

TOWNSHIP OF MOORESTOWN  
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL  
BUDGET WORKSHOP  
April 10, 2019

The Budget Workshop of the Moorestown Township Council was called to order by Mayor Petriello at Town Hall, Council Chambers, 111 West Second Street, Moorestown at 5:40 p.m. Attendance was as follows:

Lisa Petriello, Mayor	Thomas H. Neff, Township Manager
Brian Donnelly, Councilmember (Absent)	Thomas J. Merchel, Deputy Township Manager/CFO
Nicole Gillespie, Deputy Mayor	Patricia L. Hunt, Township Clerk
Michael Locatell, Councilmember (Arrived 5:45 p.m. and Left 7:52 p.m.)	
Victoria Napolitano, Councilmember	

Staff in Attendance: Lee Lieber, Chief of Police and Anthony Zappasodi, Community Development Director;

Mayor Petriello advised that notice of the meeting was given in accordance with law.

Mayor Petriello introduced Chief Lieber and Mr. Zappasodi.

**DISCUSSION ON 2019 BUDGET:**

Mr. Neff clarified that there are four police vehicles in the proposed budget not two.

Police Department

The Department's budget was reviewed. Discussion was held on the replacement cycle of Police vehicles. Chief Lieber discussed staffing and the need for an extra officer. Much discussion was held on overtime. Discussion was held on the revenue from the courts being down significantly. A discussion was had on the costs associated with Police coverage at events held in town. Continued review of line items was had. There was discussion on equipment and training needs.

Chief Lieber was dismissed from the meeting.

Community Development

The Department's budget was reviewed. Mr. Zappasodi explained the need for two part-time employees in his department. Much discussion continued on the need for two part-time employees. Mr. Locatell feels that Community Development Office should start with one part-time employee. Discussion was held on attorney fees for Planning and Zoning Boards. There was a discussion on computer software and on or off site data storage. A discussion was had on the need to purchase vehicles and how they old vehicles are recycled down from Community Development to the Public Works Department. Discussion was had on the fee revenues in the Construction Office. Mr. Zappasodi explained the need to increase fees in the Construction Office. Much discussion was had on increasing the fees. Mr. Zappasodi stated that there is a proposed fee schedule with the increases. A discussion was held on the reduction in the training and education

line items. Continued review of line items was had. A discussion was on the retrofitting of an Office for the Construction Official.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mayor Petriello opened the meeting to the public.

Pamela Richards, 304 Colonial Avenue, stated that there is no total Police Department number in the Budget. Mr. Merchel stated that you have to add each department. Dr. Richards said that a summary page should be giving so that they have an overall picture. In good budgeting you put salary trends for full-time and part-time employees. She suggests Mr. Merchel do that going forward. Mr. Merchel stated that it is the State format that is being used. The user friendly format will have that. Dr. Richards said she is troubled that we do not know how many cars we have. She thought that the Director would have a page showing the number including trending. She would like to see all the consultants by function by department and the boards under that department. Dr. Richards compared Chief Lieber getting off without many questions and pummeling Mr. Merchel. He cannot keep up. If he is not here tomorrow, you will all be lost. The Directors do not know enough. Mr. Locatell suggested an intern for Mr. Merchel. She thinks that is short sighted. She said we let someone that has a budget for millions of dollars leave and you give Finance a hard time about hiring one person and Community Development for two part-time people. She believes Council has done a great job with questions. They need to rethink Mr. Merchel's request for one person. She supports cross training. She asked if the Township has an organizational chart. Mr. Merchel stated yes. Dr. Richards stated that Council should have that. Mr. Neff stated that she is right and it will be included in the Budget in the future. Ms. Napolitano stated that over the last several years Sustainable Moorestown did a report on the vehicles. She said that it may not have everything that Council wants to see but believes it would be worth distributing. She believes someone should have a copy to distribute. It lists every vehicle we have and should be something we can use.

Edwin Begg, 209 Parry Drive, said that the Directors and Council did a good job.

Monique Begg, 209 Parry Drive, is always concerned with a part-time employee because they do not have the same commitment. Sometimes the job is not done as it should be.

**ADJOURNMENT:** At 7:56 p.m., there being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn.

MOTIONED BY: Ms. Gillespie  
SECONDED BY: Ms. Napolitano  
VOTE: All in favor

VICKI M. GOUGH, RMC  
Deputy Township Clerk