

TOWNSHIP OF MOORESTOWN
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
BUDGET WORKSHOP
April 29, 2019

The Budget Workshop of the Moorestown Township Council was called to order by Mayor Petriello at Town Hall, Council Chamber, 111 West Second Street, Moorestown at 6:06 p.m. Attendance was as follows:

Lisa Petriello, Mayor	Thomas H. Neff, Manager
Brian Donnelly, Councilmember (arrived 6:53 p.m.)	Thomas J. Merchel, Deputy Township Manager/CFO
Nicole Gillespie, Deputy Mayor	Vicki M. Gough, Deputy Township Clerk
Michael Locatell, Councilmember (arrived 6:08 p.m.)	
Victoria Napolitano, Councilmember	

Staff in Attendance: Theresa Miller, Recreation Director

Mayor Petriello read the Open Public Meetings Act statement, as written on the agenda, aloud.

Mr. Merchel handed a memo to Council which outlined the 2019 Budget changes to date. Mr. Merchel went over the memo line by line. He stated that there is a net decrease of \$284,500. It decreases the proposed tax rate increase of \$0.424 to \$0.417. Mr. Merchel also gave Council three options to decrease the tax rate more.

DISCUSSION ON 2019 BUDGET:

Mayor Petriello asked Ms. Miller to give a brief overview of the Recreation Department budget. Ms. Miller said that the operating budget remains flat. They are not decreasing or increasing anything.

There was a discussion on the Mission Voice 5K that was held on Saturday, April 27, 2019. They are donating \$35,000 to the Recreation Department. Ms. Miller said \$25,000 will be used for salaries and \$10,000 will be used for transportation or whatever else is needed for the Special Needs Camp.

Ms. Miller stated that Mr. and Mrs. Young made a donation of \$15,000 for a new fence to be installed at Jeff Young Field.

There was a discussion held on the Control Link lighting on the fields and which fields have it. Ms. Miller believes that this has been cost effective.

Ms. Miller went over some of her department's requests such as the two AED poles on both turf fields and the costs associated with the repairs to Strawbridge Lake Playground/Tot Lot.

Ms. Miller stated that the main project in her budget is to build a new softball field at Wesley Bishop Park which she has received an estimate of \$700,000 to \$750,000. Much discussion was held on this request.

Mayor Petriello stated that the discussion will continue at the next Budget Workshop but the floor needs to be opened for Public Comment prior to the start of the regularly scheduled Council Meeting

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

Edwin Begg, 209 Parry Drive, stated that as a taxpayer he is not looking to provide any sports field to any kid. He believes he pays for it with the school tax. He supports Ms. Miller with all her activities. He believes that the parents whose children are involved with the sports programs should have to pay for it.

Pamela Richards, 304 Colonial Avenue, stated that if you don't have an instrument to attract children to you, you are not going to get participation. She stated that engineers just sit and wait to come into Moorestown and charge for estimates. She stated that maybe a colleague from another town could give the Moorestown some ideas of what it may cost for a project because they did a similar one. Ms. Richards said the same children seem to get all the attention. She added that young women do deserve sports too.

ADJOURNMENT: At 7:01 p.m., there being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn.

MOTIONED BY: Ms. Gillespie
SECONDED BY: Mr. Locatell
VOTE: All in favor

VICKI M. GOUGH
Deputy Township Clerk