

**NORTH HANOVER TOWNSHIP  
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
SPECIAL BUDGET WORKSHOP  
MARCH 23, 2017, 6:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER** Mayor DeLorenzo called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**FLAG SALUTE:** Led by Mayor DeLorenzo

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor DeLorenzo  
Deputy Mayor DeBaecke  
Committeeman Kocubinski  
Committeeman O'Donnell

**ABSENT:** Committeeman Doyle

**Also Present:** Mary Picariello, Acting Township Clerk, Jack Bruno, CFO and Theodore "Budd" Wells, Chief of Police

**SUNSHINE STATEMENT:** "The provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act have been met. Notice of this meeting has been transmitted by email to the Courier Post, Burlington County Times and The Trenton Times as well as given to those having requested same and posted on the Township bulletin board located in the foyer of the municipal building".

**PUBLIC COMMENT (EXCLUDES ORDINANCES-they have their own public hearing): Members of the public wishing to address the Township Committee must state their name and address for the record.**

Mayor DeLorenzo opened the meeting to the public. There were no public comments this evening.

**MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT**

Proposed By: Committeeman Kocubinski

Seconded By: Deputy Mayor DeBaecke

**BUDGET WORKSHOP**

Mayor DeLorenzo stated there would be discussion to firm up Capital budget and there would be closed session discussion concerning the salary of the Police Chief. Deputy Mayor DeBaecke noted there was an agreement on the police vehicles and ambulance. There would be \$49,000 coming from capital reserve and \$30,000 from the EMS fund and the remaining balance from the Township, for the ambulance. Committee Kocubinski inquired of CFO Bruno if there was funding for a new BAN and CFO Bruno noted the down payment reserve could handle a million dollars in improvements. Committeeman O'Donnell inquired with the Fire Chief if foregoing the command vehicle and trailer was acceptable. Ben Palombi, Fire Chief, noted his priority was the ambulance. He also noted this is something that would need to be addressed in another year. Committeeman O'Donnell noted there are other Capital needs coming for the fire department. He stated the Engine is 20 years old and is at its life span and that we would be pushing off the command vehicle and trailer. He stated we would be using other monies that would allow almost a cash purchase for the ambulance. CFO Bruno note the remaining balance would be funded through the bond and would not include the \$49,000 or the \$30,000. Deputy Mayor DeBaecke noted another \$21,000 is need for technology and \$3,000 for a Fire Proof Cabinet for the Registrar. CFO Bruno noted the reserve could be used this year and use the cash to buy the items and noted it reduces the reserve fund. Deputy Mayor DeBaecke noted these Capital needs were approximately \$170,000. Committeeman O'Donnell made the Committee aware that there would be imminent Capital needs for the Fire Department. CFO Bruno noted there would be an additional \$800,000 available for future Capital needs. Committeeman O'Donnell stated as long as everyone understands the future needs, that are substantial, he would agree to holding off. There was a general understanding of this. Mayor DeLorenzo noted the \$49,000 was put away for the purpose of Capital at the Fire Department and due to financial setbacks; monies have not been put in recently. He noted he wanted to be mindful and not have a tax increase for the taxpayers. Committeeman Kocubinski noted previous discussions where a .01 tax increase was proposed and asked where would this differential come from and expressed concerns about using surplus funds due to the school deferral. CFO Bruno noted there was no additional deferral used. Committeeman Kocubinski further expressed his concern with regard to school deferral and concerns it would run out and a future drastic cut would be needed. Deputy Mayor DeBaecke noted the taxpayers have been hit two years in a row and felt it was best to cut them a break, especially because it does not affect the current numbers. CFO Bruno noted the budget is balanced without an increase. He further gave an overview of revenues and appropriations and feels we are fine with the surplus and notes we will "BANK" this year and it would not affect our ability next year. Committeeman Kocubinski noted there is not enough revenue to meet appropriations without using the fund balance. Mayor DeLorenzo noted the addition of the solar farms. Committeeman Kocubinski and Committeeman O'Donnell noted their concerns. CFO Bruno noted the ability to replace surplus is balanced and has been increased over the last few years. He report there was an additional \$118,000 this year. Deputy Mayor DeBaecke stated he was willing to give that to the taxpayer. Mayor DeLorenzo stated there are other ways to replace revenue and mentioned a possible increase in the Waste Facility payment. There was various discussion regarding the Road Improvement Program and CFO Bruno stated in the near future he would discuss long term financing. Committeeman Kocubinski expressed concern over the State Aid. Deputy Mayor DeBaecke felt taxing is the last resort and wants to explore other revenue streams. Mayor DeLorenzo noted the JLUB is working on economic development.

Mayor DeLorenzo gave an overview of an application that went before the JLUB and felt senior housing would help. Committeeman O'Donnell stated recurring expenses need to meet recurring revenue and expressed the concern of injecting cash.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION**

2017-65 Authorizing a Closed Session Meeting to discuss the following matter(s) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 and N.J.S.A. 10:4-12; Police Chief Personnel Matter, Contract Matter Personnel and Litigation matters

**RESOLUTION 2017-65  
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HANOVER  
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON**

**AUTHORIZING A CLOSED SESSION MEETING**

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 and P.L. 2001, C. 404, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of North Hanover Township wishes to go into a closed Executive Session and is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist which should not be discussed in public, and

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 and N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 permits the Township Committee to discuss certain matter(s) in private, and in this case for the purpose of the Township Committee to discuss contract negotiations, litigation and personnel matters in this regard.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by Township Committee of North Hanover Township that it will go into an Executive Session for the purpose of the Township Committee to discuss Police Chief Personnel Matter, Contract Negotiations, Litigation and Personnel matters.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the results of such discussion may be revealed at such time as the matter(s) are resolved and/or a contract(s) is signed and/or the negotiations are formally settled. Interested parties may contact the Township Clerk anytime during normal business hours for periodic updates as to the availability in this regard.

COMMITTEE	MOTION	2ND	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Deputy Mayor DeBaecke		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>			
Committeeman Doyle						<b>X</b>
Committeeman Kocubinski			<b>X</b>			
Committeeman O'Donnell	<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>			
Mayor DeLorenzo			<b>X</b>			

Wayne Voorhees expressed concern over holding off on JVFC capital needs and stated rates could be higher next year.

**Executive session was entered into at 6:38PM.**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Proposed By: Deputy Mayor DeBaecke  
Seconded By: Committeeman Kocubinski

**TIME OF ADJOURNMENT:**                **7:50PM**  
Respectively submitted,

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Mary Picariello  
Acting Township Clerk