

**PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
COUNCIL – TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN**

MAY 14, 2009

OAKHURST, NEW JERSEY

A Special Public Meeting was held in the Council Conference Room, Town Hall, 399 Monmouth Road, Oakhurst, NJ 07755 beginning at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Larkin
Deputy Mayor Hiers, Councilmember(s) Garofalo, Schepiga, Siciliano

Others: Martin Arbus, Esq., Township Attorney
Andrew Brannen, Township Manager
Vincent Buttiglieri, Township Clerk

Mayor Larkin presided and called the meeting to order and asked for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Statement of Compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act:

Mayor Larkin announced that the notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act for this meeting have been satisfied; a copy of the Meeting Notice was sent to the Asbury Park Press and The Coaster, posted in Town Hall and filed in the Office of the Township Clerk on May 12, 2009.

Fire Exit Procedures:

There are two emergency exits on the wall to my right that will take you to the front of the building and another one to my left that will take you to the rear parking lot.

NOTICE:

All cell telephones must be turned off. If you need to make a call, please make your call outside the meeting room.

Mayor Larkin gave a synopsis of what had transpired since the Board of Education Budget was defeated at the Board of Education election, which was held on April 21, 2009. Mayor Larkin explained that with the repeal of the Kiley Bill, the amount of school funding that the Village of Loch Arbour is required to pay to the Township of Ocean increased by \$1.3 million. State Senator, Sean Kean, is working with all pertinent parties to try and have this increase phased in over a period of time, as to minimize the impact on the residents of Loch Arbour, however, nothing is imminent.

Mayor Larkin explained that representatives from the Township of Ocean, Village of Loch Arbour and the Township of Ocean Board of Education met, and based on the voter's mandate, the School Budget will be reduced by \$306,249.00. Should the decrease not be accepted by all parties, the Budget would be submitted to the State, which would then reduce the budget without any input of the parties affected. Mayor Larkin stated that both Superintendent Pagano and Business Administrator/Board Secretary Jannarone are in agreement with the projected reduction. The Village of Loch Arbour had passed their resolution recommending a \$306,249.00 reduction on May 12, 2009.

Public Questions:

Bob Ades inquired as to who negotiated the reduction on behalf of all the parties. Mr. Ades also inquired as to the amount of the 2008/2009 School Budget and about the compensation adjustments for the administrative personnel.

RESOLUTIONS:

BOE1. Approve the reduction in the tax levy for the Township of Ocean as a result of the defeated school board budget.

CERTIFICATION OF LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT TAX LEVY

Councilmember Hiers offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption; seconded by Council member Siciliano

WHEREAS, the district tax levy for the General Fund portion of the 2009/2010 budget of the Township of Ocean School District in the amount of \$52,358,159.00 was defeated by the voters of the Township of Ocean at the annual school election held on April 21, 2009; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-37, the Governing Body, along with the Township Manager and Director of Finance did receive the proposed school budget and have consulted with representatives from the local Board of Education to discuss the proposed 2009/2010 school budget; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Ocean Governing Body did review said 2009/2010 budget with the recommendations and justifications for the reduction in the amount of \$306,249.00 in the General Fund Tax Levy for 2009/2010, as follows:

| <u>Account #</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Amount of Reduction</u> |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 12-000-270-730 | Capital Equipment . Transportation Department | \$ 82,000.00 |
| 12-000-260-730 | Capital Equipment . Maintenance Department | \$ 49,000.00 |
| 12-000-260-730 | Capital Improvements . Various Maintenance | \$118,249.00 |
| 12-000-260-730 | Capital Improvements . Athletic Maintenance | \$ 57,000.00 |
| TOTAL REDUCTIONS: | | \$306,249.00 |

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Ocean, in the County of Monmouth does hereby certify to the Monmouth County Board of Taxation, that the amount to be levied for the General Fund Budget to provide a thorough and efficient education for the Township of Ocean School District for the school year 2009/2010 is \$52,051,910; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded forthwith to the Monmouth County Board of Taxation, the Monmouth County Superintendent of Schools, the Township of Ocean School District and the Tax Assessor of the Township of Ocean.

ROLL CALL:

YES: Garofalo, Hiers, Schepiga, Siciliano, Larkin

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

On a motion by Council member Schepiga and seconded by Councilmember Hiers, it was moved to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

William F. Larkin
Mayor

Vincent Buttiglieri, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk