

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING - BUDGET WORKSHOP March 19, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Severino opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL - Present: Rob Haynes, Matt Severino, William Bischoff, Frank Mazza. Absent: Patricia Dziubek. Grace Brennan, CFO and Ella M. Ruta, Twp. Clerk were also present.

Sunshine Law Announcement – “I would like to announce and have placed in the Minutes that adequate notice of this special meeting of the Union Township Committee has been provided in accordance with the “Open Public Meetings Act” by electronic mail to the Hunterdon Democrat and Courier News; and by posting such notice on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and by filing a copy of the notice with the Township Clerk”.

FLAG SALUTE

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

Discussion of 2009 Municipal Budget

The following was discussed and/or approved with regard to the 2009 UT Municipal Budget:

- 2009 Municipal State Aid
- Maintenance and repairs of the Township’s roads
- The Committee agreed to increase by 3.5% the budget for Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services serving Union Township
- The Committee decided to introduce the 2009 budget at the April 1, 2009 Committee Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The following resolution was introduced for adoption:

**RESOLUTION #2009 - 65
Providing for a Meeting Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the
Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12**

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Union is subject to certain requirements of the *Open Public Meetings Act*, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et. seq.; and

WHEREAS, the *Open Public Meetings Act*, N.J.S.A. 10-4-12, provides that an Executive Session, not open to the public, may be held for certain specified purposes when authorized by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Township Committee of the Township of Union to discuss in a session not open to the public certain matters relating to the item or items authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b and designated below:

8. _____ *Matters Relating to the Employment Relationship*: Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body,

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unless all the individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, assembled in Executive session on March 19, 2009 at 6:38 p.m. in the Union Township Municipal Building, 140 Perryville Road, Hampton, New Jersey, for the discussion of matters relating to the specific items designated above.

It is anticipated that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Township Committee that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality.

Mr. Mazza made a motion to adopt the above resolution. Mr. Bischoff seconded. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mr. Bischoff, Mr. Mazza. Motion Carried.

At 8:00 p.m., Mr. Bischoff made a motion to come out of the Executive Session. Mr. Mazza seconded. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mr. Bischoff, Mr. Mazza. Motion Carried.

After coming out of Executive Session, the Committee considered the following actions:

As discussed and recommended in Executive Session, Mr. Bischoff made a motion to reduce the staff of the UT Municipal Court, as deemed necessary to reduce the cost of operating expenses. The positions eliminated would be those of Jan Simonetti and Linda Bergen, as well as the Court Bailiff supplied by Clinton Township. Mr. Mazza seconded the motion. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mr. Bischoff, Mr. Mazza. Motion Carried.

Mr. Bischoff amended the above motion to state the staff reduction would be effective April 11, 2009. Mr. Haynes seconded the motion. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mr. Bischoff, Mr. Mazza. Motion Carried.

Mr. Bischoff made a motion to reduce the pay to and duties of the Township's Park Attendant. The new salary for the position will be set at \$6,489.50 annually effective April 1, 2009. The revised duties will include opening/closing of the parks, collecting trash, and overseeing security at the properties owned by the Township. Mr. Mazza seconded the motion. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mr. Bischoff, Mr. Mazza. Motion Carried.

Mr. Severino added the duty of mowing the grass will be absorbed by the UT Road Dept.

Mr. Bischoff made a motion that as of July 1, 2009 the Union Township Construction/Building Department will close and all duties will be turned over to the State Department of Community Affairs with the provision that Darlene Beam will keep her floater position and perform duties of the Vital Statistics Registrar on part-time basis. Mr. Mazza seconded the motion. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Severino, Mr. Bischoff, Mr. Mazza. Naye: Mr. Haynes. Motion Carried.

After discussing security at the municipal building, Mr. Bischoff made a motion to authorize Deputy Mayor Severino to look into various types of security systems and associated costs. Mr. Haynes seconded the motion. Vote – Ayes: Mr. Haynes, Mr. Severino, Mr. Bischoff, Mr. Mazza. Motion Carried.

Briefly discussed was employees' salaries for 2009. Mr. Haynes was in favor of salary increases. Mr. Severino, Mr. Bischoff and Mr. Mazza were in favor of no increase in 2009.

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ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to come before the Township Committee at this time, Mr. Bischoff made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Mazza seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ella M. Ruta, RMC
Township Clerk