

**BOROUGH OF PITMAN
BUDGET MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 18, 2015
7:00 P.M.**

Call to Order

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Open Public Meetings Act Statement – This Special Meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice of this meeting was sent to the "South Jersey Times" newspaper. In addition, a copy of this notice was posted on the bulletin board in the municipal building and filed in the office of the Municipal Clerk. Notice on the bulletin board has remained continuously posted.

Roll Call

Councilman Austin: Present
Councilwoman Higbee: Present
Councilman Pierpont: Present
Mayor Johnson: Present
Borough Clerk O'Donnell: Present

Councilman Blass: Absent
Council President Kelley: Present
Councilman Razzo: Present
CFO Steve Considine: Present
PW Manager Steve Alexander: Absent

2015 Municipal Budget – Public Works: Highway and Water & Sewer Divisions

Councilman Pierpont presented the proposed budget for 2015 for each division of the Public Works Department; Highway Division and Water & Sewer Division

Highway Division

Councilman Pierpont stated that a salary line item increase of 3% reflects a salary increase for all contractual, non-contractual, and on-call employees paid from these line items. Councilman Pierpont also stated that Public Works Manager Steve Alexander has also added funds to cover the cost of promoting one part-time worker to full-time status, and hiring a new part-time employee as well as an Assistant Manager to help with the day to day operations of the department. Mr. Alexander proposes a salary in the range of \$48,000.00 to \$58,000.00 for this individual. These personnel changes and new hires result in an increase of approximately \$115,000.00, or 19%, over the salaries paid in 2014.

Funds for snow removal was decreased in 2015 from \$20,000.00 in 2014, to \$14,000.00. In addition, funds to pay tipping fees were decreased from \$421,000.00 in 2014, to \$380,000.00 in 2015.

There have been no funds added to the line item for summer help since it has been proposed that the Alcyon Lake Park Department will be assuming the upkeep of Borough parks this summer. Councilman Razzo stated that if the final decision is to have the park employees take on the maintenance of all Borough parks, the Alcyon Lake Park Department budget will need to be increased by approximately \$16,000.00 to cover the pay rate of the proposed three part-time individuals who would be hired to work twenty-four hours per week to do landscaping at the parks.

The overall budget for the Highway Division is increased by approximately \$120,000.00 from the 2014 budget.

Water and Sewer Division

Councilman Pierpont stated that a salary line item increase of 3% reflects a salary increase for contractual, non-contractual, and on-call employees paid from these line items. Councilman Pierpont stated that the only increase in the Water and Sewer Department budget is in the personnel salary line.

The overall budget for the department is decreased from \$2,475,000.00, in 2014, to \$2,455,000.00 in 2015.

Proposed capital improvements for 2015 include the reconstruction of Spruce Avenue, Albert Avenue, Elsie Avenue, and North Brentwood Avenue, as well as water line improvements for Elm Avenue.

CFO Considine recommended increasing the line item amount for payments to the Gloucester County Utility Authority by \$15,000.00, to \$625,000.00, based on an estimated annual usage for 2015 report that he received from the GCUA today. Members of Council agreed to make that change in the budget.

Motion to close discussion: Razze Second: Austin
Time: 8:07 p.m.

Public Portion

Motion to Open to the Public: Razze Second: Austin
Time: 8:08 p.m.

No public comment.

Motion to Close the Public Portion: Razze Second: Austin
Time: 8:08 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion: Razze Second: Austin
All vote in favor to adjourn.
Time: 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judith O'Donnell
Borough Clerk/Administrator

