

The February 12, 2005 Special Meeting of the West Milford Township Council was called to order at 9:07 a.m. by Mayor Joseph DiDonato.

Mayor DiDonato advised that in accordance with Chapter 231, Public Laws of 1975 of New Jersey, adequate advance notice of this Workshop meeting was advertised in the Herald News in its issue of January 10, 2005; copies were provided to the Suburban Trends, The Record, the Star Ledger, and Greenwood Lake News and posted continuously on the bulletin board in the main corridor of the Town Hall and on file in the Office of the Township Clerk.

Roll Call

Present: Councilmembers Paul Bailey, Joseph Elcavage, William Gervens, Robert Nolan, James Warden, Carmen Scangarello and Mayor Joseph DiDonato.

Absent: Councilmember Joseph Elcavage.

Also Present: Township Administrator Richard Kunze, Assistant Municipal Clerk Denise M. Loeffel, Township Treasurer Arthur Magnotti, Municipal Judge George Cluff, Deputy Court Administrator Lynn Garling, Township Engineer Richard McFadden, DPW Director Jerry Storms, Construction Official Kurt Wagner, Planning Director William Drew, Fire Commissioner Ed Steines, Police Chief James Dykstra, Fire Official Mike Woch.

Purpose

Review of the proposed 2005 Municipal Budget.

Formal action may be taken at this meeting.

Review of 2005 Municipal Budget

Mayor DiDonato asked Judge Cluff to review the department budget with the Township Council.

Judge George Cluff and Deputy Court Administrator Lynn Garling reviewed the Municipal Court and Violations department budget with the Mayor and Township Council.

Councilman Robert Nolan entered the meeting at 9:11 a.m.

Judge George Cluff noted the possibility of raising violations fees.

Councilman Paul Bailey entered the meeting at 9:14 a.m.

Mayor DiDonato asked Judge Cluff to prepare a list of violation fees which might be raised and his recommendation on them.

Captain James Dykstra and Emergency Management Official Mike Woch discussed the Police Department budget and the Emergency Management budget with the Mayor and Township Council.

Township Administrator Richard Kunze noted that he had received several requests from departments to raise fees.

Fire Official Mike Woch and Fire Commissioner Ed Steines discussed the Fire Department budget and the Fire Company budgets with the Mayor and Township Council.

Township Engineer Richard McFadden and DPW Director Jerry Storms discussed the Engineering Department and Department of Public Works budgets with the Mayor and Township Council.

Planning Director William Drew discussed the Planning Board, Comprehensive Planning, Board of Adjustment, Environmental Commission and other committee budgets with the Mayor and Township Council.

Township Administrator Richard Kunze noted that the Township would be funding the Tourism Committee with funds formerly applied to the Resource and Development committee.

Construction Official Kurt Wagner discussed the Building Department budget with the Mayor and Township Council.

Members of the Township Council discussed the budget timeline with the Township Administrator.

The Mayor and Township Council discussed the introduction of the budget, and scheduling further budget hearings.

Public Comments

Mayor DiDonato Gervens opened the meeting to the public who wished to address the Council.

Dennis Kirwan addressed the Council stating that he is the Planning Director for the city of Clifton, and that his department services 90,000 residents with much less staff than the West Milford Planning Department. He stated that it is his opinion that the West Milford Planning Department staff could be decreased.

Councilman Bailey asked that the Planning Department provide the Council will staffing comparables.

Councilman Bailey moved to close the Public Comments.

Moved: Bailey

Seconded: Nolan

Voted Aye: Bailey, Elcavage, Gervens, Nolan, Warden, Scangarello.

Voted Nay: None.

Motion carried.

Adjournment

Councilman Nolan moved to adjourn the Workshop meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Moved: Nolan

Seconded: Bailey

Voted Aye: Bailey, Elcavage, Gervens, Nolan, Warden, Scangarello.

Voted Nay: None.

Meeting adjourned.

MAYOR JOSEPH DIDONATO
PRESIDING OFFICER

DENISE M. LOEFFEL
ASSISTANT MUNICIPAL CLERK