

74. Executive Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Haworth held on April 3, 2013 at the Municipal Center

Present: Hon. John Dean DeRienzo, Mayor

Councilmembers: Stephen Chval  
Vincent Iacobino  
Glenn Poosikian  
Mary Anne Groh  
Andrew Rosenberg  
Anthony Volpe

Borough Attorney: Peter J. Scandariato

Mayor DeRienzo called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and upon roll call all members of the Council were present. The Mayor then read the following statement: "This is the Executive Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Haworth. I am informed by the Clerk that adequate public notice has been provided by mailing notice to the Star Ledger and The Record, by posting a notice on the bulletin board in the Municipal Center, by filing a copy of the notice in the office of the Municipal Clerk and by mailing notice to all persons who requested same and prepaid the cost fixed by the Council."

Presentation from the Bergen County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund

Mr. Dan Larsen, the Borough's Risk Manager presented a check in the amount of \$750. in recognition of the Borough's reduction in the number of its claims in 2012, noting its efforts in safety awareness.

2013 Budget Review

Mayor DeRienzo reported this budget was introduced in March and the municipal portion of the budget is only 25% of the whole budget, the rest is accounted for by the schools and the county. He said after introduction there is a review process prior to the budget adoption and each item to be included in the capital improvement program has to be approved before purchase.

The Mayor further noted there is no projected increase in the 2013 municipal portion of the budget.

Police Budget

Chief Campbell, Sgt. Gracey and Sgt. Ryan were present to answer questions regarding the police budget as follows:

Crossing Guards – Chief Campbell said savings that have been suggested do not outweigh the safety issues involved; there is a current contract with the guards for a work day of

Police Budget – cont'd.

four hours. Mrs. Groh referred to the lunch time period where students have to sign out for going down town only. Chief Campbell responded that his concern is when parents sign them out and then allow them to return to school by themselves which he said could be a liability issue if there is no guard present and an incident occurs. Mrs. Groh said eliminating the guards at the lunch time period would save \$60,000. The Chief responded the safety issue still outweighs any savings since once a guard position is created at a location the public becomes used to having someone there. Mrs. Groh commented the guards sit in their cars while children are crossing streets. Chief Campbell said he is addressing that issue, re-evaluating it and guards will no longer sit in their cars. Mr. Poosikian noted the need to address the signing-out of the students at the school.

Chief Campbell then addressed the question raised regarding the cost of seasonal summer help, noting employment has to be offered to the guards so they are unable to collect unemployment and only two guards were employed last summer. Mrs. Groh stated that if we eliminated lunch shifts, the budget for the summer employment could be cut in half.

Chief Campbell addressed questions in connection with police overtime. He said 10 officers are the minimum number he needs to operate, noted emergencies which occur, arrests, etc. and \$75,000. for overtime is what he needs to operate. Mrs. Groh questioned the availability of records as to what causes the overtime so as to have a better understanding of this issue. The Chief responded it is indicated on the payroll records. Mrs. Groh then noted that income is down in connection with outside employment. Chief Campbell said this varies from year to year.

Chief Campbell explained he is operating on a shoestring budget, is lacking for things he needs and noted service contracts have increased \$4,000., he needs ammunition, tires, etc. and those costs are gradually increasing each year. Mrs. Groh pointed out that the Police O&E Budget in 2010 was \$29,000. and was \$38,000. in 2011, far less that the current budget of \$55,970.

As to police vehicles, the Chief explained a plan has been put into place to lease the vehicles and there is the need to order cars early in the year. Mr. Rosenberg asked if at the end of the leases are the vehicles auctioned. The Chief explained there is no upfront payment, one payment per car each year, this is a traditional lease for police cars and a state contract. Mr. Volpe asked about rotation of the vehicles. The Chief said there is a 6 year rotation and the oldest cars are auctioned. Mrs. Groh said there are 9 cars. The Chief explained there are 5 patrol cars and explained their use regarding pursuit issues, etc. Mrs. Groh asked why bigger cars are being purchased. Chief Campbell said there is better mileage and a greener vehicle. It was noted the new vehicle requested this year is to replace the Chief's car which has 39,987 miles.

Regarding items in the budget for traffic light upgrades, Chief Campbell explained these lights have not been upgraded in many years, the upgrade is a cost of \$30,000. for both lights

Police Budget – cont'd.

(top of the hill and Valley Road) and the upgrade would include a generator with a transfer switch during power outages and the cost would be \$15,000. for each year. Mrs. Groh questioned why not in prior capital requests.

Mrs. Groh said she hears concerns with the number of police vehicles the Borough has and since the Borough is spending significantly less on debt service and garbage and recycling costs so it should be able to do better with this budget. The Chief commented that during storms when all of the vehicles are in use, the officers have had to use their own cars.

Mr. Volpe questioned the report that the defibrillators in the Police Department are somewhat outdated. The Chief responded that the recommended life is 7 to 8 years.

Sgt. Ryan explained the early warning lightning system which is being discussed in the neighboring towns – an alert uses sirens and strobe lights, 5 miles away alarms go off, this is a cooperative effort with 7 towns with 2 sensors for a 5-mile radius, included areas for the system would be the high school fields, 3 Borough fields, the Swim Club and Tennis Courts. Mayor DeRienzo noted a decision has to be made as to where the Borough wants the system. Sgt. Ryan noted he has spoken to White Beeches who have this same system and have had no issues with it. Mr. Volpe noted he lives in the area of the Club, that the system has sounded about three times a year and has not been a sound nuisance. Mayor DeRienzo noted there are 14 entities involved.

Chief Campbell then discussed graffiti in town which is difficult to prevent and it has been suggested to install cameras in certain areas. Sgt. Gracey suggested cameras at Memorial Field, the Skating Rink, the Creative Playground, locations on Terrace Street and the Myrtle Street Field which could be viewed while officers are on patrol and if an incident occurs the officers can go back and look at the cameras. Mrs. Groh suggested notifying the community of these cameras prior to making any decision, give the “Big Brother” implication.

Ambulance Corps Budget

Mr. Poosikian noted that members of the Ambulance Corps were present this evening in connection with questions which have been raised regarding their capital budget, i.e., an addition to the building and the cost of an exhaust system.

Mr. T. Cusanelli, member of the Ambulance Corps described the exhaust fan and fresh air supply with a CO detector which starts the system and provides air changes. He then distributed information in connection with the proposed addition explaining there are now two ambulances and two bays; to the rear of the building are police motorcycles stored, ATV's, spare tires, targets and medical supplies for police, recreation, etc. He noted that 120 people were trained in CPR last year, there is a small area in the attic for emergency cots, blankets and

Police Budget – cont'd.

mattresses for use by storm victims, 87 people sought shelter at the building during last year's storm as with the use of the emergency generator the building is 100 percent operational. Mr. Cusanelli further explained there is also a small closet used by the Woman's Club who meet at the building and a shed for loaner equipment –wheel chairs, etc. which have been donated. He said this shed is not secure and they have looked into new sheds for additional storage. He said consideration is being given to add an unfinished bay to the north side of the building.

Mrs. Groh asked what would the cost be. Mr. Cusanelli responded approximately \$100. per sq. ft. with an 800 sq. ft. footprint, approximately \$80,000. Mr. Volpe asked how many people slept at the building during the storm and was told members of the Ambulance Corps stayed there.

Mr. Poosikian said it was important that the building can be used as a shelter as the high school which has been designated as a shelter at times does not have a generator. Mr. Cusanelli said this would not be additional space for people to sleep, they need space for equipment, easily accessible and there is the need for more equipment.

Mr. Poosikian said they have two ambulances and asked the cost. Mr. Cusanelli responded \$160,000. five years ago which the Ambulance Corps paid with through their funds and not the Borough's.

