

# SPECIAL WEST AMWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

## April 18, 2012 – 6:00 p.m.

The West Amwell Township Committee met on the above date at 6:30 p.m. Present: Mayor Fisher and Committeeman Molnar and CFO Carro. Committeeman Rich was absent.

In compliance with the Public Meetings Act, Mayor Fisher announced that this Special Meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act with notices faxed to the Hunterdon County Democrat and the Trenton Times on April 10, 2012. A copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk.

The meeting was recorded via digital recording system.

### **BUDGET WORKSHOP:**

A packet including 2012 revenues, tentative budget projections, impact on homeowners, the cap calculation and municipal information sheets and a spreadsheet for salaries and wages was distributed. The latter was reviewed first and included a 2% raise for all staff. A 2% increase was added for the Township Committee. Requested salary adjustments due to new or increased duties, or parity with similar positions, were then taken into consideration with the following results: Deputy Registrar (\$1000); Clerk/Admin duties/hrs (\$5000); Certifying officer for Pensions (\$1200); ZB Secretary (\$6100); Zoning Officer (\$2000); BOH Secretary (\$700); Dog Registrar (\$2000).

The increase in the police salary line was noted as was a \$5000 reduction in the OT line from 2011. A complaint concerning compensation and longevity from Roads will be checked. The Construction office increases were approved in the amounts requested.

Discussion turned to Parks & Recreation and the use of Open Space Trust funds. The decision was to allocate \$6000 which will be used for park maintenance and plus an additional \$1500 for mowing activities on Calton and Toll.

Some Fire Company issues were mentioned that will need a special meeting as was the need for a fire district.

The tentative budget sheets were presented and changes made from a previous meeting were highlighted. The CFO noted that the gasoline line at \$50,000 may be light. Total appropriations showed a 3.67% increase but the numbers are still under 'cap,' although a few adjustments will have to be made given the decisions from earlier in the evening. The numbers on the revenue sheet were explained as to what could be anticipated in 2012 based on 2011 receipts, with the amount to be raised by taxation estimated to be a 1% increase. The tax impact on a homeowner would be a local rate of 26 cents. To off-set the proposed increase, it was agreed to use an additional \$12,000 from surplus.

Possible capital projects were reviewed as follows:

Police vehicle	\$35,000
Gas Boy	12,000
Technology	10,000
Fire Co Turnout Gear	15,000
A/C unit – patrol room	7,000
Roll off	10,000
Roof (extras)	10,000

Money from the Capital Improvement Fund, which has a current balance of \$135,000, would be used. An ordinance will be prepared for the next meeting.

### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

No public in attendance.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:45 p.m. on motion by Molnar, seconded by Fisher.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lora L. Olsen, RMC  
Township Clerk