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**TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC, NEW JERSEY**

Minutes of: Township Council Special Meeting  
Date of Meeting: April 16, 2009  
Time of Meeting: 8:00 P.M.  
Minute Page No: Page 1 of 2

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Mayor Bettina Bieri called the Special Meeting of the West Milford Township Council to order.

**Adequate Notice Statement**

Mayor Bieri read the following statement:

Please note that in accordance with Chapter 231, Public Laws of 1975 of New Jersey, adequate advance notice of this special meeting was transmitted to the Herald News on April 12, 2009; copies were provided to the Record, Star Ledger, Suburban Trends 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.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Bieri led all in attendance in a salute to the flag.

**Roll Call**

Present: Councilmembers Philip Weisbecker (arrived @ 7:40 p.m.), Joseph Smolinski, Salvatore Schimmenti, Robert Nolan, Marilyn Lichtenberg, Daniel Jurkovic (arrived @ 7:40 p.m.), Mayor Bettina Bieri.  
Absent: None.  
Also Present: Township Administrator Kevin Boyle, Township Clerk Antoinette Battaglia,

Agenda No. II

**Purpose**

Mayor Bieri advised that this meeting is intended to allow for continued discussion of the 2009 municipal budget. Tonight the meeting will focus on the Department of Community Services & Recreation and she deferred to Administrator Boyle.

Agenda No. III

**Review of 2009 Municipal Budget**

Administrator Boyle stated that tonight the Council will review the proposed budget for the Department of Community Services & Recreation and this is the last department to be reviewed in this budget cycle. He commended the Director, Keith Knudsen for the budget submitted.

Programs – Mr. Knudsen provided a brief overview of the programs provided by this department. He stated that the proposed budget does not anticipate any significant changes from the 2008 budget. Councilman Nolan asked for an explanation of the projected \$5,000 reduction in bus fares to which Mr. Knudsen replied that when the system is privatized the Township will no longer collect fares. In response to Council President Smolinski's questions about reductions in rent, Mr. Knudsen replied that this budget was prepared without knowing whether or not the Township would continue occupying Hillcrest and thus he did not anticipate the rent for the entire year. Mr. Knudsen stated that the reduction in salary and wages is due to a recent retirement and all other increases are contractual. Mr. Magnotti stated that longevity has been erroneously reflected in the overtime line item and he will correct that. Mr. Knudsen stated that the programs are self-funding and participants are charged fees that cover all the costs to run the programs. In response to Councilman Nolan's question, he reviewed the process whereby new programs are instituted or old programs eliminated.

Bubbling Springs – Mr. Knudsen stated that there are no proposed changes in this budget this year. Staffing levels will remain the same this year as last but he plans on analyzing staffing levels this year. Councilman Nolan asked Mr. Magnotti to review actual salary and wage percentage increases and provide him with a report. Mr. Magnotti reviewed transfers, retirement payouts, compensatory time and overtime.

Hillcrest – Mr. Knudsen stated that this proposed budget reflects a reduction in the request for parts and machinery. The proposed increases to other line items are minor. In response to Mayor Bieri, Mr. Magnotti advised that the \$68,000 capital appropriation will be reflected in the capital account which will be discussed later in the evening. Council President Smolinski asked Mr. Knudsen to confirm the estimate for resurfacing the gymnasium floor which he stated appears to be underestimated.

Parks Division – The Council asked Mr. Magnotti to remove the telecommunication stipend for Paul Reilly from this budget and reflect it in an OEM account. Discussion ensued about overtime related to events. Mr. Knudsen reviewed the parameters of the grass cutting contract advising that the lowest bid came in at \$40,700. Councilman Schimmenti questioned the logic of the Township paying the maintenance of Brown's Point when the State of New Jersey has not renewed our lease.

Senior Services – Mr. Magnotti advised that this budget primarily covers salary and wage expenses for the employees who work in this division. The Council discussed veterans services and celebration of special events line items.

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Mass Transportation – Mr. Knudsen stated that the proposed budget reflects no change this year. However, he is hoping that these services will be contracted out and the budget will be amended accordingly if that comes to fruition. He advised that Passaic County assumed the medical transportation services as of April 1, 2009.

Capital – Mr. Knudsen stated that the Recreation Advisory Committee has recommended the purchase of a strike guard lightning detection system for improved safety. In response to Councilman Nolan, Mr. Knudsen reviewed his plans for Farrell Field stating that he would like to recreate the valleys and plant trees & bushes to address ponding and drainage issues. He would like to install fencing to curb vandalism. Council President Smolinski asked about the septic system at Bubbling Springs to which Mr. Knudsen replied that this will be a four-phase project requiring DEP approvals. Phase 1 and 2 will center around engineering and design and will cost about \$11,000.

The Council thanked Mr. Knudsen for his attendance at this meeting.

Agenda No. IV

**Public Comments**

Mayor Bieri opened the meeting to the public advising that there is a five-minute time limit for each speaker.

There being no comments from the public, Council President Smolinski made a motion to close the public portion of the meeting.

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Moved: Smolinski Seconded: Jurkovic  
Voted Aye: Weisbecker, Smolinski, Schimmenti, Nolan, Lichtenberg, Jurkovic.  
Voted Nay: None.  
Motion carried.

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Agenda No. V

**Action Items**

Agenda No. VI

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Township Council adjourned the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

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Moved: Weisbecker Seconded: Jurkovic  
Voted Aye: Weisbecker, Smolinski, Schimmenti, Nolan, Lichtenberg, Jurkovic.  
Voted Nay: None.  
Motion carried.

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Approved: July 8, 2009

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MAYOR BETTINA BIERI  
PRESIDING OFFICER

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ANTOINETTE BATTAGLIA  
TOWNSHIP CLERK