

JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Budget Meeting

February 24, 2016

Municipal Building, Council Chambers

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Roll Call

Present	Absent
Mr. Dunham	
Mrs. Merz	
Mr. Birmingham	
President Yocum	
Vice President Sanchelli	
Lori Harvin, Township Clerk	

Mrs. Harvin said, "Let the record show that Mayor Felter and Administrator James Leach are present. Also present is CFO William Eagen; Township Engineer, Ed Haack; and Road Supervisor, John Schultz.

Salute to the Flag

President Yocum asked everyone to rise and Salute the Flag.

Notice of Presiding Officer

Yocum said, "This Budget Council meeting for February 24, 2016, commencing at 7:00 p.m. has been properly noticed in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by notice to the official newspapers of the Township on February 18, 2016."

2016 Capital Budget

Leach said that after working on the Budget with Eagen, the amount for Bonding is significantly lower than the amount that is being paid for debt service. Leach said this will leave some room for fire safety equipment later in the year. Eagen said that there will be sufficient room in Capital for down payments on equipment later in the year.

Leach advised the Council that the DPW garage building that had been proposed last year cannot be built so a smaller building is being proposed.

Department of Public Works

Equipment (DPW Booklet Tab 5)

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| • Request: Mini Excavator | \$60,000.00 |
| • Request: Backhoe | \$115,000.00 |
| • Request: Stake Body R-550 With Liftgate | \$60,000.00 |
| • Request: Two (2) Pick Up Trucks w plow | \$90,000.00 |
| • Request: Shop Equipment | \$20,000.00 |
- Scanner; Wheel Puller; Computer Upgrade Welder

Haack stated that the equipment trailer in the amount of \$35,000 has been taken out; one of the single axle trucks was taken out and replaced with a Stake Body with a liftgate and a pick up truck. An equipment trailer was taken out. Haack said that the single axle dump that was taken out of this year's budget will have to go in next year's budget. A truck has been ordered and it will be ready in a couple weeks. Haack said that the two single axle older trucks have to come off the road next year because they must be retrofitted with the new exhaust system which is \$15,000 per truck.

Yocum commented that the DPW budget has many big ticket items in it but what makes this work is being able to plan and defer items. Yocum said that the Budget Sub-Committee helps the planning process.

2016 Road Paving Program (DPW Booklet Tab 3)

Haack explained that the DPW is reviewing all the streets and there are, of course, limits to manpower and resources. In light of the roads that need to be paved and to prioritize those roads, this list will be utilized. Haack said that the focus of the Department will be to return to the fundamental task of the DPW; not so much constructing projects as taking care of what is already constructed. The list of roads has been prioritized and it is about 80 percent complete. In future years, the list can be consulted and the roads that need repair the most can be placed on the list. Haack consulted Tab 3 and said the roads in red are the list of streets that were not paved in

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past years. The second list, in blue, contains the Abenaki streets where utility work was completed. This work will be included in the Water Utility Budget. Haack said that the last set of streets are the streets in Lake Swannanoa where water lines were installed about 10 or 11 years ago along with drainage and the streets were never repaired. Haack said that it is the plan to go out to bid for this paving early in the year so the work can be done early in the summer when schools are closed.

Haack said that the next plan is to start a pilot project with oil and chip which is a less expensive alternative. Haack said that because this brings up some bad experiences from the past with some residents, he would like to send out letters and set up some meetings with the residents prior to the project. Haack said that they will then keep track of the complaints to see how this goes and see if the process is a success. Haack said that the list shows the difference in price between hot asphalt and oil and chip which is about 1/3 of the price. It lasts anywhere between 50 to 70 percent of the time.

- **Bowling Green Parkway Improvements** **\$113,165.75**

Haack presented the Project Cost Estimate for Bowling Green Parkway Improvements. Haack explained that Bowling Green Parkway gets more traffic since the light was installed. Drainage was installed over the last several years but there are no curbs on the upper portion. Haack said that the project includes: curbing for the remainder of the roadway and paving.

