

**MAURICE RIVER TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL MEETING
Monday, March 14, 2016, 5:30 PM**

This meeting has been advertised in accordance with the statutes of the State of New Jersey.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Sarclette

Roll Call

A. Resolution

Resolution No. 51-2016 A Resolution Authorizing Emergency Temporary
Appropriations Pursuant To N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20.

B. Review of 2016 Municipal Budget

1. Motion to introduce the 2016 Municipal Budget – Resolution #44-2016 and set date for advertising synopsis and date/time/place of public hearing.

C. Public Comment

D. Adjournment

Monday, March 14, 2016, 5:30 P.M.
Special Meeting – Budget Introduction

PRESENT: Andrew Sarclette, Mayor
Patricia Gross, Deputy Mayor
Allen Foster, Finance Officer
Denise Peterson, Municipal Clerk

This meeting has been advertised in accordance with the statutes of the State of New Jersey. This special meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. Notice of this meeting was emailed to South Jersey Times on March 2, 2016 and advertised on March 4, 2016. In addition copies of notices were posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and filed in the office of the Municipal Clerk on aforementioned date. Notes on the bulletin board have remained continuously posted.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Sarclette, present
Mrs. Gross, present
Mr. Oliver, Absent

Mayor Sarclette called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm noting the purpose of the special meeting is to discuss the 2016 Municipal Budget. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Resolution

Mr. Foster explained that the purpose of Resolution #51-2016 was to cover costs until the 2016 Budget was adopted.

The Clerk read Resolution #51-2016, A Resolution Authorizing Emergency Temporary Appropriations Pursuant To N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20.

Mrs. Gross made a motion to adopt Resolution #51-2016; seconded by Mr. Sarclette.
Roll Call: Ayes- Gross, Sarclette Nays: None

Review of 2016 Municipal Budget

Resolution #44-2016, 2016 Municipal Budget

Mr. Foster explained that the nothing had changed from the initial summary that was provided to the Township Committee other than the Ambulance. The request for two air packs received from Port Elizabeth Volunteer Fire Company for a cost of \$6,500 each (total \$13,000) was included by reducing the ambulance appropriation which was initially \$100,000. Mr. Foster further stated that in next year's budget that there should be a line item for Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad to pay toward the \$20,000 which was discussed being paid to Belleplaine Rescue for the supplies and training that they supply to Heislerville VFC and Leesburg VFC; this would provide that the payment goes directly to the fire companies and they can pay Belleplaine directly for the supplies and training. Mr. Foster explained that paying to Belleplaine and requesting receipts, etc. would create additional work in the Finance Department.

Mr. Foster explained that the line item created for fire and rescue expenses would remain in the budget for next year. Mr. Sarclette explained that the committee will need to examine the additional expenses being paid on behalf of the volunteer fire companies. Mr. Sarclette stated that currently the township pays for the volunteer fire company's fuel and insurance costs. Currently, the township is paying the engineering and survey costs for Cumberland Volunteer Fire Company's renovation project. Basically the request by Port Elizabeth levels the field of requests made by the fire companies. However in the future these requests must be evaluated on a case by case basis and kept under control. The township also picks up the cost trash and recycling at the school. The township does these things to keep things more economical.

Mr. Foster stated that the small dump truck is included in the budget as a line item and the large dump truck is included in the capital improvement fund line. Next year the capital improvement fund line will have to come down because the debt service comes in to play; so most likely we

will not be able to do anything like that next year. Mr. Sarcellette stated that he does believe that the Public Works Supervisor has submitted a long term plan but Public works has a new back hoe, new loader and the two new dumps this year; unfortunately all the large dump trucks were purchased around the same time and will begin now to need more work than what we want to put into them at some point.

Mr. Sarcellette stated that it appears that head way is being made on the East Point Beach restoration and the Mouth of the Maurice River project at Matts Landing which will require capital; this may include crushed concrete, paving, etc. Mr. Foster questioned the cost. Mr. Sarcellette said this would be a few thousand but is not sure as there are no definite plans but they are trying to get other groups to help fund the projects such as NJDEP but the township will need to take part in the expenses and some of the expense would be this year. Mr. Sarcellette questioned the funding left for Thompsons Beach. Mr. Foster stated there is still money left in the Thompsons Beach fund. Mr. Sarcellette stated that this money can be used at Matts Landing or East Point wherever it is deemed appropriate. Mr. Foster stated that yes this could be done. Mr. Sarcellette state that initially the thought with Thompsons Beach was to make the walking path more durable but if Matts Landing and East Point can be done; they are more urgent.

Mr. Foster stated that the 2015 Road Improvement money is accounted for but the notes need to be complete; cash is on hand to cover the expenses so far. Mr. Sarcellette questioned that both phases (2015 and 2016) were accounted for.

Mr. Sarcellette asked about the library repair expenses of \$14,500; were they accounted for. Mr. Foster stated that this should be fine.

Mrs. Gross asked that the line item for celebration and public events be increased. Mr. Foster stated that the line has been increased from \$2,000 to \$4,000.

Mrs. Gross asked that an allotment be made for the Town Watch program for refreshments which was being taken from the public safety line item. Mr. Sarcellette stated that these costs were more likely coming from the OE for Emergency Management. A discussion was held that the Town Watch may need to be established as a township committee as it pertains to insurance, etc. Mrs. Gross will talk to Mr. DiDomenico about this. Mr. Foster stated that regarding the Town Watch expenses that there is usually plenty on the OE line for OEM and a separate line item can be added next year.

Mr. Sarcellette questioned the expenses for the OEM building. The clerk stated that this item is added to the A&BR as a discussion item and at this time we only have an hourly rate; no formal quotes have been received. Upon reviewing paperwork supplied, Mr. Sarcellette stated that it does not appear that this is a large expense.

