

WHITE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING MARCH 23, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Race called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and stated ‘Adequate Notice of this meeting of March 23, 2017 has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by forwarding a notice of the date, time, and location of the meeting to the Express-Times and Star-Gazette; and by posting a copy thereof on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and the township website. Formal action may be taken at this meeting. Public participation is encouraged. This agenda is subject to last minute additions and deletions by the White Township Committee’.

FLAG SALUTE

The Mayor asked everyone to stand for the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Race, Committeewoman Mackey, Attorney Brian Tipton and Clerk Kathleen Reinalda. Committeeman Herb was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mildred Rice, representing the Carl D. Archer American Legion Post, requested the committee consider authorizing the installation of a POW MIA monument at the Route 519 North Recreation Complex. The Legion has already researched it. They would like it to be black granite and approximately 2’ x 3’. Ms. Rice said the American Legion approximated the cost to be between \$2,600 and \$3,000 and would appreciate any donation the committee could make. Motion made by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mayor Race and carried unanimous favorable roll call vote to authorize payment of the full cost of the POW MIA monument as specified above. Herb – absent, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. Motion carried.

2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET INTRODUCTION

John Mooney, Municipal Auditor, congratulated the committee on a 3.3 cent reduction in the 2017 proposed municipal budget. The 2016 rate was 7.2 cents, down in 2017 to 3.9 cents. This equates roughly to a \$101 tax bill on a \$260,000 home.

Motion made by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mr. Race and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to approve the following resolution. Herb – absent, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. Resolution approved.

SELF-EXAMINATION OF BUDGET RESOLUTION [as required by DCA]

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the Township of White has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local Government Services, and the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the local government meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2017 budget year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Township of White that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & 7.6b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification, the governing body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:
 - a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges
 - b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
 - c. Cash deficit of preceding year
 - d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
 - e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
 - f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes.
2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3 et seq., are fully met (complies with CAP law).
3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.
4. That the pursuant to the Local Budget Law:
 - a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate and correctly stated,
 - b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
 - c. In itemization, form, arrangement and content, the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.
5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced and publicly advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.

6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services upon adoption.

Motion made by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mr. Race and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to approve the following ordinance on first reading. Public Hearing will be scheduled for April 27th. Herb – absent, Mackey – yes, Race – yes.

**CALENDAR YEAR 2017
ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET
APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40a:4-45.154)**

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S.A.40A:4-45.1 et. seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 0.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of White in the County of Warren finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2017 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee hereby determines that a 3.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$48,454 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Committee hereby determine that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of White, in the County of Warren, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2017 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of White shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A.

40A:4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$48,454 and that the CY 2017 municipal budget for the Township of White be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

2017 MUNICIPAL BUDGET INTRODUCTION

Motion made by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mr. Race and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to approve the 2017 Municipal Budget on first reading. Public Hearing will be scheduled for April 27th. Herb – absent, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. The 2017 Introduced Municipal Budget is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

OLD BUSINESS

The committee briefly reviewed the Five Acres Flea Market complaint. As Attorney Tipton was not present at the previous March meeting, he suggested he review the issues and report back at a later meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

On motion by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mayor Race and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote, the following Resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION - EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of White, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion, and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter, March 23, 2017, 7:31 pm:

Personnel Matters
(Tax Collection Office)

2. It is anticipated at this time, the above-stated subjects will be made public at such time when the matters discussed are no longer sensitive. Motion passed.

On motion by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mayor Race, the meeting was re-opened to the public at 8:54p.m. Motion passed. No action was taken in Executive Session.

OTHER MATTERS

Motion made by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mayor Race and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to approve an 'agreed upon procedures audit' of the tax/sewer collection office not to exceed \$25,000.00. Herb – absent, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Mackey reminded the committee that the appointment of an Animal Control Officer was not made at the Reorganization Meeting and has not been made since. Attorney Tipton advised that the committee is free to appoint a new animal control officer since the re-appointment of the current ACO never happened. Motion made by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mayor Race and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote to appoint Mr. Robert Lagonera to the position of Animal Control Officer, at the 2016 Salary Resolution rate, effective immediately. Herb – absent, Mackey – yes, Race – yes. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m. on motion by Mrs. Mackey, seconded by Mr. Herb and carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen R. Reinalda, RMC
Township Clerk