

The Shamong Township Committee held a workshop/budget meeting on the above date at the Municipal Building.

Deputy Mayor Jonathon Shevelew called the meeting to order at approximately 7:34 p.m.

The Clerk stated please be advised that proper notice of this meeting has been given in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act in the following manner. Written notice has been mailed to the Burlington County Times and published in the Central Record and posted on the official bulletin board of Shamong Township.

The Pledge of Allegiance

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| Roll Call and) | Mr. Sean Gray | A |
| Absentees) | Mr. Martin Mozitis | P |
| Noted) | Mr. Christopher Norman | P |
| | Mr. James Schroeder | P |
| | Mr. Jonathon Shevelew | P |

Deputy Mayor Shevelew opened the meeting to the public, there being no comments, the meeting was closed to the public.

On motion of Committeeman Norman, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder, the minutes of March 24, 2009 were approved as submitted. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

On motion of Committeeman Mozitis, seconded by Committeeman Norman, it was moved to approve the Knights of Columbus to do a Tootsie Roll Drive at the intersection of Oak Shade/Indian Mills Roads. Ordinance 2002-4 is in place for this requiring Township Committee approval for each event. They will submit a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming Shamong Township as holder. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

The CFO, Kathleen Phelan, explained to the Committee the 2 different caps that Municipalities have to abide by when preparing their budget since she felt it was not discussed previously. She recommends the Committee increase their appropriations by 4% which is allowable by State Law and this would put approximately \$43,000 back in the budget. She also recommends returning the budget cuts made previously to sustain the current level of operations. She stated it will not change the tax rate since the Committee could cancel unused budgeted funds which would return the funds to the surplus immediately. Ms. Phelan then expressed her opinion on increases for the township employees stating the municipality should not be looked at like a business because the opportunities and benefits are not available as they are in private industry. She stated that during good times, our employees do not get above average raises or bonuses which are often awarded in the private sector. She does not agree that because

the economy is bad the employees should not get an increase because this is the only increase they receive once a year and there are not a lot of employees. She also feels it is better if Township Committee Members take a salary because it substantiates why you're here. She explained there has never been a problem with a committee person in this township and no one has ever turned in receipts for expenses to be reimbursed. She stated a committee taking a salary is the ethical thing to do. The Committee asked the CFO to have the budget figures for them at the next meeting. The CFO also explained there should be extra monies in the department's budget line to cover bringing someone in to cover an office if that employee is out sick. It doesn't matter how much money is in a budget line, as far as salary, because salaries are set by resolution and ordinance. The CFO reported she spoke with Mr. Welsh of the Public Works Department and his concerns about items he may need. She explained things that would affect him could be handled through the Capital Fund and he understands that now. The CFO reviewed a list from the Administrator of the cost of living increases of what surrounding townships were getting and stated Tabernacle 2%, Medford union 3% non-union 0%, Southampton 4%, Medford Township 3%, and the local Board of Ed is giving 5%. The CFO explained it is very hard to compare surveys because one person may work more hours or do more jobs for that salary than someone in a different town.

On motion of Committeeman Schroeder, seconded Committeeman Norman, it was moved to approve \$2,500 to Seneca High School for the "Senior Send Off" formally the "Grad Bash" funding request. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

The Committee reviewed the statements from the Indian Mills Volunteer Fire Company and agreed they need the 2008 Audit before they can make a decision to allocate funds in the budget. Mr. Mozitis stated he has not seen any other financial statements from other organizations and feels all organizations asking for funds should submit a statement. Deputy Mayor Shevelew explained the law states Indian Mills Fire Company must submit a financial statement to the Township Committee due to the amount of funds given each year but the law does not state Indian Mills Athletic Association must submit a financial statement. Deputy Mayor Shevelew stated if IMAA were to ask for \$90,000 or \$100,000 they would need to provide a financial statement to the Township Committee before receiving any funds. Committeeman Schroeder agreed with Committeeman Mozitis and suggested that the Administrator ask IMAA to send a copy of their last 6 months of monthly statements for the committee's review. Committeeman Norman referred to a letter sent by Senator Adler indicating assistance to fire fighter grants that are available April 15th through May 28th for equipment and vehicle purchases, among other things and feels the fire company should look into. The Deputy Clerk stated a copy of that letter has been forwarded to the fire company.

Mr. Firas Emachan, Co-founder of Nixle, and his associate made their presentation to the Township Committee as a free source for the township to disseminate text messages and emails to residents. There was discussion on the system and what it could do but the Committee took no action at this time.

The Committee reviewed and discussed the Facility Use Policy and feels the \$200 deposit should be only for non resident organizations. On motion of Committeeman Mozitis, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder, it was moved to approve the Facility Use Policy with the exception noted above. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

The Deputy Clerk reported the Emilio Carranza Memorial Day Ceremony will be held July 11th and stated a Committee person usually attends. Committeemen Schroeder and Mozitis both stated they would be interested in attending. Plans will be finalized closer to the date.

