

# SPECIAL WEST AMWELL TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

## May 11, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.

The West Amwell Township Committee met on the above date at 7:07 p.m. at the West Amwell Elementary School. Present: Mayor Molnar, Committeemen Fisher and Rich. Board members present included Aaron Balog, John Dupuis, Andrea Little, Board President Peter Gasparro, Business Administrator Donna Tolley and Superintendent Todd Fay.

In compliance with the Public Meetings Act, Mayor Molnar 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 May 5, 2011. 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 not recorded.

### **WEST AMWELL SCHOOL BOARD – Defeated Budget Review/Discussion/Possible Resolution:**

A budget analysis covering the two previous plus the current year was presented to provide both a look-back and a comparison. Board President Gasparro explained how costs have been contained and reviewed key highlights for both expenses and savings, noting that the Board is now facing an unanticipated legal suit which will incur expenses in excess of what is usually budgeted. Dr. Fay spoke about the property acquisition to provide space for business office staff and increases to transportation and Child Study Team costs incurred with their partnership with South. Also noted was that the elementary school may take the lead on bulk purchases, although savings currently are realized through the ESC co-op, and that there will be savings with the new shared superintendent. A listing of cuts than could be considered by the Committee were then presented and discussed, with the goal of keeping the budget flat. The following resolution was presented for consideration.

#### **RESOLUTION #79-2011**

Resolution Certifying the General Fund Tax Levy for the West Amwell Township Elementary School Board of Education for the School Year 2011-2012, by the Governing Body of the Township of West Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey

WHEREAS, the voters of the Township of West Amwell in a duly held election, did fail to approve the General Fund Tax Levy Budget of the Board of Education of the Township of West Amwell for the school year 2011-2012; and

WHEREAS, the Education, Budgets and Appropriations Law, N.J.S.A. 28a-22-37, requires the Governing Body of Township of West Amwell, after consultation with the West Amwell Township Elementary School Board of Education, to determine the amount which is necessary to be appropriate in such budget and to certify to the County Board of Taxation the total amount so determined; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Township of West Amwell has consulted with representatives of the West Amwell Township Elementary School Board of Education, and has thereafter determined the amount necessary to be appropriate; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Township of West Amwell, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the following determination is hereby made:

1. The original tax levy on the ballot for the base budget: \$3,673,786.
2. The amount of reduction to the tax levy for the base budget: \$ 72,036.
3. The amount of tax levy being certified for the base budget: \$3,601,750.

4. Specific line item reductions:

Account Number	Description	Amount
a. 11-213-100-106	Other Salaries for Instruction (Aide)	\$28,000.
b. 11-200-100-270	Health Benefits	\$10,000.
c. 11-190-100-610	General Supplies (Tech & Supplies)	\$26,086.
d. 11-000-221-500	Other Purch Services (PD)	\$ 1,950.
e. 11-000-222-500	Other Purch Services (PD)	\$ 1,500.
f. 11-000-262-622	Energy (Electricity)	\$ 4,500.

5. Supporting reasons for reduction: Based upon a review of all data provided by the Board of Education, meetings with representatives of the Board of Education, numerous public hearings and consideration of the public need, it has been determined that the reductions set forth herein can be effectuated without a reduction in programs or negatively impacting upon the education of the students.

6. The revised budget is sufficient to provide a thorough and efficient education.

7. There was no additional general fund tax levy considered by the voters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the West Amwell Township Elementary School Board of Education, Superintendent of the Hunterdon County Department of Education, and the Administrator of the Hunterdon County Board of Taxation.

The Resolution was unanimously approved on motion by Fisher, seconded by Rich.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

There was no public in attendance.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:03 p.m. on motion by Fisher, seconded by Rich.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lora L. Olsen, RMC  
Township Clerk