

**SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING**  
**Mayor and Council**  
**Borough of Harrington Park, New Jersey**  
**January 30, 2012**

**(PAH) Call Meeting to Order**

**Time: 7:03PM**

**Mayor's Announcement:**

In compliance with Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, adequate notice of the meeting was made. It is included in the Annual Meetings posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Center. Copies have been mailed to the BERGEN RECORD, SUBURBANITE and THE NORTHERN VALLEY PRESS. A copy has been filed with the Borough Clerk, and copies have been mailed to individuals requesting the same.

**(ALB) Roll Call:**

Councilman Napolitano-Present

Councilman Roth-Present

Councilman Quantmeyer-Present

Councilman Dunlea-Present

Councilman Evanella-Present

Councilwoman Chung-Present

Also present:

Ms. Ann H. Bistriz, Borough Clerk

Captain Maalouf, Officer in Charge

Mr. Joseph Zavarino, Construction Official

**(JR) Budget Discussions**

**(GE) Police Department-Capt. A. Maalouf, OIC**

Councilman Evanella explained that the budget was calculated with the request to cover overtime as the department stands now as well the additional amount of funds to cover the hiring of two police officers. AM calculated the overtime by reviewing the past year's schedule, vacation and sick time. Between \$60,000 to \$73,000 dollars could be saved if council chooses to hire another police officer. This man would fill vacations gaps, weekends and training. The person's salary would be on the low end of the spectrum and would be considered the "jumper" filling in the schedule in place of an officer for overtime. Chief Moppert used this type of police officer on a regular basis to save money for the department. If a second man is hired an additional savings may be determined around \$40,000. This officer would most likely be hired after June 30, 2012.

GQ asked about compensation time for officers. AM stated that he tried to work with the men in his department as much as possible. PAH asked Council to consider AM to hire an additional officer now and perhaps one later in the year. AEM has included whatever expenditures there would be for two hires in the budget already. AM has a list of over a dozen candidates to consider. Several of the candidates on the current list have been hired by other municipalities. Most are local with one from North Haledon. The budget reflected 2 hires for nine months of the year, with all costs involved.

AM was asked about the department radio/communication needs. AM would like Council to consider bonding for 4 new radios. The current radios have narrow banding capability, but they are old and some have been repaired, it may be more frugal to buy new ones rather than spend additional money on old equipment.

AM was asked about several line items that included increases in office supply purchases to organize the office, update filing systems, court overtime, firearms and traffic control. Several STOP signs need to be replaced. PAH informed AM that Teaneck has purchased a sign making machine and has offered to make signs for the Borough through participation in Riverside Cooperative. Additional expenses included the cost of a new computer server. The current server is working and can be updated to some extent, however, if the Borough is going to bond money, this is something that should be added to the list. He will research the complete cost factors involved.

AM was instructed to immediately start reviewing and interviewing candidates for a police officer.

The following line items were changed:

240-014 Police S & W \$130,000 to \$100,000

003 Court Overtime raised to \$10,000

240-2 Other Expenditure

077 Communications \$12,000 to \$10,000

043 would be raised from \$1500 to \$5000 (covers 2 new officers)

Additional information will be furnished for Computer Expenses and Headquarters expenses for future consideration.

Motion was made by Councilman Evanella to commence the process of the initial steps for hiring an additional police officer to be placed into service as soon as possible, following the appropriate protocol and procedures for hiring such individual. Second by Councilman Roth. With no further discussion, Roll Call Vote-AIF

**(AN) Building Department-Mr. J. Zavardino**

Mr. Zavardino explained the structure of the Building Department along with the budgetary components that apply. Fees are determined to cover the department expenses (statutory). Zoning and Property maintenance are covered by local ordinance.

Currently the Building Department doubled last January (2011) intake, and the prediction is to surpass last year's money with some surplus. The calculations include the elimination of a full time employee and bringing in a part time person, however now the department is completely part time. There are no health benefits or vacation time paid.

The Building Department has a very dedicated staff and JZ has included in his budget a 2% increase for the inspectors (no raise in 3 years) and an increase for the technical assistant. JZ feels it is very important to recognize the efforts of good people, who are dedicated to the department, making sure the all the appropriate permits are being applied for.

JZ did request AEM to take out the line item for the Fire Professional. This is not something that is part of the Building Department even though his assistant does work with this official. JZ has also requested \$500, if funds are available at the end of the year

for compensation for private vehicles for his inspectors. Most towns compensate their employees for their mileage and vehicle usage, or provide a municipal vehicle for them to use.

GE stated that employees who are performing well should be rewarded to the best of Council's budgetary constraints.

**(AN) Fire Department**

AN met with Chief Blackinton briefly and he will have his budget ready by the next meeting. AEM advised a 14% cut.

Discussion followed about bonding for fire trucks and the actual necessity of a new one. Advice was given to speak with the Borough Risk Manager.

JD would like a presentation from the Fire Department prior to any decisions

**(JC) Board of Health**

The only increase is line 330-2 (033) which is an encumbered expense from last year for the Board of health Code Codification. Otherwise no increase in the budget requests from the past.

**Old Business**

GE requested Council consideration for Bonding the repair of OBG wall for about \$65,000.

JR would like to discuss Recreation Commission, Environmental Commission, Club 60 and employee Salaries (Rice those who shall be discussed).

**Adjournment-Time: 8:33pm**

**Motion: GE**

**Second: JR**

**Vote: AIF**