

BUDGET MEETING OF FEBRUARY 8, 2003

Mayor Ganz called the meeting to order at 8:48 p.m. Assistant Municipal Clerk Bojanowski read the statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

PRESENT: Mayor Ganz, Deputy Mayors Etler and Weinstein and Councilmembers Amato and Caan.

Also present: Acting Manager Municipal Clerk Kwasniewski, Assistant Municipal Clerk Bojanowski, Attorney Lustgarten and CFO Eccleston.

Recreation and Parks - Superintendent of Parks and Recreation Frey was present.

561-20-18 New Department Equipment - This line item was reduced from \$2,500 to \$2,200.

561-20-21 Department Materials - This line item was reduced from \$4,000 to \$3,800.

561-20-28 Contractual Services - Superintendent Frey explained the reason this line item has gone up is due to adding sprinkler systems and geese patrols. He has had several requests for port-a-john systems and would like to add them to ten parks from April through November. A discussion followed on where the port-o-johns would be placed and when they would be emptied.

561-20-81 Special - Superintendent Frey stated this line item is for the Garden Club who has requested that it be increased since they are not getting enough donations. This line item was reduced from \$6,000 to \$4,000.

561-10-02 Wages - Superintendent Frey stated he would like to increase the minimum wage for the part time help so that the Borough can be competitive. CFO Eccleston stated he will recalculate the figures since part timers are two weeks behind so the figure from last year is higher.

561-20-13 Office Supplies - This line item was reduced from \$700 to \$500.

561-20-15 Office Equipment Maintenance - This line item was reduced from \$300 to \$200.

561-20-16 Printing & Stationery - This line item was reduced from \$300 to \$250.

561-20-17 Department Supplies - This line item was reduced from \$14,000 to \$13,000.

561-20-18 New Department Equipment - Mayor Ganz asked about on-line registrations. Superintendent Frey informed him they did not do registrations on-line. Mayor Ganz requested he come back with a proposal to do on-line registrations for the recreation programs.

There was a unanimous consensus to obtain proposals for computer software that will do on-line registrations.

561-20-28 Contractual Service - This line item was reduced from \$2,800 to \$2,500.

Capital Items:

Berdan Grove Park - Mayor Ganz stated not only should the field be redone but a sprinkler system should be added bringing the total of this capital request from \$231,000 to \$271,000.

Memorial / Walsh Pool Complex Improvements - The following items were approved: diving board with installation, ADA water fountain, storage box, backstroke stanchion, spine board, radios for park police, lifeguard megaphones and sand wheel chair.

Deputy Mayor Weinstein stated he had been asked to have a shower installed. Mayor Ganz suggested getting prices of installing a shower in several places.

Riding Mower - This item was approved.

Football Building Renovations - Mayor Ganz asked that Superintendent Frey come back to the Council with the cost of repairing the leaky roof.

Lighting Modification of Fields - Superintendent Frey explained this was a ten year plan for lighting at Columbia Terrace, the tennis courts, Dobrow Field, Memorial in line court, and Schmidt Field. Mayor Ganz wondered why the electrician could not take care of this. Superintendent Frey informed him that the Fire Department helps out when they can. Mayor Ganz suggested they coordinate having the lights maintained between the three departments.

Veteran's Monument / Circle: Mayor Ganz asked if the Veteran=s Council had input into the refurbishment of Veteran=s Circle. Superintendent Frey said they made the proposals. This item was held over until 2004. Mayor Ganz asked for information on the front lawn of Borough Hall. He would like to get the refurbishment done before Memorial Day.

Park Vehicles - A dump truck was approved for \$48,000.

Refurbished Phone System - Mayor Ganz asked for Superintendent Frey to get the cost of new phones instead of refurbished phones.

Recreation / Cultural Center - Mayor Ganz stated they needed to come up with a plan and suggested that \$10,000 go to the operating budget for it. He asked Superintendent Frey to go to the Board of Education to see if they would be interested in having space in a new building. There was a unanimous consensus to close the Art Center. There was another unanimous consensus to add \$650,000 to the budget subject to getting the plans for the new construction. There was another unanimous consensus to fast track this project.

Youth Center Equipment - Mayor Ganz suggested keeping the Youth Center open late and extending the operating days until school closes.

Fire Department and Fire Prevention - Fire Chief Neggia and Fire Marshall Bender were present. Mayor Ganz asked that Chief Neggia do the annual report at the end of the year instead of the new Chief. Attorney Lustgarten advised that the Fire Board should make that recommendation. Councilmember Amato felt there should be continuity from one Chief to the next. Mayor Ganz asked Chief Neggia about supplying the ariel ladder truck to help maintain the lights in the fields. Chief Neggia agreed.

521-10-01 Regular Salaries - Chief Neggia asked that the Fire Clerk position be made a full time position and if it couldn=t he wondered if comp time could be offered to the Fire Clerk so that some work can get done. CFO Eccleston stated that the Fire Clerk is the stability in that office. Mayor Ganz stated it could not be done in this years budget cycle.

521-201-6 Printing & Stationery - This line item was reduced from \$800 to \$650.

521-201-7 Department Supplies - This line item was reduced from \$8,300 to \$6,000.

