

BYRAM TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING - MARCH 29, 2010

CALL MEETING TO ORDER - The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT - Adequate notice of this meeting has been made in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA 10:4-6.

ROLL CALL

Councilman Olson, here; Councilwoman Raffay, here; Councilman Rafferty, late (6:14); Councilman Thompson, present; Mayor Oscovitch, here; Township Manager Joe Sabatini, CFO Theresa Vervaeet and Municipal Clerk Doris Flynn were also present.

FLAG SALUTE

BUDGET WORK SESSION

Township Manager Joe Sabatini reviewed the recent changes that were made to the budget as an outcome to the Governor's address and Byram's decreased state aid. The Manager summarized the budget message he prepared.

Councilman Olson verified a few of the numbers with the Manager. Councilwoman Raffay asked for clarification regarding unanticipated revenue and reviewed how the decrease in State aid was being made up.

Councilman Thompson asked if the Township could use Open Space funds for maintenance of the recreation fields. Joe Sabatini explained that the Township could only use OS funds for maintenance of Open Space acquisitions, which would not include any of our present parks.

Councilman Olson and Mayor Oscovitch both stated that the Manager and staff did a great job with the budget and were in favor of introducing the budget as presented on April 5th.

Councilman Rafferty stated that he would not be voting in favor of the budget because he does not feel we are being fiscally responsible. He would like to utilize the \$15,000 savings that would be realized if the municipal election was moved to the general election and reduce the amount being raised in taxes by the cost savings that would be realized if Council members did not take medical benefits. Councilman Rafferty stated that he would like the people to have a say on these matters and put a referendum on the ballot.

Councilman Thompson stated that he would be not vote in favor of the budget because of unfunded state mandates. He would like the Council to write a letter to the governor that says "enough is enough". He is also in favor of saving \$15,000 by moving the municipal election to the general election.

Motion was made by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Raffay to introduce the budget on April 5, 2010.

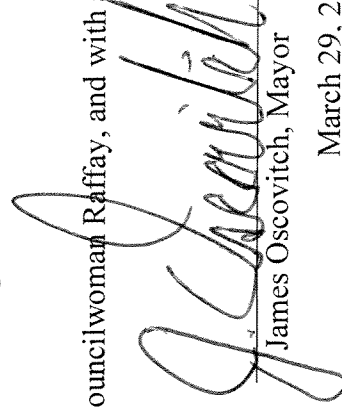
COUNCIL MEMBER	Councilman Olson	Councilwoman Raffay	Councilman Rafferty	Councilman Thompson	Mayor Oscovitch
Motion	X				
2nd		X			
Yes	X	X			X
No			X	X	
Abstain					
Absent					

Open to the Public – Motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Raffay to open to the public. All members were in favor. Motion carried. No comments were made. Councilwoman Raffay made a motion, seconded by Councilman Olson, to close to public. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

On the motion by Councilman Olson, second by Councilwoman Raffay, and with all members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.


Doris Flynn, RMC


James Oscovitch, Mayor