we will have in taxes.

Amy will get everything over to Bill tomorrow and we should have something from him in a few days. Amy will have Bill do up two different papers. One will be with the money going into Capital and one will be without.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Councilman Glass, seconded by Councilwoman Cheatham and approved on verbal vote. None opposed.

Submitted By:



Deborah Evans
Borough Clerk