

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON  
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

BUDGET MEETING

March 15, 2016

Budget Meeting opened to the public of the Township Council of the Township of Washington, a budget meeting was held at 6:03 p.m. Members present: Robert Bruno, Peter Calamari, Thomas Sears, and Michael Ullman. Also present: Janet Sobkowicz, Mayor; Mary Anne Groh, Administrator. Dr. Steve Cascio arrived at 6:24 p.m.

GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

A motion was made by Mr. Sears, seconded by Mr. Calamari, to open the public discussion.

Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Calamari, Sears, Ullman

Nays: None.

Absent: Councilman Dr. Steve Cascio.

A motion was made by Mr. Calamari, seconded by Mr. Sears, to close the public discussion.

Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Calamari, Sears, Ullman

Nays: None.

Absent: Councilman Dr. Steve Cascio.

A motion was made by Mr. Sears, seconded by Mr. Calamari, to open the Work Session.

Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Calamari, Sears, Ullman

Nays: None.

Absent: Councilman Dr. Steve Cascio

WORK SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. Sears to approve Resolution No. 16-167 Emergency Transfer, seconded by Mr. Calamari.

Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Calamari, Sears, Ullman

Nays: None.

Absent: Councilmen Dr. Steve Cascio

Administrator Groh explained resolution no. 16-167 Temporary Emergency Transfer. Some items are needed to get us through the end of March assuming the budget is introduced on March 21<sup>st</sup> and adopted on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Bruno asked about the temporary budget approved on January 4, 2016. Administrator Groh stated resolution 16-167 is essentially enough for one more month. Mr. Statile estimated cost to evaluate the well to

be \$4700 which includes \$300 troubleshooting, \$1200 to remove the pump and \$3200 to check the lines. The turf plan has water sprays so a well is still required. Councilman Bruno asked if the well broke at the end of last year and the response was affirmative. Council President asked if there were updates with the Summer Recreation Program and pool. Mayor Sobkowicz stated Donna Scholes is the coordinator of the program. Cost is \$5,000 for husband/wife and the program is as is. Councilman Calamari stated Memorial Field needs downtime for sod. Councilman Bruno asked what revenue are we getting for paying the Swim Club. Mayor Sobkowicz stated March, April and May are months in which recreation interviews counselors and determines what crafts, games and trips will be part of the program. These figures may be negotiable. Councilman Sears asked if this can be discussed at a Council meeting.

BUDGET SESSION

Page 6	6-01-20-111-100 Township Council Salaried & Wages	(\$ 458)
Page 6	6-01-20-111-300 Council O/E Office Furniture	+ \$ 6,000
Page 18	6-01-20-155-260 Law and Council O/ E Professional Services	

Councilman Ullman stated we do not have the correct legal team on litigation expenses. Mayor Sobkowicz said we have the proper legal team. Administrator Groh commented if you change professional services the town will pay 50% more than current legal expenses. Councilman Calamari stated Mr. Poller is the gatekeeper in keeping all the professionals in the COAH matter together. This is a serious case for the residents of the town. Councilman Bruno stated he worked with law firms in his career and they always gave a professional discount. Administrator Groh stated at \$135 per hour is the discount. Councilman Bruno that it is a one-time deal and that is not the deal we get to keep costs down. Motion was made by Councilman Calamari, seconded by Mr. Sears to increase Mr. Poller's Professional Services to \$100,000. Ayes: Councilman Calamari, Sears. Nays: Bruno, Cascio, Ullman.

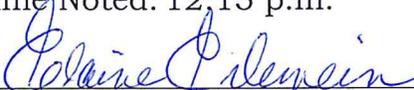
Mayor Sobkowicz stated it is a problem if we run out of money because we cannot make transfers until November. Councilman Ullman asked if to we want this person to on this COAH project. I do not know if this person is the right person. We have T & M Associates on the project and we need a lot of experts to support your costs. Administrator Groh commented you have to pay someone to come up to speed and they will not charge \$135 per hour.

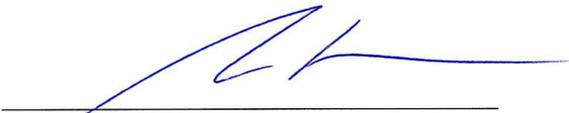


Page 28	6-01-21-195-820 St Un Con CD O/E Computer Supplies	(\$ 250)
Page 39	6-01-25-265-360 Fire O/E Radio Expense	+ \$ 300
Page 51	6-01-26-315-005 Fire O/E Vehicle & Equipment Repair	+ \$9,000
Page 44	6-01-25-290-180 DMP S & W Winter Watch	(\$ 1,200)
Page 89	6-01-44-902-200 Capital Improvement Fund	+ 8,125
Page 50	6-01-26-310-471 Security System Purchase	+\$40,000
Page 46	6-01-26-290-420 DMF O/E Bldg. Maintenance & Construction	+\$35,000
	Total	\$91,817

A motion was made by Mr. Sears, seconded by Mr. Sears to adjourn.  
Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Calamari, Cascio, Sears, Ullman.  
Nays: None.

Time Noted: 12:15 p.m.

  
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Elaine Erlewein  
Township Clerk

  
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Michael Ullman  
Council President