

TOWNSHIP OF MOORESTOWN
TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
BUDGET WORKSHOP
June 1, 2020

(This meeting was held telephonically due to COVID-19)

The Budget Workshop of the Moorestown Township Council was called to order by Mayor Gillespie at 5:02 p.m. Attendance was as follows:

Nicole Gillespie, Mayor	Thomas J. Merchel, Township Manager/CFO (Absent)
Brian Donnelly, Deputy Mayor	Patricia L. Hunt, Township Clerk
Michael Locatell, Councilmember (Arrived 5:21 p.m.)	
Victoria Napolitano, Councilmember	
Lisa Petriello, Councilmember	

Staff in Attendance: Lee Lieber, Chief of Police

Mayor Gillespie advised that notice of the meeting was given in accordance with law. She advised who was present and how public comment would be taken. She noted that Mr. Merchel had a family situation and may join later.

Mayor Gillespie introduced Chief Lieber.

Mayor Gillespie opened the floor for Council questions.

DISCUSSION ON 2020 BUDGET:

Police Department

Ms. Petriello asked how operations have changed since COVID-19. Chief Lieber advised Council that the patrols have been working a revised schedule and they are back on regular shifts as of today. They have been trying to take safety precautions and fortunately no one has been infected.

The Department's budget was reviewed. Questions were asked regarding the grants that were received in the past and the budgeting amounts this year. Chief Lieber addressed the questions. Questions were asked regarding Special Class II Officers and the decrease in the Crossing Guards and meter enforcers salary line. Chief Lieber stated that there is a reduction due to schools being closed since March and is hoping they will open in September. He is using a Special Officer to empty the meters. Discussion was held regarding the reduction in the number of traffic citations and the complaints Council has received regarding speeding. Chief Lieber stated that things should start to turn around with younger aggressive officers but the numbers were down due to COVID-19. They will be doing more traffic enforcement. Council had questions on the police service charges and what they are. Chief Lieber stated that it is a question for the Manager. Mayor Gillespie stated Mr. Merchel can answer at the next Budget Workshop.

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

Chris Buoni, 246 Nicholson Drive, discussed school budget tax deferral. He believes Council should do this to offset a tax increase. Mr. Donnelly said that the Manager/CFO is not on the call and he would be best to discuss this with. Mr. Buoni stated that Council could direct the Manager to do it. Mayor Gillespie stated that they can consult with the Manager/CFO. Mr. Buoni complimented Council and said it is good governance.

No further comment from the Public.

CLOSING COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL:

Mr. Locatell thanked all for participating and the staff for putting the meeting together. He also thanked the Chief for running a tight ship.

Mayor Gillespie thanked Chief Lieber.

ADJOURNMENT: At 5:42 p.m., there being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn.

MOTIONED BY: Ms. Napolitano
SECONDED BY: Mr. Donnelly
VOTE: All in favor

PATRICIA L. HUNT, RMC
Township Clerk

Prepared By: Vicki M. Gough, RMC
Deputy Township Clerk