

**ALEXANDRIA TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE**  
**Special Budget Meeting**  
**MINUTES**  
**March 4, 2019**

This meeting was advertised in The Hunterdon Democrat notice posted in the Alexandria Township Municipal Offices and the Alexandria Township Website ([www.alexandrianj.gov](http://www.alexandrianj.gov)) as required by the Open Public Meetings Act.

**Meeting Called to order at 6:13 PM.**

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Garay, Committeeman Pfefferle, Committeeman Kiernan, CFO Steinberg

**ABSENT:** None

**BUDGET WORK SESSION # 2:**

CFO Steinberg noted the following during the budget workshop discussions:

- surplus from 2018 is up \$11,000.00
- Capital Improvements need to be looked at, in the past Capital Projects have been bonded creating debt to the Township
- The Township has been placing \$25,000.00 a year into the Capital Improvement Fund so that the DPW in a few years' time has money to purchase new equipment.
- Notes that need to be financed were acquired in 2014. The cost of these notes is around \$1.35 million dollars and comprises of three notes in total.
- The last note was for a COAH obligation of \$100,000.00. There is adequate funds in the COAH account now to reimburse the Township for this note.
- With using the COAH account to pay \$100,000.00 towards the \$1.35 million in notes that will bring the balance of notes down to \$1.250 million.
- The notes must be financed by 2024. A suggested approach is to pay off these funds by using deferred school tax. The Township can pass a resolution to use the deferred school tax.
- The Township currently has \$1.8 million is surplus
- The Township is paying \$75,000.00 a year in interest on the notes. If the notes are paid off than \$75,000.00 can be redirected into Capital. If taxes are increased than additional monies will be generated as well.
- The DPW's Chip/Seal Program is an extensive program and every year the Township borrows \$100,000.00. The Chip/Seal Program is more of a re-occurring expense than a Capital expense. The useful life of a Capital Ordinance is 7 years.

- The Open Space Account currently has \$1.9 million in reserve and the Township passed a question on the ballot in 2018 to decrease the tax levy of 4 cents if there was a need. Since many farms have been preserved within the Township there are not many farms left for preservation the Township can decrease the tax levy for this year.

Township Administrator/Clerk Bobrowski noted that the Ortho Farm is one of the largest farms remaining for preservation with over 300 acres. The closing on this preservation should be sometime this year and the Township's cost share for the farm being broken down into 4 farmettes is as follows:

Farm A \$100,520.00

Farm B \$ 87,974.00

Farm C \$157,674.00

Farm D \$154,900.00

Total Cost Share for the Township \$ 501, 068.00

CFO Steinberg discussed scenarios for the Township using taxes raised and how much money would be available for DPW projects for this year up until 2032. Some of these figures started at \$ 250,000.00 for this year rising to \$550,000.00 for years 2002 through 2032.

Comm. Pfefferle drafted a chart from years 2019 through 2032 for taxes incurred, debt incurred and spent.

Currently, there is \$2.5 million is deferred school tax that the Township can use.

The Township Committee needs to speak with DPW Foreman Heiser as to the DPW equipment needs and have Twp. Engineer Decker work with DPW Forman Heiser on a survey of our roads to determine priorities.

The Township Committee would like to move forward with using \$ 1 million of the deferred school tax and \$200,000.00 from surplus to pay off the \$1.35 million note. COAH Funds in the amount of \$100,000.00 will be used to pay off the \$100,000.00 note for COAH Expenses.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:**

No comments from the floor

Comm. Kiernan noted that the Township experienced to winters storms and all went well with plowing the roads. The new DPW truck should be delivered this week.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Comm. Kiernan made a motion, seconded by Comm. Pfefferle to adjourn at 7:43 PM.

**Roll Call: Aye: Garay, Pfefferle, Kiernan**

**Nay: None**

**Abstain: None**

**Motion Carried**

Meeting Adjourned at 7:43 PM.

**Respectfully Submitted:**

**Michele Bobrowski, CMC/RMC**

**Township Clerk**

I hereby certify that I have reviewed these Minutes of the Township Committee Special Budget Meeting of March 4, 2019 and certify that said Minutes were approved unanimously by the Township Committee on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April 2019.

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Michelle Garay, Mayor