Deputy Mayor Shevelew explained that IMAA asked the township to have an electrical box installed at the Dingtletown Complex to accommodate the lighting of the girl's softball field that IMAA is having installed. Deputy Mayor Shevelew suggested the funds come out of the Builders Recreation Fund at an approximate cost of \$7,000. On motion of Committeeman Norman, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder, it was moved to approve IMAA's softball field lighting request. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes. Committeeman Mozitis stated if any further lighting on other fields is suggested he would hope the request comes in front of the Township Committee first.

Deputy Mayor Shevelew reported 17 water tests of wells in area where Mercury was found have been received and no new wells have tested positive. Also reported Taylor Design Group has submitted the ANJEC Grant application and Open Space and Recreation Plan. Also stated a second request has been submitted to the county to reduce the speed limit on Tuckerton Road.

On motion of Committeeman Norman, seconded by Committeeman Schroeder, it was moved to approve Kathryn Taylor to attend the Tax Collectors and Treasurers Association seminar in Atlantic City at a cost of approximately \$450.00. She will receive CEU's for her position. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

On motion of Committeeman Schroeder, seconded by Committeeman Norman, it was moved to approve Jay Renwick, Tax Assessor, time off for attending a meeting sponsored by the Southern NJ Chapter of the Appraisal Institute and the Association of Municipal Assessors of New Jersey where he will obtain information on reassessments and will also gain 3.0 hours towards Property Tax Administration CEU's. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

On motion of Committeeman Schroeder, seconded by Committeeman Norman, it was moved to approve Robert Perri to attend the Building Safety Conference/Seminar on May 6, 7, and 8 and April 30, 2009. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes, except Committeeman Mozitis who abstained.

On motion of Committeeman Schroeder, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to approve Bill Gates, Office of Emergency Management Coordinator, to attend the 11th Annual New Jersey Emergency Preparedness Conference at an approximate cost of \$100. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes.

On motion of Committeeman Schroeder, seconded by Committeeman Mozitis, it was moved to approve Roseann O'Donnell to attend the Building Safety Conference on May 7, 2009 in Atlantic City at a cost of \$125. A roll call vote showed all members present voting yes, except Committeeman Shevelew who abstained.

Deputy Mayor Shevelew noted there will be a resolution on tax lien foreclosures and approving the continuous placement of a temporary trailer on personal property on the May 5th agenda for approval.

Committeeman Schroeder reported both entrances to the Oakview Mobile Home Park have been paved and corrected by Garden Homes and he withdraws any objections to not approving the renewal of their license. The request for approval will be put on the May meeting agenda.

The Deputy Clerk reported on the following issues; IMAA has requested the snack stand and dugouts to be painted and arrangements have been made with the Juvenile Justice on Carranza Road to do this on May 1st, \$1,300 was received from JIF for the 2008 Safety Incentive Program, ID badges have been made with the assistance of the Indian Mills Fire Company for all township employees, the Township Engineer and the State of NJDOT have notified us that the State Aide applications will be due on or before June 12th, the EPA conducted a 5 year review on the Ewan Site and all reports show progress on cleaning up the area and two new Sentry wells have been added to confirm clean up and testing on these wells will begin this month, American Cancer Society's Bike-a-thon will be held July 12th, the 2008 Stormwater Management Annual Report has been submitted, as well as, the 2008 Recycling Tonnage Report.

The Deputy Clerk reported the Tax Collector brought in \$195,318.49 for the month of March with a YTD of \$3,906,211.80 and the Court Administrator brought in \$20,610.13 with disbursement of \$15,216.58 leaving a total of \$5,133.55 for the township.

Committeeman Mozitis reported he did not send a picture to Mr. Arango of the emergency entrance at the Dingtowntown complex but he doesn't know if someone did some work at the area because he noticed the water has not been going out to the street. He will look at it again when it rains to see if the road gets flooded. Committeeman Mozitis also reported he attended the Ewan Site meeting. He reported they are doing very little treatment at the site now.

Deputy Mayor Shevelew opened the meeting to the public at which time Mrs. King noted she read in the newspaper where the Pinelands Commission wants to make it law that residents have to have their septic systems checked and pumped on a regular basis. She feels the townships should get together and fight this. Deputy Mayor Shevelew explained

most townships have city water and sewer so the smaller townships don't have that much influence. Mrs. King also stated Shamong Township does not have the ratables that the other townships have, like Tabernacle and Southampton. She suggested the Committee or someone from the committee attend the Pinelands Commission meetings.

Committeeman Norman stated the septic system requirement may fall under the unfunded mandate rule and Deputy Mayor Shevelew said they may look into this. There being no further comments from the public, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

Barbara Valenzano
Deputy Clerk