

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2019
7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Keenan called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Keenan led the Pledge and said an opening prayer.

STATEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENT: The Mayor read the following statement:

Notice of this meeting has been provided to the Courier Post and The Retrospect and is posted on the Borough Hall Bulletin Board stating the time and the place of the meeting.

ROLL CALL:

MAYOR JOSH KEENAN - PRESENT
COUNCIL PRESIDENT TINA LOMANNO - PRESENT
TOM COLLINS, COUNCILMAN - PRESENT
PATRICK GILLIGAN, COUNCILMAN - PRESENT
PATRICK GREEN, COUNCILMAN- PRESENT
LINDA HALL, COUNCILWOMAN- PRESENT
FRANK HARTMAN, COUNCILMAN – PRESENT
STUART PLATT, BOROUGH SOLICITOR – PRESENT
RON MORELLO, POLICE CHIEF - ABSENT
MICHAELA BOSLER, ACTING BOROUGH CLERK - PRESENT
JOHN FABRITIIS, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER – PRESENT

PUBLIC PORTION FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

Green motioned to open the public portion on agenda items only. Lomanno seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a voice vote.

No comments from the public were made.

Gilligan motioned to close the public portion for agenda items. Collins seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

- REPORT #1 – REVIEW OF THE 2019 BUDGET INFORMATION
Review of the preliminary 2019 Budget information.
The CFO reviewed page by page and line by line of the budget worksheet. Capital items were discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ORD. 2019:08 – ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)
This is the first reading and introduction, the public hearing for this ordinance will be on April 29, 2019 at 7:00 p.m..

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A:4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget to 2.5% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2019
7:00 P.M.

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford in the County of Camden, finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY2019 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council hereby determines that a 3.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$174,636.21 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and

WHEREAS, THE Mayor and Borough Council hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Stratford, in the County of Camden, a majority of the full authorized membership of the governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY2019 budget year, the final appropriations of the Borough of Stratford shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$174,636.21 and that the CY2019 municipal budget for the Borough of Stratford be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced to be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

Gilligan motioned to approve the introduction of Ordinance 2019:08. Lomanno seconded the motion and all members present voting in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

● RES. 2019:88 – SELF-EXAMINATION OF BUDGET

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-78b has authorized the Local Finance Board to adopt rules that permit municipalities in sound fiscal condition to assume the responsibility, normally granted to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, of conducting the annual budget examination; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:30-7 was adopted by the Local Finance Board on February 11, 1997; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.2 through 7.5, the Borough of Stratford has been declared eligible to participate in the program by the Division of Local government Services, and the Chief Financial officer has determined that the local government meets the necessary conditions to participate in the program for the 2019 budget year.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Borough of Stratford that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.6a & 7.6b and based upon the Chief Financial Officer's certification, the governing body has found the budget has met the following requirements:

1. That with reference to the following items, the amounts have been calculated pursuant to law and appropriated as such in the budget:
 - a. Payment of interest and debt redemption charges

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2019
7:00 P.M.

- b. Deferred charges and statutory expenditures
- c. Cash deficit of preceding year
- d. Reserve for uncollected taxes
- e. Other reserves and non-disbursement items
- f. Any inclusions of amounts required for school purposes.

2. That the provisions relating to limitation on increases of appropriations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.2 and appropriations for exceptions to limits on appropriations found at N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.3 et seq., are fully met (complies with CAP law).

3. That the budget is in such form, arrangement, and content as required by the Local Budget Law and N.J.A.C. 5:30-4 and 5:30-5.

4. That pursuant to the Local Budget Law:

- a. All estimates of revenue are reasonable, accurate and correctly stated,
- b. Items of appropriation are properly set forth
- c. In itemization, form, arrangement and content, the budget will permit the exercise of the comptroller function within the municipality.

5. The budget and associated amendments have been introduced and publicly advertised in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Budget Law, except that failure to meet the deadlines of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 shall not prevent such certification.

