

February 12, 2015

The special meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Newton was held on the above date at 6:00 p.m. Present were Mrs. Diglio, Mrs. Becker, Deputy Mayor Flynn, Mr. Levante, Mayor Elvidge and Town Manager, Thomas S. Russo, Jr. Also present were Mrs. Debra Millikin, Deputy Town Manager, Ms. Dawn Babcock, CFO, Ginny Raftery, Treasurer, Police Chief Michael Richards, Fire Chief Jason Miller and Michael Teets, Assistant Fire Chief.

Mayor Elvidge made the following declaration that "in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this special meeting was given to the two newspapers of record and posted on the official bulletin board on February 3, 2015."

TOWN MANAGER 'S REVIEW OF BUDGET

Mr. Russo first advised the Council of the additional cuts made to the Municipal Budget since the previous Budget hearing on February 7th. Mr. Russo reviewed the adjustments made as follows:

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| Staffing: | DPW Admin. Assistant Part-Time and Not Full-Time; Human Resources Director Part-Time and Not Full-Time; |
| Other: | Elections Legal LOSAP Machinery Repair - Maintenance Misc. S&W |

These changes will allow a savings of \$63,740. At the request of the Council, Mr. Russo added the printing of newsletter back into the budget for an increase of \$2,000. This will bring the net decrease of the budget to \$61,740, which represents one tax point. Mr. Russo also indicated that two tax points worth of additional revenues was put into the proposed budget.

Mr. Russo reviewed the spreadsheet which outlines the past 14 year budget history of the Municipal Budget, noting this year's budget represents a \$65.00 increase on the average assessed home for 2015.

POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET REVIEW AND CAPITAL PROJECTS (6:30 pm)

Mr. Russo recognized Police Chief Michael Richards.

Chief Richards first provided an overview of 2014, outlining the successes and failures of the year.

Chief Richards then reviewed and outlined the police department budget with the Governing Body. He noted the decline in Town revenue due to the elimination of the nine (9) municipalities who went with the County Regional Dispatch center but indicated the Town of Newton is still receiving all of the 911 calls from cell phones.

Mr. Russo noted a meeting is set up with the County Administration to address these issues and request compensation for same.

Chief Richards outlined and explained the capital improvements items requested which consists of the marked 4WD Vehicle and body cameras for the police officers.

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Mr. Russo suggested a brief intermission at 7:15 pm.

FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET REVIEW AND CAPITAL PROJECTS - 7:30pm

Jason Miller, Fire Chief, and Michael Teets, Deputy Fire Chief, addressed several areas of the Fire Department Operating budget and expenses.

Chief Miller reviewed and outlined the fire department budget with the Governing Body.

Chief Miller and Chief Teets outlined and explained the capital improvements items requested.

The Governing Body had questions which were addressed by Chief Miller and Chief Teets. After a brief discussion, Council thanked them for their presentation.

TOWN MANAGER 'S REVIEW OF BUDGET

Mr. Russo continued and outlined the capital improvement requests from various departments.

COUNCIL & MANAGER COMMENTS

Mayor Elvidge summarized the cuts to the Municipal budget as presented by Mr. Russo. After a brief discussion, Council accepted the new figures and thanked Mr. Russo and his team for their efforts on same.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor Elvidge opened the meeting to the public.

There was no one from the public to be heard.

There being no further business to be conducted, upon motion of Mr. Levante seconded by Deputy Mayor Flynn and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lorraine A. Read, RMC
Municipal Clerk