521-20-18 New Department Equipment - This line item was approved and will be put in the fast track bond ordinance.

521-20-14 New Office Equipment - This line item was reduced from \$1,000 to \$500.

521-20-23 Auto Equipment Maintenance - This line item was reduced from \$1,800 to \$500.

Capital:

Chief Neggia stated that the Fire Department needs two new vehicles. There was a unanimous consensus to purchase two new four-wheel drive vehicles and to put them in the fast track bond ordinance.

521-20-23 Auto & Truck Equipment Maintenance - This line item was reduced from \$29,300 to \$15,500 since two trucks will be purchased.

Self Contained Breathing Apparatus Packs (SCBA) with bottle and mask - Chief Neggia stated the Borough is not in compliance with the new 2002 NFPA Safety Standards and that the existing SCBA packs must be replaced by 2003 to be in full compliance.

PortaCount Plus Self Containing Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) - Chief Neggia stated the FLFD is now part of the Northwest Bergen Mutual Aid system and they are not compliant. There was a unanimous consensus to purchase the breathing apparatus.

Replace existing 1990 Aerial/Pumper #2 - Councilmember Amato felt this truck should be replaced. Mayor Ganz stated that if the Fire Department agreed they will hold off on this item until next year.

Telephone system and software for Fire command vehicle #979 - There was a unanimous consensus to purchase the system for vehicle #979.

OEM - Emergency Management Director Metzler and Rescue Chief Van Kruningen were present. A discussion followed regarding the purchase of a new vehicle.

There was a unanimous consensus to purchase a new four wheel drive vehicle and to add it to the fast track bond ordinance.

521-20-76 Expenses - This line item was reduced from \$1,000 to \$600.

The Amber Alert line item was added for \$2,000.

521-20-23 - This line item was reduced from \$5,000 to \$4,000.

Capital:

Replacement of Rescue #892 or the purchase of a special operations unit - Chief VanKruningen explained that truck #892 is 18 years old which carries special equipment and is not compliant with NFPA standards. The cost to upgrade the vehicle would be between \$90,000 to \$129,000.

There was a unanimous consensus to fund the purchase of a new Rescue #892 truck up to \$260,000 and

use the existing vehicle as a trade in or for another use in the Borough.

Replace Rescue Squad's Chiefs / First Responder Vehicle - Chief VanKruningen stated he had asked for a replacement in 2004 but felt the vehicle has had many problems. The Council agreed to make a firm commitment to fund the purchase of this vehicle next year.

Upgrade and replacement of SCBA equipment - Chief VanKruningen stated that under the new 2002 NFPA Safety Standard, the existing SCBA=s must be retro-fitted or replaced to be in full compliance. He estimated the cost at \$12,000 per year.

Inter-local Agreement Emergency Operations Center Equipment - Emergency Management Director Metzler stated three communities are sharing emergency software. The Borough has taken a pro-active approach in this area and they want to show FEMA what has been done. Mayor Ganz stated he wanted the residents to know how committed the Council is to Homeland Security.

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Etlar and a second by Deputy Mayor Weinstein, the meeting was recessed at 12:21 p.m.

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Weinstein and a second by Deputy Mayor Etlar, the meeting was reconvened at 12:30 p.m.

Ambulance - Ambulance President Schoenfeld was present.

551-20-19 - Department Equipment Maintenance - This line item was reduced from \$3,000 to \$2,000.

551-20-23 - Auto Equipment Maintenance - This line item was reduced from \$7,500 to \$5,000.

Capital:

Replacement of Ambulance - Ambulance President Schoenfeld stated this follows the replacement schedule as discussed with the Mayor and Council in 1999. There was a lengthy discussion about the previous purchase of an ambulance and the income from the cell tower. CFO Eccleston reported how much has been paid so far.

There was a unanimous consensus to purchase a new ambulance.

Sewer Line and Pump Station - Acting Manager / Municipal Clerk stated the building is not Borough owned therefore they were not required to fund installing the sewer line and that it is a Council call. Deputy Mayor Etlar felt it was an obligation born by the Ambulance Corp. They are replacing their building. Deputy Mayor Weinstein felt it was a benefit for the whole town and thought the Council should approve this item. Mayor Ganz asked if the Ambulance Corp could use part of the income from the cell tower to pay for the sewer line. The Council asked that President Schoenfeld go back to the Ambulance Corps to see if they would be willing to go with that plan.

Keyless Entry System - President Schoenfeld felt it was a safety issue.

Garage Floor Resurfacing - There was a unanimous consensus to proceed with the floor resurfacing.

Legal - Attorney Lustgarten was present.

515-210-29 Professional Services - This line item was reduced from \$75,000 to \$73,000.

515-20-31 Miscellaneous - This line item was reduced from \$1,000 to \$750.

Capital:

Laser Jet Printer - Attorney Lustgarten stated they currently are sharing a printer which has caused problems.

Mayor Ganz asked that one of the old computers be put in the Mayor=s office.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one wished to be heard.

ADJOURNMENT - Upon motion of Deputy Mayor Etler and a second by Deputy Mayor Weinstein the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn B. Bojanowski, RMC
Assistant Municipal Clerk