6. That all other applicable statutory requirements have been fulfilled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services upon adoption.

Hall motioned to approve the resolution. Lomanno seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

- RES. 2019:89 – GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION’S “Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964”

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 as amended by P.L. 2017, c.183 requires the governing body of each municipality and county to certify that their local unit’s hiring practices comply with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission’s “Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964,” as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq., (April 25, 2012) before submitting its approved annual budget to the Division of Local Government Services in the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs; and

WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have familiarized themselves with the contents of the above-referenced enforcement guidance and with their local unit’s hiring practices as they pertain to the consideration of an individual’s criminal history, as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body attached hereto.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Stratford, hereby states that it has complied with N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5, as amended by P.L. 2017, c.183, by certifying that the local unit’s hiring practices comply with the above-referenced enforcement guidance and hereby directs the Clerk to cause to be maintained and

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2019
7:00 P.M.

available for inspection a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to show evidence of said compliance.

Collins motioned to approve the resolution. Hall seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

- RES. 2019:90 – INTRODUCE THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET FOR THE BOROUGH OF STRATFORD, COUNTY OF CAMDEN FOR THE YEAR 2019

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following statements of revenues and appropriation shall constitute the Municipal Budget of the Borough of Stratford for the year 2019 and the Governing Body of the Borough of Stratford does hereby approve the following, as the budget for the year 2019; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said budget be published in the Courier Post in the issue of April 2, 2019 and a public hearing will be held at the Stratford Borough Justice Facility, 315 Union Ave, Stratford, NJ on April 29, 2019 at 7:00 PM at which time and place objections to said budget for the year 2019 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons.

Collins motioned to approve the resolution. Gilligan seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

- RES. 2019:91 – SUPPORTING APPLICATION FOR STRATFORD ATHLETIC ORGANIZATION TO APPLY FOR CAMDEN COUNTY OPEN SPACE GRANT

WHEREAS, the Stratford Athletic Organization is submitting a grant application for a Camden County Open Space Grant; and

WHEREAS, this application will continue to preserve and improve Haggerty Field on Yale Avenue which the Stratford Athletic Organization is the custodian; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Mayor and Council to support the Stratford Athletic Organization in their grant application for a Camden County Open Space Grant.

Hartman motioned to approve the resolution. Hall seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

- RES. 2019:92 – SUPPORTING APPLICATION FOR STRATFORD PARKS COMMISSION TO APPLY FOR CAMDEN COUNTY OPEN SPACE GRANT

WHEREAS, the Stratford Parks Commission is submitting a grant application for a Camden County Open Space Grant; and

WHEREAS, this application will apply for the second phase of the Quaker Run Trail which the Stratford Parks Commission is the custodian; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Mayor and Council to support the Stratford Parks Commission in their grant application for a Camden County Open Space Grant.

STRATFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2019
7:00 P.M.

Collins motioned to approve the resolution. Hartman seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

- Councilman Green – Thanked John Fabritiis, Finance Committee, and Chris Conroy for all of their help in preparing budget information
- Councilman Gilligan – None
- Councilwoman Lomanno – None
- Councilman Hartman – None
- Councilwoman Hall – Thanked John Fabritiis for his help with the budget information
- Councilman Collins – Thanked John Fabritiis for his help with the budget information

GOOD AND WELFARE:

Hartman motioned to open the meeting to the public for Good and Welfare. Green seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a voice vote.

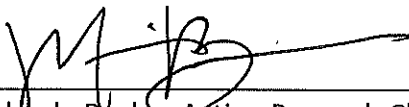
No comments from the public were made.

Gilligan motioned to close the Good and Welfare portion of the meeting. Lomanno seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

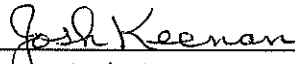
ADJOURN:

Hall motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:03 p.m.. Hartman seconded the motion and all members present voted in favor in a voice vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:



Michaela Bosler, Acting Borough Clerk



Mayor Josh Keenan