

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
7:30 PM
MARCH 27, 2019

1. Meeting called to order by the Mayor
2. Reading of the Sunshine Notice
3. Salute to the Flag
4. Roll Call: Mr. Frank, Mr. Hlubik, Mr. Marinello, Mr. McDaniel, Mr. Sobotka

5. 2019 Budget Discussions
6. Public Comment*
7. Adjournment
8. Public Comment*
9. Township Officials' Business
 - 2019 Budget Discussions
10. Adjournment

**TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 27, 2019**

The meeting of the Springfield Township Council was called to order by Mayor McDaniel with Council Members David Frank, John Hlubik, Anthony Marinello and Peter Sobotka present. Also present were Manager Paul Keller and Solicitor George Morris.

The Sunshine Notice was read:

"Public notice of this meeting pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given by the Springfield Township Council in the following manner on January 4, 2019:

- a. Posting written notice on the official bulletin board at the Municipal Building, Jobstown, NJ
- b. Transmitting written notice to the Burlington County Times and the Trenton Times
- c. Filing written notice with the Clerk of Springfield Township
- d. Mailing written notice to each person who has requested copies of the regular meeting schedule and who has prepaid any charges fixed for such services."

Mayor McDaniel led the salute to the Flag.

2019 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Council discussed police salaries and pensions and mentioned that there is not much that can be done with those items.

Mr. Keller stated that there was a 43,000 increase on interest on bonding that contributed to the tax increase. He added that litigation also drove up legal cost and an employee is out in construction so there was additional budgeted in construction to cover that office.

Mr. McDaniel stated that he asked the Manager to put an additional \$16,000 in roads and maybe we could take that \$16,000 back out.

Mr. Sobotka asked about the interest on borrowing and Mr. Keller explained that you will retire debt but if you borrow more to cover capital projects that will offset. Mr. Frank stated that we have a fair share of money out there on short notes and Mr. Keller stated that there is an amount that if short term debt gets above that then Bond Counsel will recommend changing to permanent financing. Mr. Frank asked about borrowing as part of a County Cooperative and Mr. Keller responded that the Township's financial person recommended against it and stated it may actually cost more. Mr. Hlubik asked where the money would come from if we need to do remediation at the Habitat site and Mr. Keller responded that would be a capital improvement.

Mr. McDaniel stated that on building and grounds we could change that.

Mr. Keller stated that the amounts that Council is talking about removing are nickels and dimes and right now we are at the maximum with the revenues and if we leave it in the budget and don't spend it those unexpended funds will go into surplus next year which needs to be built up. The actual tax decrease from the cuts Council is discussing are minimal and may hurt next year's budget.

Mr. Hlubik stated that the local increase would be about \$165 increase this year for the averaged assessed value of a home. Mr. McDaniel stated that the increase depending on schools and county could be about \$600 for a house assessed at \$300,000.

Mr. Sobotka agrees with the Manager regarding making these minor decreases and how it could impact the Township later in the year or with next year's budget.

Mr. Sobotka asked about state aid and Mr. Keller responded we are projected to be the same and there are no proposed cuts. Mr. Sobotka asked about Clean Communities and Mr. Keller responded that could vary a little but not much.

Mr. McDaniel asked about revenue on licenses. Mr. McDaniel stated why on the ground leases is the revenue \$2000 less than what was collected in 2018 and PILOTs are the same. Mr. Keller stated he raised some of the same issues with revenue and they are being conservative because they are worried we will not collect what we did in 2018 and we did keep construction revenue up.

Mr. McDaniel said he just wants to make sure everyone is okay with the increase and Mr. Sobotka responded we don't really have much of a choice at this point. Mr. Sobotka made a motion seconded by Mr. Frank to approve the draft for introduce next month. Mr. Frank stated that we have mutual aid agreements with all of our adjoining municipalities and he asked if there are any shifts in the police department that have such low calls we could possibly do a shared service with another municipality to cover those shifts instead of having two officers on. Mr. Sobotka stated that the Market has decreased the extra duty officers do that is being covered by our regularly assigned officers. Mr. Marinello responded to Mr. Frank that on any given day or time the amount of calls could increase or decrease and he does not know if a shared service would work. Mr. Frank stated that it would need to be analyzed not only for our Township but the neighboring town as well to see if there is a consistent time of day with low calls. Mr. Frank recommended thinning down a shift if there is a time that has a low number of calls where we could use another town to help cover. Mr. Hlubik stated that you could look at statistics but you can't predict when an emergency is going to happen. Mr. Marinello stated that this type of coverage happens now at no cost and now we are going to pay to have this type of coverage and get rid of one of our officers. Mr. Frank asked what would happen if we tried to build a system where if one town is heavy with coverage for a shift and Springfield is light and that should go the other way as well to cover those light shifts. Mr. Marinello responded that we could do this free with the State Police but they will not be responding in a quick time frame. Mr. Sobotka stated that it worked in Camden and it was discussed that was

not the same as being discussed because the County actually took over the police coverage in the City of Camden all together. Mr. Frank stated that when you have someone out sick or on disability you are paying overtime. Mr. Marinello stated that you have three officers on at a certain point of the day now to cover any absences. M. Frank responded that he was unaware of this policy and it was discussed that last year a new full-time officer was hired to add additional coverage and to fill in for when there were absences.

