

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON  
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

PUBLIC BUDGET MEETING

February 20, 2018  
Tuesday

The Township Council held a Budget discussion immediately following the Conference Meeting in the Municipal Building, 350 Pascack Road. Members present: Robert Bruno, Steve Cascio, Arthur Cumming, Michael DeSena and Michael Ullman. Also present: Peter Calamari, Mayor; Susan Witkowski, Township Clerk.

Police Department present:

Chief Hooper  
Captain Hackbarth  
Lieutenant Calamari  
Lieutenant Skinner

Time noted: 8:58 p.m.

DISCUSSION

2018 Budget Review

A conversation followed on overtime, sick time and the training recommended by the State, which was over 220 overtime hours last year. Chief Hooper stated he has no way of budgeting the training hours. He also spoke of what will be required this year, and various mandatory training required by the State. He also spoke of overtime as a result of vacations during the summertime months. A discussion followed on hiring one additional full-time dispatcher, resumes are coming in. Currently there are 37 categories of overtime. A conversation followed on the current mandatory training required by the State, with additional training which is coming up. Comments were made of perhaps giving crossing guards, who do not work in the summer, minimal training to walk the Township with a map and flag items. Crossing guards do work the Recreation Program during the summer. As per the contract option, officers do have the option of buying back half of their vacations, as well as the personal days, but the Chief does not know how many officers will do that this upcoming year. If the officer does not use the days they carry over by March 31, they lose it. There is no banking vacation time and the days cannot create overtime. A conversation followed on the buyback in the year 2015 being so high due to construction detail/outside billing. Chief Hooper explained the surcharge that is charged to the contractor for the vehicles, officer and cones. All Police Officers receive the sick day payouts, whatever they were locked into prior to 2011, but after 2011 it is a prorated rate. The PBA letter was discussed, as well as maintenance of the Police

Department, which is an issue. A bulk chair order will be done for the entire building. A discussion followed also on looking into the 1033 program. A conversation followed on looking into the cleaning of police vehicles/and detailing of those vehicles. Community outreach was discussed as well the email accounts. The Police Department would like to hold "Coffee with a Cop" as well as the Cop Card Program. A conversation followed on the police reserve of \$26,000, which is as a result of donations. The need for two new police vehicles was discussed, as well as obtaining a larger monitor to view the outside of the school. Chief Hooper spoke of NIXLE, a text based program, which he would like to look into for the 2019 budget. The door of the Police Department was discussed, as well as adding additional cameras to the building. There will be further items discussed during a Closed Session. Council agreed the next Budget Meeting will be Monday, February 26, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 3, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

PAGE #	LINE ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	INC	DEC	AMOUNT	FLAGGED
24	8-01-25-240-120	Police-Overtime			282,000.00	X
24	8-01-25-240-160	Police-Vacation Buyback	6,000.00		17,000.00	
25	8-01-25-240-193	Police-Special Officers			10,000.00	X
26	8-01-25-240-370	Police-Training	2,500.00		7,500.00	
27	8-01-25-240-400	Police-Safety Equipment & Training			3,000.00	X
27	8-01-25-240-410	Police-Oxygen & Fire Extinguishers	500.00		1,500.00	
27	8-01-25-240-500	Police-Miscellaneous	2,500.00		5,000.00	
28	8-01-25-240-810	Police-Computer Software			500.00	X
29	8-01-25-250-100	Police-Reverse 911 System/Swiftreach		500.00	3,000.00	X
29	8-01-25-250-200	Police Dispatching-S&W			170,000.00	X
41	8-01-26-315-007	Police-Eqpmt Parts for Inside Repairs		500.00		
41	8-01-26-315-010	Police Vehicle Parts for Inside Repairs	500.00		4,500.00	

A motion was made by Councilman Ullman, seconded by Councilman Cascio to adjourn.

Ayes: Councilmen Bruno, Cascio, Cumming, Ullman, DeSena.

Nays: None.

Time noted: 10:37 p.m.



Susan Witkowski  
Township Clerk



Michael DeSena  
Council President

Approved: March 10, 2018