

# JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

## Budget Meeting

March 12, 2014

Municipal Building, Council Chambers

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### Roll Call

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

Mrs. Harvin said, "Let the record show that Administrator James Leach is present. Also present is Township Auditor, Charles Ferraioli and CFO, William Eagen.

### Notice of Presiding Officer

President Yocum said, "This Budget Council meeting for March 12, 2014, 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 March 6, 2014."

### Salute to the Flag

Yocum asked everyone to rise to salute the flag.

### 2014 Budget Status

Township Auditor, Charles Ferraioli, distributed a copy of the Annual Debt Statement and said:

Total Debt:	\$17,847,591.30
which is divided by the 3 years equalized valuation	
Equalized Valuation Basis Average:	\$2,728,257,177.33
Net Debt Percentage of <u>0.654%</u>	

Ferraioli explained the Appropriation CAP. The Budget is \$271,681 under the CAP. Ferraioli explained the Tax levy CAP and said it is currently \$47,986 under the levy CAP.

### Anticipated Revenues

Ferraioli went on to review the Anticipated Revenues for 2014.

Surplus Anticipated	1,650,000.00
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### General Revenues

Receipts for Delinquent Taxes	1,050,000.00
Total General Revenues	25,496,848.49

Ferraioli said that right now the Budget is \$1,046,000 higher than last year or 4.3% but included in that number is an additional \$200,000 for snow. Ferraioli commented that the percentage of cash collection went up from 97.69% in 2012 to 98.32% in 2013.

Ferraioli explained that in 2013 the Township exceeded the Budget Revenues by \$168,693. Delinquent Tax Collections were exceeded by \$68,512 and Required Collection of Current Taxes exceeded the Budget by \$775,415. Ferraioli said that for 2013, \$2,235,504 was generated in Surplus.

Excess Resulting from 2013 Operations	2,234,504.00
Balance (Surplus) December 31, 2013	2,976,333.00

### Sewer Utility

Balance January 1, 2013	302,021.00
Excess Results of 2013 Operations	131,205.00
Balance December 31, 2013	433,227.00
(Increase of \$131,000)	

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### Water Utility

Balance January 1, 2013	252,960.00
Excess Results of 2013 Operations	254,471.00
Balance December 31, 2013	297,431.00
(Increase of \$44,000)	

### Average Assessed Value/Tax Point

2014 one Tax Point equals:	247,989.00
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So every time the tax levy increases by \$247,989.00 this equals one tax point.

This year the Average Home is assessed at:	\$280,517.00
Tax Point is equal to:	\$28.05
Combined increase on Average Home (2.84%):	\$58.33

### Library Funds

Dunham asked Ferraioli about the funds listed on the Library Balance Sheet that is provided to the Council on a quarterly basis. Ferraioli said that the Balance Sheet lists funds as of 1/31/14 and his Audit is as of 12/31/12. Ferraioli said the number on the Audit is broken down and this Balance Sheet does not break the funds down. The funds are listed for Capital Projects and accrued compensation (unpaid sick time, etc.). There are also funds for the Operating Budget. Dunham commented that the Balance Sheet lists \$1.3 million as Other. Ferraioli said the computer system used to generate this Sheet has not properly broken down the items. Leach asked when the town makes the payment to the Library. Eagen said the payment is made around now. Dunham asked how much the Library will be receiving. Eagen said \$870,000 which is \$30,000 less than last year. Eagen commented that the Library made a request to stay at last year's appropriation level. Leach said the Library re-evaluated their situation and found that they are financially solvent without the additional \$30,000, so at this point those additional funds will not be added.

Yocum said the Administration and the Council Committee have done a very good job. Yocum asked if the Administration can go back and continue to work on the Budget to bring the \$58.33 down into the \$40's. Leach said that before the introduction of the Budget, he and Eagen will work on the numbers. Yocum asked the Administration to first communicate that number to the Budget Committee members with an explanation so that they have an opportunity to process it before it comes to the full Council. Yocum said that those 2 members have a better understanding. Leach asked Eagen to meet with the Committee.

Ferraioli left the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Eagen reviewed the Capital Budget with the Council. Eagen said that this year has been tough on the Snow Budget and he thinks a Snow Emergency will be necessary.

Contractors (Budgeted)	140,000.00
Snow Materials	225,000.00
To Date Snow (Operating)	364,000.00
Charged to Snow Trust	36,000.00
Overtime ( <u>Still Under</u> )	30,000.00

Eagen explained that it is the 45% mark of the snow season. Eagen said he plans to leave \$150,000 in the Budget for December, plus the snow reserve.

Eagen said he sent out the updated Capital Budget as revised. The only open item was the paving budget for the water/sewer items. Leach said the Mountain Shores Water Company Application has been filed and this is the program with the half forgiveness. Leach said the next priority is Abenacki Trail. These projects will keep the Department busy. Eagen reviewed the numbers for the projects. Leach said the well regeneration is very important. Leach said the permits for Abenacki should be obtained this year and next March the application can be filed with the Infrastructure Trust for the 2015 season. The Council agreed on the Mountain Shores project then the Abenacki

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project along with the Well Regeneration Project. Eagen asked about the paving from General Capital or Water Capital. The Council agreed that the paving from the projects should come from the Water Capital.

#### Turf Field

Leach explained that there is a half payment next year on the Lakeside Turf Field. If a separate Ordinance is done this year for a Turf Field an Agreement will have to be done for the Recreation Department and the High School. Leach said that as part of the discussion, a Referendum would be placed on the ballot to merge the Recreation Trust Fund and the Open Space Trust Fund into One Fund. The town has been very successful in partnering with the County and State to purchase Open Space while using the town's Open Space Funds for the soft costs. Leach said he would like to continue that strategy.

Dunham commented that the Council was supposed to receive some documentation on how the current field has saved money on maintenance and how it is environmentally beneficial. Leach said that he met with the High School Athletic Director and the Board of Education Business Administrator and the list of environmental concerns and injury concerns will be sent over. Dunham said that some information should also be coming from John Burns on the maintenance of the current field.

Eagen explained that a Bond Ordinance would be done to authorize the project and the budget for the project. Then each year a note is borrowed toward the payment. The note is paid out of the Recreation Trust.

#### Miscellaneous/Public Portion

No one came forward.

#### Resolution

**Resolution #14-25:** Authorizing Submission of Strategic Plan for Jefferson Township Municipal Alliance Grant for Fiscal Year 2015

(31-A)

**Motion:** Birmingham, second Dunham

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

#### Miscellaneous/Public Portion

No one came forward.

#### Adjournment at 7:27 p.m.

**Motion:** Dunham, second Birmingham

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

**Dated:** March 12, 2014

Attested:

Approved:

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Lori Harvin, Township Clerk

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Richard W. Yocum, Council President