

**MAYOR & COUNCIL
BUDGET MEETING
JANUARY 26, 2013
9:00 a.m.**

The Budget Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rockaway, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, was held in the Community Center, 21-25 Union Street, Rockaway, N.J. with Mayor Russell Greuter presiding. Mayor Greuter called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

Mayor Greuter read the following statement: In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Public Laws, 1975, be advised that notice of this meeting was made by posting on the Bulletin Board, Town Hall, and sending to the officially designated newspapers, a list of meeting dates annually, indicating that the meeting would take place at the Community Center at 9:00 a.m. on January 26, 2013. Mayor Greuter announced the location of the fire exits.

Councilmembers Present

Thomas Donofrio
Joyce Kanigel
Thomas Mulligan
Joseph Vicente
John Willer
Melissa Burnside - Council President

Councilmembers Absent

Everyone present participated in the salute to the flag.

Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer John J. Doherty was also present.

2013 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Mr. Doherty provided a brief overview of the line items that have increased from 2012, including unemployment for school crossing guards, Police pension, and health insurance. A Borough employee has asked for clarification on the stipend to be paid for not taking the health benefits; the Labor Attorney is looking into the matter to determine if an employee whose spouse is already in the State Health Benefits plan is eligible for the payment and the amount of that payment.

Police Department - Police Chief Douglas Scheer discussed the proposed Police Department budget as follows:

- 25-240-200 - Police Department - \$134,546
 - Office supplies \$ 21,200
 - Professional services \$ 2,200
 - Clothing \$ 3,500
 - Identification \$ 6,500
 - Education \$ 11,000
 - Ordnance \$ 6,900
 - Communications \$ 30,046
 - Health exams \$ 3,500
 - Traffic \$ 5,200
 - Purchase 1 police car \$ 44,500
- 25-250-200 - Alarm System - Police and Fire - \$129,500
- 25-252-200 - Emergency Management - \$2,800
- 26-301-200 - Vehicle Maintenance - Automotive (police) - \$21,000

Chief Scheer recommended that the 1988 telephone system in the Police Station and server be upgraded (Communications). Mr. Doherty stated that these items could be included in small capital and, therefore, outside the tax cap levy.

Chief Scheer discussed the following:

- A State Hazard Mitigation Grant that is available for reimbursement of up to 75 percent of the cost of emergency generators. The Governing Body agreed that the Municipality Letter of Intent should be submitted by February 1.
- The status of the FEMA reimbursement submittal from Hurricane Sandy.

(Mayor Greuter left at 9:45 a.m.)

- Accreditation of the Police Department; the process would be paid by the Joint Insurance Fund.

(Mayor Greuter returned at 9:56 a.m. and left at 10:03 a.m.)

- Addition of one police officer to the Department.
- Development of a County-wide response team for emergency situations.

(Mayor Greuter returned at 10:16 a.m.)

- Use of the ambulance.

(The Governing Body took a short break from 10:38 to 10:45 a.m.)

Fire Department - Fire Chief Sam Passarella, First Assistant Chief Ron Hamman, Jr. and Second Assistant Chief William Hopler were present to discuss the proposed Fire Department budget.

- 25-255-200 - Volunteer Fire Department - \$66,670

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| Office supplies | \$ 750 |
| Miscellaneous | \$ 2,000 |
| Parts/repairs (repair trucks and equipment) | \$ 15,500 |
| Refills/recharges | \$ 2,500 |
| Banquet | \$ 13,500 |
| Clothing | \$ 13,000 |
| Radio repairs | \$ 2,500 |
| Training | \$ 4,200 |
| Medical | \$ 2,000 |
| First aid supplies | \$ 2,280 |
| Hose test | \$ 2,600 |
| Ladder test | \$ 2,200 |
| LOSAP (36 members @ \$400) | \$ 1,440 |
| Turnout gear cleaning | \$ 1,000 |
| Pump test | \$ 1,200 |

- 36-472-205 - Small Capital Improvements - \$32,400

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| Buddy breathing connections | \$ 7,700 |
| Water rescue equipment | \$ 3,100 |
| Thermal imaging camera | \$ 11,000 |
| Fire service harness | \$ 2,300 |
| Customized touch screen attendance system | \$ 5,200 |
| Panasonic tough pad (1) | \$ 2,000 |
| Knox box for Engine 411 | \$ 1,100 |

Chief Passarella will provide vendor information for the attendance system to see if similar programs are available for the Police and/or Public Works Departments. The Fire Department originally requested two Panasonic tough pads but agreed to accept one and the attendance system.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mayor Greuter opened the meeting to the public. There being no public, Mayor Greuter closed the meeting to the public.

Upon motion by Councilman Vicente, seconded by Councilman Donofrio, and unanimously carried via voice vote, to authorize the Borough Clerk to advertise for the Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer position.

Mayor Greuter reminded the Council that a decision would have to be made regarding the inclusion in the budget of police overtime for parades, festivals, races, etc.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

Approved: As Submitted

Sheila Seifert, Borough Clerk

Date: February 14, 2013