Library Budget

Ms. Sharon Jureller, president of the Library Board was present in connection with questions arising from this year's budget. She explained \$16,000. must be paid to BCCLS in order to participate in inter-library borrowing and the Haworth Library Board has been pre-paying this fee resulting in a 5% discount and there has been a suggestion to put this amount in the borough's budget in connection with the library receiving less funding from the State this year. Mrs. Groh said she did not know the extra funding was just for BCCLS and the library's operating budget is more than the funding from the State.

Mrs. Groh said her concern is that if the library expansion goes forward there will be additional carrying costs and noted with tax appeals library funding will go down and if monies are handed over the library won't be as fiscally concerned as they could be. Mrs. Groh noted that what the library pays for – pension costs, insurance costs, etc. is not reflected in the Borough's budget; the Library should not be charged for the Joint Insurance Fund costs, however, the Swim Club should be as well, she said. Mayor DeRienzo commented there should be a line item for those costs.

Mr. Volpe questioned the Library's surplus figure. Ms. Jureller said it is \$30,000. and if it has to be drawn down then it would be \$18,000. Mr. Volpe asked if there are any other discretionary funds for the Library. Mrs. Jureller said there are fund raisers through the Friends of the Library.

2013 Road Improvement Program

Mayor DeRienzo noted input has been received regarding which roads to be included in this year's program and a decision has to be made by next week.

Mr. Poosikian referred to an updated list which includes two dead end streets which are a very active drop off area for the high school, heavily travelled and dangerous to walk.

Mrs. Groh suggested making the area just gravel.

Mr. Poosikian responded that there is a driveway at the end of one of those streets.

TV Monitoring Cameras

Mayor DeRienzo noted there will be pricing for the TV cameras to be included in this year's budget by next week; there are funds remaining in an existing ordinance and the Borough has filed for additional funding, he said.

Lightning Detection System

Mayor DeRienzo explained that a proposal for this system indicates 7 towns and 7 schools would be participating, the costs have been broken out by town, consideration is being given as to how to maximize this system with a meeting to be scheduled at the Mahwah Communications Center and the system consists of strobe lights and sirens with 130 decibels.

Mr. Volpe said Mahwah should notify the towns when the lightening is at a 20 mile radius, they could send out notices to the emergency services, the Haworth School is going forward with the project and will pay for a portion of the sensor, monitoring will be done by the high school and Harrington Park is the lead agency.

Mayor DeRienzo commented that he wants to make sure that the Mahwah Center receives the information in connection with the Interboro dispatching system.

Correspondence

<u>Letter From</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Referred to</u>
Office of School Finance	Municipal Percentage Shares for Tax Levies for Regional School Districts	All Council Finance
Zonta Club of Northern Valley	Invitation to May 4 <sup>th</sup> Fund Raising Walk	All Council
Dr. Nagy, NVRHS Superintendent	Invitation to Safety Forum, April 30 <sup>th</sup>	All Council Police, Amb. Fire
Sgt. M. Gracey	Security Cameras Information	All Council

Correspondence – cont'd.

<u>Letter From</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Referred to</u>
NJ SEM	Members' Electricity Savings	All Council
BCUA	Invitation to Trade Show -Green Up May 9, Van Saun Park	Mrs. Groh Mr. Poosikian DPW

In other correspondence, Mr. Chval reported that Diane Holden, the Borough's Tax Collector has been appointed to the executive board of the Bergen County Tax Collectors and Treasurer's Association.

Award of Contract for Snack Stand at Swim Club

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Iacobino and seconded by Mr. Chval:

WHEREAS, following public advertisement, sealed bids for Request for Proposals for a Food Service Concession (Snack Bar) at the Haworth Swim Club for the 2013 Pool Season were received by the Municipal Clerk on March 27, 2013 and;

WHEREAS, one bid was received at that time.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the bid received be awarded to Michael Dawson, 77 Pleasant Street, Haworth, NJ 07641 in the amount of \$2,000.00.

