

BOROUGH OF HAMPTON

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

May 18, 2020

Mayor Shaner called the Special Meeting of the Hampton Borough Council to order at 7:30p.m. Mayor Shaner gave the Open Public Meetings Act Statement. . This meeting was held in compliance with the Open Pubic Meetings Act. The Special Meeting Notice was published in the Hunterdon Democrat on May 14, 2020. The Notice of this Special Meeting has been posted on the public bulletin board, on the Borough Website and has been filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

Mayor Shaner also announced that the following was posted on the bulletin board and placed on the Borough website and Facebook page:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC DUE TO THE COVID-19 (CORONA VIRUS). IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE INVOLVED WITH THIS MEETING VIA CONFERENCE CALL (425)436-6386 and enter Access Code 897987.

Mayor Shaner asked all to rise for the flag salute.

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|-------------------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------|
| Roll Call on conference call: | Present: | Mayor Shaner | Bob Baker |
| | | John Drummond | Doug Rega |
| | | Carroll Swenson | Jeff Tampier |
| | | Rob Wotanowski | |

The following people were present: Kathy Olsen, CFO

The following people were also present on conference call: Residents Christine Phelan, Maureen Johnson and Carleen Zamora.

Comments and Questions from the Public:

The residents that were on the teleconference voiced their concerns regarding the huge tax levy being imposed on the taxpayers by the Hampton School Board of Education. A question was raised regarding the Resolution that is on tonight’s agenda regarding the tax. Mayor Shaner explained that both he and the Borough Council members were shocked that the school was once again raising the tax levy to such an exorbitant level. They wanted to make it known that they do not approve nor agree with such a tax increase being imposed on the residents of the Borough of Hampton.

New Business:

Motion by Cm. Baker; second by Cm. Rega to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 64-2020

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF HAMPTON, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, CONDEMNING THE EXCESSIVE TAX INCREASE APPROVED BY THE HAMPTON PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR TAXES 2020 – 2021

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Hampton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, has always worked in cooperation with the Board of Education for the Hampton Public School District in an effort to maintain the history of excellence in education while also attempting to lower the cost on the taxpayers of the Borough of Hampton via shared service and other cooperative efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Hampton Public School District provided a PowerPoint presentation on the 2020 – 2021 Budget as submitted by their Business Administrator Board Secretary, Marci Krasny, stating the 2019 – 2020 tax levy base was \$1,974,296; and

WHEREAS, the Hampton Public School District stated in that same PowerPoint presentation the total tax levy for school year 2020 – 2021 is \$2,561,195; and

WHEREAS, the increase in the levy set forth from the 2019 – 2020 Budget to the 2020 – 2021 Budget totals 29.72%; and

WHEREAS, the Hampton Public School Board of Education approved the Budget at a meeting conducted on April 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the average assessed value for a home in the Borough of Hampton is \$238,000 which will result in a **monthly** tax increase of **\$67.15** for the average assessed home, a staggering increase for the taxpayers of the Borough of Hampton particularly during this time of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hampton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, that the Borough Council condemns the staggering increase in the total tax levy set forth above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to all members of the Hampton Public School Board of Education, the Superintendent, the School Board Business Administrator and Juan Torres, Interim Executive County Superintendent of Schools

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Baker, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski

All Ayes: Motion carried.

Motion by Cm. Baker second by Cm. Drummond to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 65-2020

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act; N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., declares it to be the public policy of the State to insure the right of citizens to have adequate advance notice of and the right to attend meetings of public bodies at which business affecting the public is discussed or acted upon; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act also recognized exceptions to the right of the public to attend portions of such meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council find it necessary to conduct an executive session closed to the public as permitted by the N.J.S.A. 40:4-12; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council will reconvene in public session at the conclusion of the executive session;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Hampton, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey that they will conduct an executive session to discuss the following topic (s) as permitted by N.J.S.A. 40:4-12:

PERSONNEL

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council hereby declare that their discussion of the subjects identified above may be made public at a time when the Borough Attorney advises them that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the Borough or any other entity with respect to said discussion. That time is currently estimated to be: One Year

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Borough Council for the reasons set forth above, hereby declare that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place.

Voice Vote: All ayes; motion carried.

Executive Session began at 7:50 p.m. The teleconference was placed on mute at this time.
Executive Session ended at 8:42p.m. The teleconference was unmuted at this time.

Motion by Cm. Rega; second by Cm. Baker to close the Executive Session and open the meeting to the public at 8:42p.m

Voice Vote: All ayes; motion carried.

The results of Executive Session were that job descriptions for all employees of the Borough will be created and system for employee reviews will be created as stated as required in the Hampton borough Personnel Policy. The Municipal Clerk was asked to obtain samples for other municipalities.

Also the following resolution was presented as a result of the Executive Session.

Motion by Cm. Rega; second by Cm. Baker to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 63-2020

BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Hampton in the County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey as follows:

That the following position titles within the Borough of Hampton in the County of Hunterdon, the respective salaries or compensation set forth below are hereby fixed as the maximum amounts to be paid for the year 2020:

| <u>POSITION</u> | <u>SALARY</u> |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Mayor | \$ 2,500.00 |
| Council Member | 2,100.00 |
| Borough Clerk | 62,481.53 |
| Deputy Borough Clerk | 17.00/Hr. |
| Chief Financial Officer | 26,000.00 |
| Assessor of Taxes | 9,873.97 |
| Assessment Search Officer | 100/1000 Search |
| Collector of Taxes | 15,242.40 |
| Custodian | 65.00/Cleaning |
| Secretary to the Planning Board | 5,444.27 |
| Director of Emergency Management | 1,813.78 |
| Municipal Violations Officer | 4,054.19 |
| Crossing Guard | 15.00/Hour |
| Director of Public Works | 69,816.89 |
| Assistant Director of Public Works | 22.01/Hour |
| Public Works Employee#1 | 17.37/Hour |
| Public Works Employee#2 | 17.37/Hour |
| Laborer | 16.00/Hour |
| Zoning Officer | 4,120.91 |
| Mileage Per Mile | PER IRS REGULATIONS |
| Water Clerk | 15,775.08 |
| Treasurer Water Company | 5,928.12 |
| Water Company Inspector | 7,035.81 |
| Assistant Water Company Inspector | 3,570.00 |
| Weekend Pump Check | 55.00/PerDiem |
| Recycling Coordinator | 1,000.00/Annum |

The foregoing Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication thereof according to law.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Baker, Drummond, Rega, Swenson, Tampier, Wotanowski

All Ayes: Motion carried.

Adjournment: Motion by Cm Swenson, second by Cm. Drummond to adjourn the Special Meeting of the Hampton Borough Council. Voice Vote: All ayes, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:48p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Leidner, RMC
Municipal Clerk