Mr. Sobotka made a motion seconded by Mr. Frank to introduce the budget as presented. Roll call: Mr. Frank – yes; Mr. Hlubik – yes; Mr. Marinello – yes; Mr. Sobotka – yes; Mr. McDaniel –yes. Motion carried.

TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD
COUNTY OF BURLINGTON
RESOLUTION 2019-03-06

A RESOLUTION INTRODUCING THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2019

BE IT RESOLVED that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the year 2019;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said Budget be published in the Burlington County Times in the issue of April 3, 2019.

The Governing Body of the Township of Springfield does hereby approve the attached as the Budget for the year 2019:

2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

of the Township of Springfield
County of Burlington
for the fiscal year 2019

Revenue and Appropriation Summaries

<u>Summary of Revenues</u>	Anticipated	
	2019	2018
1. Surplus	575,000.00	675,000.00
2. Total Miscellaneous Revenues	967,972.49	965,962.78
3. Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	100,000.00	100,000.00
4. a) Local Tax for Municipal Purposes	2,524,027.51	2,334,514.13
b) Addition to Local District School		

Tax		
Total Amount to be Raised by Taxes for Support of Municipal Budget	2,524,027.51	2,334,514.13
Total General Revenues	4,167,000.00	4,075,476.91

<u>Summary of Appropriations</u>	2019 Budget	Final 2018 Budget
1. Operating Expenses: Salaries & Wages	1,155,533.42	1,097,994.00
Other Expenses	1,606,719.07	1,575,400.78
2. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations	299,455.00	339,184.00
3. Capital Improvements	55,000.00	40,000.00
4. Debt Service (Including for School Purposes)	749,334.00	722,900.00
5. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	300,958.51	299,998.13
Total General Appropriations	4,167,000.00	4,075,476.91
Total Number of Employees	20	20

Balance of Outstanding Debt				
	General			
Interest	249,334.00			
Principal	500,000.00			
Outstanding Balance	8,490,000.00			

Mr. Keller stated we have money left from one of the park grants that we may lose if we don't use it. Mr. Sobotka asked if we can use it towards the basketball court that was just done. Mr. Keller responded we could not use the money for something already built. Mr. Keller stated we are going to close out the 2015 grant and he doesn't think we used all the money in that grant. He added we would have to reprogram the money for example for the lighting in the park. Mr. McDaniel asked about the fence around the basketball court at Juliustown and Mr. Keller responded that is already going to be done. Mr. McDaniel is concerned about the neighbors if we add the lights to the park and Mr. Frank suggested having a public hearing to get public input. It was discussed that 9 pm would be the cut off for the lights if installed. It was also discussed sending a letter to the neighbors. Mr. McDaniel stated that we need a fence at the Jacksonville basketball court too. Mr. Keller responded that we don't need to make any decision tonight but he doesn't want to lose that money. Mr. McDaniel stated that we could finish the bike trail to the Jobstown Bible Church and in the process fix the drainage issue at the fire house. Mr. Frank stated that if we are going to do anything in front of the fire house we need to meet with them. Mr. Keller stated he would get a handle on how much we have.

Mr. Marinello asked about the EMS building and do we still have the money for that. Mr. Keller responded that we have about \$200,000 in reserve for repairs. Mr. Sobotka stated the recreation committee was talking about an indoor facility for practice and Mr. Keller asked what type of building because you could be talking millions. Mr. Sobotka responded that they were discussing a bubble building and we could use the recreation money for that.

Council discussed repaving the back parking lot and getting an estimate on that project.

Mr. McDaniel asked if we want to approve a resolution saying we will never collect a rain tax. It was discussed that this tax is being proposed to address cost of stormwater management and Mr. Frank stated that he does not feel we should tie our hands with this. It was discussed that the resolution if approved would say the Township would never implement this legislation and Council agreed it was not a good idea to tie the Township's hands. Mr. Frank made a motion seconded by Mr. Hlubik to table the resolution. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Marinello talked with the Chief at the request of the Sikh Temple requesting possible additional protection in light of recent events and the Chief had already spoken to the Sikh leaders and they could pay for extra duty officers full time during the service if they would like or the department could just increase patrols during services.

Mr. McDaniel stated that the fireworks ordinance would be on for introduction in April.

It was discussed that we have a plague for Mr. Germano and Council agreed to present it to Mr. Germano at the annual Christmas party this year.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Hearing no comments, Mr. Marinello made a motion seconded by Mr. Sobotka to close public comment. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Frank made a motion seconded by Mr. Hlubik to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 PM. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Clayton
Township Clerk