

BUDGET HEARING, JANUARY 3, 2011

Chairman Raymond Equils called the meeting to order at 20:03 hours, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners Equils, Kelly, McMahon, Scarlato, and Stalling were present. Also present were Chief Bill Bommer and 1st Asst Chief Bob Nichols. It is noted that there was zero (0) members of the public and zero (0) firefighters in attendance when the meeting was called to order.

Chairman Equils read the Public Notice for this hearing, as advertised in the Asbury Park Press on Wednesday, December 22, 2010, and also posted on two municipal public bulletin boards and on the firehouse bulletin board.

The Clerk also made note that the Annual Notice of Meetings, including this Hearing, was advertised in the Asbury Park Press on Saturday, January 1, 2011, and also posted on two municipal bulleting boards and on the firehouse bulletin board.

The Clerk noted that in the event any residents or taxpayers wished to review the budget, it was available for Public Inspection in the Fire Prevention Bureau Office during business hours for at least the past week. Additionally, he was present in the district office from 10:00 to 12:00 hours on Saturday, January 1, and today from 17:30 hours until the start of this meeting, for review of the budget by any interested resident or taxpayer.

He reported that no citizens or taxpayers nor any of the district's firefighters requested to review the budget at the district office.

The Clerk also reported the budget document was sent to the Dept of Community Affairs in Trenton, but as of today's mail, it has not yet returned from them. The Clerk stated he contacted the district auditor (Mr. Barry J. Osborn) and received no negative response, regarding any problem with the budget as submitted.

The Clerk then stated that the sole purpose of this meeting is to conduct a Public Hearing on the proposed Budget for 2011; and to then adopt same with or without any changes. He further stated the 2011 Budget as proposed, has a Total Appropriation of \$803,595.00; with a total Tax Levy of \$704,893.00; with a Proposed Tax Rate of \$0.032 per \$100.00 of Assessed Value.

Commissioners McMahon and Scarlato then made a motion to open the Public Hearing. The motion was passed unanimously by the board.

Upon opening the Public Hearing at 20:03 hours, it was recorded that there were two (2) fire chiefs; zero (0) members of the public; and zero (0) firefighters in attendance.

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It was noted for the record that at no time during these discussions had any person, citizen or firefighter, arrived to participate in the public hearing.

As the meeting room was empty, except for the elected members of the commission and the two (2) fire chiefs; Chairman Equils asked three (3) times if there were any questions or comments to be made on the Proposed 2011 Budget.

Hearing no response to Chairman Equils' calling, a motion to close the Public Hearing was made by Commissioners McMahon and Stalling. This motion was passed unanimously by the board.

A motion was then made by Commissioners Gotto and Charters, **TO ADOPT THE BUDGET FOR 2011, WITH A TOTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$803,595.00; WITH A TAX LEVY TOTALING \$704,893.00.**

This motion was passed unanimously by the Board on a **Roll Call Vote**; with Commissioners Equils, Kelly, McMahon, Scarlato, and Stalling all voting AYE. There were no NAY votes cast.

This concluded the business of the Public Hearing and Adoption of the 2011 Budget. So with 2 fire chiefs, and no citizens, firefighters, or other members of the public in the audience, Commissioners Kelly and McMahon made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion was passed unanimously by the Board.

The meeting closed at 20:30 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert J. Kelly
Clerk of the Board

RJK/rjk