Yocum asked Eagen if there are unexpended capital dollars for projects that are long completed. Eagen said that there is \$31,000 from last year's paving budget that will be utilized; \$60,000 has been shifted from drainage and with that the DPW Capital is still short about \$100,000. Eagen said there is \$200,000 in the Capital Improvements Fund and last year a lot of Capital Ordinances were canceled so the Capital Improvements Fund should have about \$500,000; \$1.2 million in Bonding and about \$80,000 in both the Rec Programs and Rec Trust. Yocum said that if the DPW runs into some unanticipated issues, there is enough funding to complete this list. Eagen said that the asphalt numbers and the numbers that Haack has presented are conservative.

Birmingham asked if the Grant for Milton Road is already approved and Haack said that he does not know and they will not hear until May. Haack said that the funding should be in place, but not how much of the funding.

- **UST Remediation** **\$25,000.00**

Dunham asked about the UST remediation funding. Haack said the remediation is for underground storage tanks at Maryann Well; White Rock; DPW Garage. Haack said there are three new ones that have not been addressed and it is very difficult to complete the remediations because the DEP comes back for continuing tests. Eagen said that this money is more of a monitoring expense.

Eagen said that he would like to review the Equipment Totals:

- **Request: Mini Excavator** **\$60,000.00**
- **Request: Backhoe** **\$115,000.00**
- **Request: Stake Body R-550 With Liftgate** **\$60,000.00**
- **Request: Two (2) Pick Up Trucks w plow** **\$90,000.00**

Yocum commented that the projects that are being done in the DPW and the snow removal that is being done are being done well and it is money well spent.

Utility

- **Water Meter Replacement** **\$100,000.00**

Yocum asked what percentage of meters have been replaced and Leach said that the project will take one more year.

- **Ridge Road Force Main** **\$180,000.00**

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Leach said that a large portion of the Force Main Project is funded. Haack is redoing specs to lower the cost.

Historical Society

- **Request: Interior Improvements** **~~\$3,750.00~~ suggest remove**
- **Request: Exterior Improvements** **~~\$1,500.00~~ suggest remove**

Leach said that the Historical Society has a fireplace that they would like to restore for aesthetic reasons not structural. The exterior sign also needs to be replaced and the Township sign maker can do the sign. Leach suggested that the \$750 for the fireplace be put in the operating budget. Leach said that money was requested in previous years and was not used but it cannot be used for the UV shades that are being requested for \$3,000. Eagen said that the old money can be canceled and used for this purpose.

Jefferson Highlights

Leach said that there are sufficient funds to fund Jefferson Highlights.

Passaic River Coalition

Birmingham asked if the Passaic River Coalition is still functioning. Leach said that the Coalition owns some property in Jefferson that they manage off of Holland Mountain Road. Felter said that they are down to one employee.

Rockaway River Watershed Coalition

Birmingham said that the Rockaway River Watershed will be working with the students that go to the Academy and they also do the testing of the three different spots in Jefferson.

Arts Committee

Yocum asked if the Council Committee has been set up with the Arts Committee. Sanchelli said that it has and the amount request was \$30,000 and they previously received \$23,000. The Sub-Committee approved \$28,000.

Emerald Ash Borer

Felter commented that the Emerald Ash Borer is coming and all Ash trees are susceptible to this unless they are treated. Felter said that a plan is being worked on with the forester. Leach said part of the plan will include harvesting on Township owned land and placing that money in escrow to be used for trees in rights of way and Camp Jefferson.

Miscellaneous/Public Portion

Yocum opened the meeting up to the public for questions for comments.

James Nickerson of Lake Forest came forward. Nickerson said he would like to bring the Council's attention to the Annual Leap in the Lake which was held on February 13. A number of businesses on Route 15 were gold level sponsors and over \$55,000 was raised for children with special needs. Nickerson said that he was a member of the Elks team.

Yocum closed the public portion of the meeting.

Sanchelli announced that on March 8 at 3 p.m., the Children's Specialized Hospital is sponsoring a state-wide event at all the Ihops. Sanchelli said that his daughter, Courtney, will be the greeter at the Ihop in Ledgewood informing people of what the Children's Hospital does.

Merz reported that the Arts Committee holding a line dancing event at St. Thomas this weekend.

Adjournment at 7:54 p.m.

Motion: Dunham, second Birmingham

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Mr. Dunham	Aye
Mrs. Merz	Aye
Mr. Birmingham	Aye
Vice President Sanchelli	Aye
President Yocum	Aye

Dated: February 24, 2016

Attested:

Approved:

Maria Pivrotto, Deputy Clerk

Michael J. Sanchelli, Council Vice President