

ALEXANDRIA TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
Special Budget Meeting
Minutes
March 6, 2013

This meeting was advertised in the Hunterdon Democrat, and notice posted in the Alexandria Township Municipal Offices and the Alexandria Township Website as required by the Open Public Meetings Act.

Called to order at 6:00 PM

ROLL CALL: Committeeman Swift, Committeeman Abraham, Mayor Plumer, and CFO Rees were present.

Motion to Approve Open Public Meeting Resolution for EXECUTIVE SESSION: Comm. Abraham made a motion, seconded by Comm. Swift to Approve Open Public Meeting Resolution for **EXECUTIVE SESSION: Roll Call: Comm. Swift, yes; Comm. Abraham, yes; Mayor Plumer, yes.**

Comm. Abraham made a motion, seconded by Comm. Swift to return to Open Session **Roll Call: Comm. Swift, yes; Comm. Abraham, yes; Mayor Plumer, yes.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT:

The following matters were discussed in Executive Session:

Personnel Matters: The Township hired Virginia Colucci to help in the Building Department for \$15.00 an hour. Virginia will work in the Building Department part-time on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9 to 4 and work in the office as needed for the Clerk when she isn't available.

BUDGET WORK SESSION: Each line item on the budget was discussed and reviewed. Mayor Plumer and Comm. Abraham will waive their remaining salary for 2013 to offset the Tax Levy. Additional money needed to be cut in different departments to cover the budget of Hatch Mott MacDonald for Environmental Services at the Municipal Garage located at 255 Hickory Corner Road. Taxes for 2013 will not be raised. Resident Chris Pfefferle of 59 Schoolhouse Rd asked if the township has a road improvement program. CFO Rees explained that it is budgeted in the Capital Improvement budget and that the operating budget is what is being discussed at this meeting. Mr. Pfefferle also asked about unfunded sick days and future unused sick days for employees. CFO Rees explained that a cap of \$5,000.00 is administered to all employees pertaining to unused sick days at retirement. Mr. Pfefferle had several other questions relating to the budget. The Committee and CFO Rees answered those concerns. Resident Curtis Schick asked if the salt barn roof work has been budgeted in the budget for repair and asked about the tax rate if the assessments are lowered. CFO Rees answered those concerns. Resident Judy Tucker asked about grants that the Township has received. CFO Rees explained the procedure of the grants and their expenditures.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1.) Resolution 2013-032- Salaries for the Year 2013- The salary of the Committee needs to be corrected so that the Resolution reads that the Committee's salary for 2013 will be \$3,000.00-The Resolution will be re-introduced after the Salary Ordinance has been adopted after 2nd reading.
- 2.) Ordinance 2013-003- Salaries for the Year 2013 -**1st Reading** of Ordinance 2013-003-Salaries for the Year 2013

Comm. Abraham made a motion with a modification of the Township Committee salary range to be \$0.00 to \$10,000.00, seconded by Comm. Swift to approve Ordinance 2013-003 on first reading. **ROLL CALL: Comm. Swift, yes; Comm. Abraham, yes; Mayor Plumer, yes.**

- 3.) Possible Lead Municipality for the Municipal Alliance-The Township has declined to be the Lead Municipality for the Municipal Alliance.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR: Comm. Abraham discussed timing issues regarding which trees are to be removed on Sweet Hollow Road. The Scenic Road Commission will be going out on the weekend of March 16/17th to look at the trees that are being marked for removal and planning and make their recommendations to the Township Committee. The DPW Foreman will be going on vacation and would like to do the work on Sweet Hollow Road prior to his vacation. Comm. Abraham asked the Township Committee to give him the authority over the tree removal on Sweet Hollow Road. Mayor Plumer made a motion, seconded by Harry Swift to appoint Comm. Abraham as the authority overseeing the cutting of the trees on Sweet Hollow Road.

Motion to Approve Open Public Meeting Resolution for EXECUTIVE SESSION: Comm. Abraham made a motion, seconded by Comm. Swift to Approve Open Public Meeting Resolution for **EXECUTIVE SESSION: Roll Call: Comm. Swift, yes; Comm. Abraham, yes; Mayor Plumer, yes.**

**Motion to Approve Open Public Meeting Resolution for EXECUTIVE SESSION:
RESOLUTION**

Open Public Meetings Act - Executive Session

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 2:4-12, Open Public Meetings Act, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Alexandria, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of the hereinafter specified subject matters.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

_____ A confidential or excluded matter under Federal or State Law or Court Rule.

_____ A matter involving information that may impair the Township's rights to receive funds from the United States Government.

- A matter constituting an unwarranted invasion of an individual's privacy rights.
 - Collective Bargaining Agreement or negotiation of the Agreement.
 - Matters involving the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds which it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion were disclosed.
 - Tactics and techniques to protect the safety and property of the public, including investigations of violations or potential violations of the law
 - Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiations in which the public body is or may become a party.
 - Matters falling within the attorney-client privilege.
 - Personnel matters involving a specific employee or officer of the Township.
 - Deliberations of the Township occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific penalty or suspension or loss of a license or permit.
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above matter will be made public: at the conclusion of the litigation and at such time as attorney client confidentiality is no longer needed to protect confidentiality and litigation strategy.
 4. The executive session minutes will be placed on file in the township clerk's office, and will be available to the public as provided for by New Jersey law.
 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately .

Comm. Swift made a motion, seconded by Comm. Abraham to return to Open Session
Roll Call: Comm. Swift, yes; Comm. Abraham, yes; Mayor Plumer, yes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT:

The following matters were discussed in Executive Session:

- Pending or Anticipated Litigation:

Wells Fargo vs. Fred Mayer- Township will not pursue due to financial costs

- Contract Negotiations/Municipal Lease:

Matter to be kept in Executive Session

- Contract Negotiations/Park Barn Usage:

The Township of Alexandria will be meeting with a group of individuals to discuss possible use of the barn.

- Reassessment:

Municipal Clerk will send a letter to Appraisal Systems, Inc. for utilization of their services and the Township Attorney will draft an Ordinance for 1st reading at the March 13, 2013 meeting allocating funding.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Comm. Abraham made a motion, seconded by Comm. Swift to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: Comm. Swift, yes; Comm. Abraham, yes; and Mayor Plumer, yes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

I hereby certify that I have reviewed these Minutes of the Township Committee Meeting of March 6, 2013, and certify that said Minutes were approved unanimously by the Township Committee on the 21st day of March, 2013.

Gabe Plumer, Mayor

Dated: _____