

STILLWATER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
February 24, 2016
Budget Meeting #3

A SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING of the Stillwater Township Committee was called to order by Mayor Fisher at 6:42 p.m. noting the meeting date, time and place were sent the New Jersey Herald and posted at the Town Hall, on the Township's website and advised those present that this meeting was being held in compliance with provisions of P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, Sections 4 & 13.

Mayor Fisher asked all present to join him in saluting the flag.

Roll Call: PRESENT: Mayor Fisher, Committeeman Gross, Committeewoman Chammings, Committeeman Scott, Committeeman Morrison, Municipal Clerk Lynda Knott, CFO Dana Mooney
ABSENT: None

The discussion began with the OEM budget. Mr. Joseph Sugar asked for \$1,000.00 to be put on the training line item. Mr. Scott asked who would be trained. Ms. Chammings asked how much the courses would cost. Mr. Sugar said he will take additional training and his deputy will need training. He is also looking to expand the OEM program in the community to allow people who want to volunteer but not commit to a firefighter program a position to come and help out in the Search program.

Mr. Sugar asked for \$1000.00 for maintenance of the OEM generators, chain saws and other items. Mr. Sugar also asked for \$200.00 for office supplies. Ms. Chammings noted the crossing guard retired and the position will not be filled – there is \$4,400.00 in the crossing guard budget and a portion of those funds could be transferred to OEM.

The next budget to discuss is the line item for the Green Team. Ms. Chammings explained the Green Team had asked for \$1500.00 line item in the Environmental Commission's budget and the Township Committee had asked for a breakdown of the funds requested. Mrs. Kathy Fobes-Jacoby discussed the native plant project. She noted the Environmental Commission is looking to remove the invasive species from around the trails and the native plant garden will be a good compliment project. It will be done in a highly visible area. Ms. Chammings asked if this project will get Stillwater Township points toward Sustainable Jersey program. Mrs. Fobes-Jacoby said it will help keep the Township's bronze status.

The fire department budget discussion began with the rent and aid lines. The aid to the fire company will remain at \$15,000.00 and the rent portion will be raised to \$20,000.00 to compensate for the additional truck housed at the fire house. The different testing, gear, training, foam, equipment, maintenance, and fire prevention lines were discussed and adjusted to a total of \$23,100.00 to reflect going from two separate fire companies to one fire company.

The fire department's vehicle maintenance requests were discussed. The Chief requested a budget of \$7550.00 for the 2006 KME so the truck's primer could be changed so the truck will be used as a "whole truck".

Mr. Morrison asked the fire department to develop a comprehensive plan of what will be needed in the future to be discussed with the Township Committee so a real ten year capital plan can be put in place.

The Fire Department's capital requests were discussed began with replacement gear of five sets of turnout gear. The gear only has a ten year life and must be regularly replaced. The hose replacement plan was also discussed. Mr. Sugar suggested the purchase of a hose dryer to prolong the life of hose. Air bottles are another safety gear are replaced through a five to ten bottle a year purchase.

Chief Francomacaro brought up re-lettering the gear (\$189 to remove and re-letter each coat) that was given back to the Township from Swartwood Fire Company. Stillwater Fire Department will utilize the gear. Chief Francomacaro also discussed cleaning the gear and they have looked into purchasing a washing machine and/or have a gear cleaning program. The CFO noted the cleaning of gear is an operating expense not a capital expense and should be included in the line where gear is repaired and maintained.

At this time it is unknown how much of Swartwood Fire Companies gear can be used by Stillwater Fire Department. The gear must be inspected for wear and age and then sized for the current members. Ms. Chamblings asked the Township Committee to allow Stillwater Fire Company to take the gear to their fire house to inspect them. Chief Francomacaro asked to also take the radios and hose for inspection as well.

Chief Francomacaro discussed the equipment needed and the equipment provided to put the 42 Rescue truck into service including the re-lettering of the truck. The request submitted to the Township Committee just to put the truck in service is \$15,901.93. The Township Committee approved the amount of \$18,000.00 (to include anything not seen) to outfit 42 Rescue. The CFO said operating funds and/or prior years' capital budget funds that were not spent could be used now to put the truck in service.

The CFO discussed the cell phone for the OEM. Verizon Wireless once had a long list of phones available for government plans. There are no I Phones on the list. The government plan allows upgrades every year. There are only a few phones on the list. The Clerk will give the OEMC the list and he will choose from the available models.

The Stillwater Emergency Rescue Squad's budget line items of Aid will remain at \$15,000. The training is reduced to \$3,000.00.

Mr. Morrison asked the CFO what the budget looks like. The CFO said not including anything that was discussed this evening the total budget is \$3,643,000.00 almost exactly \$200,000.00 more than last year which is almost all the gypsy moth spraying.

The EMS vehicle maintenance request is \$3,500.00. The Clerk explained the request includes the request for brush guards for the ambulance(s).

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m. with a majority voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda Knott, Township Clerk