

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE
MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Neil Henry called the February 11, 2012 (Saturday) meeting of the Mayor and Council to order at 9:00a.m. in the Garabrant Center, 4 Wilson Street, Mendham, New Jersey.

INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Henry offered a moment of silence meditation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPENING STATEMENT

Notice of this meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Mendham was published in the Observer Tribune and the Morristown Daily Record, and was posted on the Phoenix House bulletin board in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Neil Henry

Councilman Stanley Witzak
Council President John Andrus
Councilman David Sharkey
Councilwoman Veronica Daly
Councilman Louis Garubo
Councilman Brad Badal

Also present: Susan Giordano, Chief Financial Officer
Ellen Sandman, Administrator

Absent: None

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Councilman Andrus addressed the Council noting that he would like to cut \$65,000 from the 2012 budget.

2012 Budget Presentations:

Police Department -Chief John Taylor
(Sgts. Camoia, Libertino and McNichol were present)

Chief Taylor would like to purchase new defibrillators, and give their older ones to the DPW or the (WRF) Sewer Department. Councilwoman Daly was in favor of this purchase. The increase in the Technology line item was discussed, and is due to having to renew several service contracts at the same time.

The funding level for the Hiring Process line item was left at the same level as last year in order to cover the costs of a Sergeants promotional exam. It was suggested to combine the line item for Printing with the line item for Office Supplies. The need for purchasing new shotguns was discussed. Chief Taylor said their shotguns are over 20 years old and starting to rust.

Councilman Andrus would like to see a \$10,000 cut in the Police O/E budget.

First Aid Squad –Captain Paula Oswald
(Lt. Mike Carr was also present)

The First Squad is in need of new defibrillators. It was suggested that the First Aid Squad use some of their own funds for this, or have some kind of fundraiser.

Hurricane Irene and the October snow storm caused the Squad's Supplies line item to be overspent. Many of their supplies that previously carried no expiration dates do now, and some unused items, such as epinephrine-pens, had to be disposed of and replacements purchased.

The organizational structure of the Squad and their efforts to recruit new members was discussed.

Fire Department -Chief Richard DeNicola
(Former Chief Mike Bruin was also present)

The value of the officers attending the annual convention in Indianapolis and the positive result of a great learning experience was addressed. It was hoped to get some reimbursement from FEMA from Hurricane Irene and use it to purchase some radios. Hose testing was performed, and the hose failed.

There was a lengthy discussion on the purchase of a new fire truck. Councilman Badal knows of a gentleman who can write a generic bid spec for a fire truck, and the charge would be about \$2,500. It is believed that a generic bid spec will bring in more bidders.

Water Reclamation Facility-Superintendent Douglas Wright

There was general discussion on the budget as a whole. The Borough Auditor, Bud Jones, will exam the Sewer Budget to make sure it is self-liquidating and self-supporting. Councilman Andrus would like to pay off more debt, and possibly have a reduction in the sewer bills. Mr. Andrus requested Mr. Wright to project what his department's capital needs would be over the next 3 years.

Department of Public Works-Superintendent Kenneth O'Brien

There was discussion held with regard to The Petsch House and whether the Borough is earning more than what we are expending on it.

It was decided to take the line item for the Roller out of the Roads Budget for 2012.

Department of Public Works-Superintendent Kenneth O'Brien: (Cont'd.)

There were questions posed with regard to an agreement with Mendham Township and the Borough on the use of the tennis courts.

All present were in agreement that the fees for the use of the fire hydrants were outrageous.

Discussion of miscellaneous items at the end of the meeting:

The library is in need of a new roof. Councilman Andrus voiced his disapproval of spending the Borough's capital money on the library's capital needs. Mr. Andrus suggested the Library pay for the roof out of their own funds, and noted the possibility that the Borough give an extra \$2,000 a year in funding to them for the cost of the new roof.

The Mayor requested a \$10,000 appropriation for a consultant services related to West Morris Regional High School funding.

An appropriation of \$5,000 for an employee to maintain our website and presence on Facebook, Twitter and any other appropriate social media was discussed.

Mendham TV had requested some funding through the Borough budget. The Mayor and Council was not in favor of this request.

Adjournment:

There being no further business scheduled for the consideration of the Mayor and Council at this time, on a motion duly made by Councilman Garubo, seconded by Councilwoman Daly and unanimously carried by a voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:05P.M. next to convene at the Regular Meeting on February 21, 2012 at 8:00 P.M. at the Garabrant Center, 4 Wilson Street, Mendham, New Jersey 07945.

Respectfully submitted, Assisted by
Chief Financial Officer Susan Giordano

Maureen Massey, RMC, CMC
Borough Clerk