Mr. Foster stated that the tax rate is going up less than half a cent. Per Mr. Foster, Mr. Colavita the auditor had suggested that the increase be more but Mr. Foster felt it was not necessary. Mr. Sarcellette stated that Mr. Colavita generally feels it is better to increase in small amounts over time rather than one large increase. Mr. Foster stated that there is room for adjustment in some areas and a larger increase is not needed.

Mr. Foster stated that the ambulance situation is not ideal because of the increase of \$45,000 per year. Mr. Foster stated that there are other alternatives such as a volunteer rescue squad. Mr. Sarcellette stated that this could not be done any cheaper than the amount being paid plus with our own volunteer rescue squad there would be increased liability and that there are first responders as part of the fire companies. Mr. Foster asked about Millville response time; the state indicated that the squad could post locally. Mrs. Gross stated that Millville would not guarantee "soft posting" locally. Mr. Sarcellette stated that also Millville has been getting help from Laurel Lake and Vineland; Belleplaine does "soft post" locally during summer traffic days, etc. Mrs. Gross further explained that Laurel Lake was investigated to cover but they are new and it is not feasible for them to help Maurice River at this time. Mrs. Gross further stated that Mr. Colavita had commented that he does not attend the meetings because is confident that Mr. Foster is doing a good job. Mrs. Gross also explained that Ray had mentioned that a Shared Service agreement can be examined in the future with Laurel Lake because then the costs are not doubled on everything. Mr. Sarcellette explained that the contract with Belleplaine has a clause for notification of 90 days to terminate the contract by either party. Mr. Foster said that is almost seems as if

Belleplain mismanaged their business and now the township is paying the price. Mr. Sarclette explained that Belleplain lost the prison transports which were a large compensation to them, insurance companies are sending payments to the patients who are not forwarded to them but he believes ultimately that Belleplain is the best option for the township. Mr. Sarclette further stated that he is not opposed to having our own ambulance but the ambulance was stopped before because we could not afford and keep up with the regulations, costs, training, etc.

Mr. Foster stated that the ambulance services costs are in the budget and should not have to increase this line in the future years. Mr. Sarclette stated that unfortunately, Millville will probably request more money next year; Millville does not respond to the number of calls that Belleplain covers and they do not send the same number of units to each call that Belleplain does. This will require calculations to be done such as the cost per call and cost per rig at that time.

Mr. Sarclette asked for confirmation of the tax increase. Mr. Foster stated the increase will be from .427 to .432. Mr. Sarclette stated the total \$3,845,614.05 and the amount to be raised by taxes is 1.294 (1.3 rounded).

Mr. Sarclette asked for a motion to open for public comment regarding the budget.

Mrs. Gross made a motion to open the public comment session at 6:50 pm, seconded by Mr. Sarclette.

Roll Call: Ayes – Gross, Sarclette Nays – None Abstentions – None

There being no public comments, Mrs. Gross made a motion to close the public comment session; seconded by Mr. Sarclette.

Roll Call: Ayes – Gross, Sarclette Nays – None Abstentions – None

Mrs. Gross made a motion to approve the 2016 Municipal Budget on introduction in the amount of \$3,845,614.05 with the amount to be raised by taxation of \$1,294,466.88 and set the date of publication for April 18, 2016 and public hearing to be held April 18, 2016 at 6:30 pm. Motion seconded by Mr. Sarclette.

Mrs. Gross made a motion to adjourn at 9:37 pm, seconded by Mr. Sarclette

Denise Peterson, Municipal Clerk

Maurice River Township
Resolution 44-2016
Budget

TOWNSHIP OF MAURICE RIVER
2016 EMERGENCY TEMPORARY BUDGET
RESOLUTION NO. 51-2016

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS
PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20.

WHEREAS, an emergent condition has arisen with respect of the need to provide additional budgetary funds for 2016 and no adequate provision has been made in the 2016 temporary budget for the aforesaid purpose, and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 provides for the creation of emergency temporary appropriations for the purpose above mentioned; and

WHEREAS, the total temporary resolutions adopted in the year 2016 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20) including this resolution total \$933,964.21; and

WHEREAS, it is considered necessary for the health and welfare of the community to continue to provide necessary services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, (not less than two-thirds of all the members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with N.J.S. 40A:4-20,

1. Emergency temporary appropriations are hereby made for:

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION S&W	3,500.00
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OE	1,000.00
GOVERNING BODY S&W	1,300.00
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION S&W	2,500.00
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION O&E	1,000.00
TAX COLLECTION S&W	2,500.00
TAX COLLECTION O&E	1,000.00
TAX ASSESSMENT S&W	1,000.00
LAND USE BOARD - S&W	500.00
CONSTRUCTION OFFICIAL S&W	2,000.00
ZONING OFFICE S&W	1,000.00
ELECTRICAL SUBCODE S&W	900.00
PLUMBING SUBCODE S&W	300.00
FIRE PROTECTION SUBCODE S&W	300.00
HOUSING OFFICE - S&W	300.00
WORKERS COMP INSURANCE OE	10,000.00
EMPLOYEE GROUP INSURANCE	25,000.00
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE OE	400.00
EMERGENCY MGMT COORDINATOR S&W	300.00
Fire Official - S&W	200.00
STREETS & ROADS S/W	15,000.00
STREETS & ROADS OE	10,000.00
ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES - OE	800.00
Senior Citizen's Center - S&W	1,500.00
Social Security	2,000.00
MUNICIPAL COURT S/W	2,500.00
Contribution – PERS	76,679.00

Total **\$163,479**

2. That said emergency appropriations will be provided for in full in the 2016 budget under the title as listed above.