On discussion Mrs. Groh questioned if the Council had discussed this matter.

Mr. Iacobino responded that discussion was held that the Borough or the Swim Club would no longer run the stand.

Mrs. Groh said other people have been interested in running it.

On voice vote all members voted in the affirmative. Declared carried.

Approval of Raffle License

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Poosikian, seconded by Mr. Chval and unanimously carried:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Haworth that the On-Premise, 50/50 #RA-405 Raffle Application of the Sacred Heart Church to be held at the Church

Approval of Raffle License – cont'd.

Hall on April 20, 2013 be approved as submitted providing all rules and regulations of Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission are adhered to.

ADA Cooperative Engineering Design Grant Agreement

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Poosikian, seconded by Mr. Iacobino and unanimously carried:

WHEREAS, funding is available from the County of Bergen to assist municipalities with required ADA compliance in advance of County resurfacing projects; and

WHEREAS, the design and inspection of the ramp work will be done by the Borough Engineer and reimbursed to the municipality for the cost of the engineering work.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an ADA Cooperative Engineering Design Grant Agreement with the County of Bergen.

ADA Cooperative Curb Ramp Construction Grant Agreement

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Poosikian, seconded by Mr. Iacobino and unanimously carried:

WHEREAS, funding is available from the County of Bergen to assist municipalities with required ADA compliance in advance of County resurfacing projects; and

WHEREAS, the construction costs in connection with the county wide ADA Cooperative Curb Ramp Construction Grant Program will be reimbursed to the municipality after proper verification and inspections.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an ADA Cooperative Curb Ramp Construction Grant Agreement with the County of Bergen.

Appointment to Fire Department

A motion was offered by Mr. Volpe, seconded by Mr. Chval and unanimously carried that Mr. Kurt Simkins be appointed a regular member of the Haworth Fire Department.

Appointment to Board of Health

A motion was offered by Mrs. Groh, seconded by Mr. Volpe and unanimously carried that Dr. Jennie Li be appointed to the unexpired term of Mrs. Wise to December 31, 2013.

Chestnut Bend Sign

A motion was offered by Mr. Iacobino, seconded by Mr. Poosikian and unanimously carried to approve \$4,240. for the replacement of the Welcome to Haworth sign at Chestnut Bend.

Open Meeting to Public

The meeting was opened to the period of public discussion.

Mrs. C. Schacht, Ivy Avenue asked if work will begin on the repair of the railroad crossings in the Borough.

Mayor DeRienzo responded there has been no notification yet. Mr. Iacobino said the Chief is calling the railroad for a different type of crossing.

Mr. N. Nakashian, Brook Street, questioned the lights at the skating rink being on at night.

Mr. Volpe responded the lights are on a timer which will be taken down at the end of the season.

As there were no further comments, the meeting was closed to public discussion.

Update on Municipal Budget

Mr. Chval noted several changes which have been discussed in the budget – increase in composting fee to \$20,900. on the revenue page; capital increases for cameras; eliminating \$53,000. for playground equipment in the swim club budget; zoning board – decrease, \$1,000. and planning board increase of \$1,000.; separate line for emergency tree removals.

In connection with questions regarding the budget, Mr. Poosikian referred to the overtime costs for the DPW, noting the Department was hit with several storms in the past few years; also in the Streets and Roads budget there is additional costs for asphalt as the pothole repair machine is being used a great deal more and the vehicle maintenance line includes an increase for vehicle maintenance.

82. Executive Meeting of April 3, 2013

Appointments to Ethics Board

A motion was offered by Mr. Poosikian, seconded by Mr. Chval and unanimously carried to appoint Mrs. Rosemary Smart as the sixth member of the Board to a three year term to December 31, 2015.

As there was no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM on motion duly offered, seconded and carried.

---

Ann E. Fay, RMC, CMC  
Clerk-Administrator