

APPROVED: May 4, 2009

WEST WINDSOR TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
BUDGET WORK SESSION #3
April 2, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: President Morgan called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

This is to advise that the notice requirement provided for in the "Open Public Meetings Act" has been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly given and transmitted to The Times and Princeton Packet; filed with the Clerk of the Municipality; and posted in the West Windsor Township Municipal Building at North Post and Clarksville Roads on March 25, 2009.

ATTENDEES: President: Morgan; Council: Borek, Geevers, Kleinman; Business Administrator: Marion; Chief Financial Officer: Louth; Coordinator of Community Development: Ward; Construction Code Official: Valeri; Manager of Land Use: Surtees

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Ken Carlson, President of the West Windsor Bicycle and Pedestrian Alliance, gave a presentation pertaining to crosswalk improvements within the Township. He reviewed the cost estimate for the improvement for the top eleven intersections under Township jurisdiction. Mr. Carlson urged the Council to increase the Capital funding for the completion of the work, and for a rapid completion schedule. He outlined the top two sidewalk projects that should be completed in 2009.

Mr. Borek advised that store owners should be willing to install sidewalks in front of their businesses as part of the project completion. He noted that Administration should make contact with the business owners to start the process.

Mr. Morgan asked what effect would increasing the Capital budget to \$200,000 for sidewalk and crosswalk repairs have on the Operating budget.

Ms. Louth explained that the Operating budget would only be increased 5% of the total bond cost for the project.

Mr. Morgan encouraged the need for traffic calming devices.

Mr. Carlson advised that the Alliance has a traffic calming program that could be presented to Council.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Construction Code Enforcement

Mr. Valeri outlined the 2008 and 2009 projects for his Division. He reviewed the revenue numbers for 2009, and predicted that the Division will bring in approximately \$100,000 more in revenue for 2009. Mr. Valeri advised that New Jersey State Department of Community Affairs raised their surcharge by 26% which will increase the fee collected by Code Enforcement. He noted that his operating budget for 2009 was decreased, and he outlined various operating budget line items.

Mr. Valeri spoke of County and School Board construction projects that have their fees waived. He also reviewed his Capital request to purchase a hybrid vehicle for the Division.

Ms. Geevers asked for a project list that will have their fees waived. She advised that a resolution should be prepared to send to the State explaining the Township is opposed to waiving fees for the County and School Board for work that is done by the Township.

Division of Land Use

Mr. Surtees reviewed the accomplishments for 2008, and the planning goals for 2009. He noted that twenty-four land use ordinances were adopted in 2008 that were for the rezoning of 5,000 Township lots. Mr. Surtees advised that the sign ordinance was reviewed, amended, and adopted. He noted that almost \$42,000 are collected annually from farmland leases, and advised that the leases are reviewed, and renewed every five years. Mr. Surtees commented that the Agricultural Advisory Committee reviews the leases and they advised that the rates are consistent with other surrounding Townships' fees.

Mr. Surtees reviewed the top three projects which will be worked on by the Planning Board: amend farmland preservation element, create seven new architectural districts for Berrien City, and design a historical district for the Grover's Mill area which will result in new zoning.

Mr. Surtees advised that his operating budget is down by 11% from 2008 and he outlined several of the budget line items.

Ms. Geevers inquired about the increase to seminars and conference line item.

Mr. Surtees noted that it was because of a national seminar that he plans on attending that he has not attended in the past few years.

Mr. Morgan asked for a better cost analysis for his supplies so that he could better understand the costs for the Division.

Mr. Surtees outlined the budget for the Site Plan Review Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and the Planning Board. He advised that the litigation budget may need to be increased due to a change in litigation circumstances resulting from: InterCap, COAH, Boot Straps Development, and the 2.5% increase related to COAH fees.

Ms. Kleinman asked for a break out of cost associated with the Planning Board review of the 2009 projects.

Mr. Surtees outlined the costs for reviewing each of the projects, and noted that the majority of the costs is associated with payment of fees to the Township Planner.

Mr. Morgan offered suggestion in dealing with the affordable housing issues at the Boot Straps development.

Mr. Surtees reviewed his Capital budget requested for the Schenck Farmstead projects.

Mr. Morgan requested an update on the Schenck Farmstead projects at a future agenda session.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Borek
Second: Kleinman
VV: All approved

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Sharon L. Young
Township Clerk
West Windsor Township