

**CITY OF SEA ISLE CITY, NEW JERSEY
COUNCIL WORKSHOP MINUTES
2011 BUDGET WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2011 - 1:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Divney, Mr. Edwardi, Mr. Kehner, Mr. McHale and Ms. Tighe. Also attending was Administrator Mr. Savastano and CFO Mrs. Doll and Auditor Mr. Costello.

Council President Tighe called the workshop to order and asked everyone to rise for a flag salute. She announced that the meeting had been advertised in accordance with public law 1975, chapter 231.

Ms. Tighe then turned the workshop over to Mr. Savastano and Mrs. Doll who indicated they were open for discussion and available to answer questions since the Council has now had the opportunity to review the budget.

Ms. Tighe suggested going around the table and allowing each council member the opportunity to raise any questions or concerns. Mr. Divney suggested any changes or reductions should be moved to fund balance and all agreed.

Beaches S&W: Ms. Tighe and Mr. McHale both expressed concern with the increase over the 2010 budget. Mrs. Doll explained that it was a spending plan, the best case scenario of all taggers, every day, no rain and that it included a \$0.75 @ hour increase for the walking taggers. Mr. McHale suggested the creation of a bonus incentive to stay through the end of summer, much like the lifeguards. Much discussion followed and in conclusion, Ms. Tighe requested \$10,000 be removed and placed in surplus. Mr. Costello added that it could be placed in the Capital Improvement Fund as well. All agreed to take a Council consensus of all amendments at the end of the discussion.

City Engineer: Mr. Savastano explained that the increase in activity warrants the increase in the budget.

Part Time Fire Inspector: Mr. McHale suggested removing as an employee and paying by voucher. Mr. Costello stated anyone that that can be removed from payroll/pension is a plus

Public Works Director: Ms. Tighe suggested reducing the S&W by \$20,000 in the general budget and the same in the utility budget as there is currently no plan to hire anyone, however, there should be some funds left in place in the event that is the direction the City goes. Mr. McHale suggested removing all the funds as there is a hiring freeze and there are competent employees in place that could be promoted. Much discussion followed regarding the DPW organization with Mr. Savastano explaining that he is continuing as the acting director and is continuing to review the organization.

Marina S&W: Mrs. Doll explained the same reasoning as beach tags; the budget is a plan to pay for all of the seasonal employees, every day to the maximum.

Overtime: Mr. McHale requested a breakdown of overtime for the police and public works departments, i.e. summer vs. the shoulder seasons.

Retirees: Mr. McHale asked how many retirees are expected in 2011 and was advised that it would be police captain, DPW truck driver, recreation laborer and possibly one other DPW employee. Mr. McHale asked if the police captain will be replaced and Chief D'Intino responded that it would be happening next week.

Mr. McHale suggested the Council recommend a 3% across the board reduction. Ms. Tighe responded she was happy with the zero tax levies and could not support a 3% across the board reduction. Mr. Edwardi agreed adding that a 3% is unfair and suggested if someone has an area to cut, bring it forward now. Mr. Kehner added he was satisfied with the budget, he would not support the 3% or any of the other reductions recommended as all funds unspent will go to surplus at the end of the year anyway.

Ms. Tighe then polled the council on the recommended \$10,000 reduction in beaches S&W. Mr. McHale agreed, but Mr. Divney, Mr. Edwardi and Mr. Kehner did not support it.

Ms. Tighe then polled the council on the recommended \$20,000 DPW Director S&W from the general budget. Mr. Divney and Mr. Edwardi agreed with Ms. Tighe. Mr. McHale said he wanted it all removed so he did not support only the \$20,000 and Mr. Kehner also did not support it.

Ms. Tighe polled the council on the recommended \$20,000 DPW Director S&W from the utility budget. Mr. Divney agreed, but Mr. Edwardi, Mr. Kehner and Mr. McHale did not.

Mr. Costello recapped that there will be a \$20,000 amendment from the general budget DPW S&W general budget and that the funds will be moved to fund balance. He went on to explain that the budget will have the public hearing on 3/15, the council can amend on 3/15 and can adopt on 3/15 provided the Governor reinstates the same State Aid as 2010.

CITIZEN COMMENT:

Dan Organ-209 39th St: Asked why 4 police officers show an increase of \$18,000 and Mr. Costello explained it includes steps, longevity and contractual increases; all the things removed or changed in the new contracts.

Gary Egnasko-1704 Landis Ave: Asked questions and had dialog with Council regarding beach taggers, why no plan for the replacement of the DPW Director, contractual overtime and that he believed the amusement funds were to go to the tennis fee trust account.

Ms. Tighe then asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion moved by Mr. Divney and seconded by Mr. Kehner. All ayes followed and the meeting adjourned into closed session at 3:00 p.m.

Cindy Griffith, City Clerk