

Minutes of the Budget Hearing of the Municipal Council and Department/Division Heads of the Township of Woodbridge at the Woodbridge Community Center, 600 Main Street, Woodbridge, New Jersey in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, held on August 15, 2023 at 4:00 P.M. for the Presentation and Introduction of the FY 2024 Municipal Budget to the Municipal Council immediately followed by Budget Hearings with Department/Division Heads of the Township of Woodbridge. Formal action may be taken.

Members of the Council and all those present gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council President Ficarra: Let's keep the folks on the island of Hawaii in our thoughts and prayers as they attempt to recover. And for those that lost their lives and their families.

Notice Requirements of the Open Public Meetings Law have been satisfied concerning this meeting. A Notice was published in The Home News Tribune on July 16, 2023 and The Star Ledger on July 19, 2023. A copy of the Notice was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board. It should be so noted in the minutes of this meeting.

The Municipal Clerk took the Municipal Council attendance.

The roll call was as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Howie Bauer, Lizbeth DeJesus, Sharon McAuliffe, Debbie Meehan
Cory Spillar, Kyle Anderson, Gregg Ficarra

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brian Small, Viru Patel

ALSO PRESENT: John Mitch, Municipal Clerk
Craig Coughlin, Esq., Municipal Counsel
Vito Cimilluca, Business Administrator
Casey Wagner, Deputy Business Administrator
Michael Klepchick, Assistant Chief Financial Officer
Katherine Mullen, Accountant
Manuel Fernandez, Chief Financial Officer
Marta Darden, Director of Planning and Development
Robert Hubner, Director of Police
George Brew, Director of Public Works
Brian Molnar, Recreation Director
John Hagerty, Communications Director
Richard Duda, Tax Assessor
Richard Lorentzen, Tax Collector
Jennifer Burns, Purchasing Agent
Darren Crocker, Director of Human Resources
Monica Eppinger, Library Director

Phil Bujalski, Health Department
Philip Dinicola, Director of Municipal Court
Michelle Morgan, Director of Senior Services
Megan Kupsha, Deputy Director of Communications

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: Can I get a motion to open the public hearing?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion to open the public comment portion of the hearing which was seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

John Mitch, Municipal Clerk: The public meeting is now open to the public for any comments. Hearing no comment, can I get a motion that the public comment portion be closed?

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion to close the public hearing which was seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

The Municipal Clerk called for a First Reading of the following Ordinance as Consent:

A. ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE SFY 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.

Council Vice President Anderson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously that this Ordinance be passed on First Reading to be published in the in the Home News Tribune on Friday, August 20, 2023 with Notice of Public Hearing, Second and Third Reading, to be held on Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

The Municipal Clerk introduced the following Resolutions as Consent:

- (1) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council approves the Computation of Reserve for Uncollected Taxes for the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget.
- (2) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the computation of reserve for uncollected taxes utilizing the three year average Method for the FY2024 budget.
- (3) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby authorizes the introduction of the Fiscal Year 2024 budget.
- (4) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the Main Street Special Improvement District in the amount of \$304,000.00 for the Fiscal Year 2024 budget.
- (5) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Municipal Council hereby approves the Oak Tree Road Special Improvement District budget in the amount of \$564,150.00 for the Fiscal Year 2024 budget.

Council Vice President Anderson moved the adoption of the foregoing Resolutions. The motion was seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

Police Department – 2210

Mr. Mitch: Mr. President we are going to begin following the index that is at the beginning of your budget book. We'll be starting with the Police Department, Director Hubner.

Council President Ficarra: Director, what is the difference in cost compared to last year for motor vehicle repairs?

Robert Hubner: With the increase of sworn personnel, we obviously have to increase the amount of cars we operate. We are also, like many departments around the State and I'm sure the Nation, having problems getting new vehicles. A lot of companies have discontinued Police Packages. We can foresee having to keep the cars that we have now on the road longer. Obviously there will be additional maintenance so that is why there is an increase. And also the price of everything has gone up over the last year or two.

Council President Ficarra: Isn't that true. Thank you.

Council Vice President Anderson: Director, there is a position called Recruit. How long is the Recruit position in effect for a police officer?

Robert Hubner: From the day they are hired, we usually have to do pre-academy training which is anywhere from four to five weeks. Then they go to the academy for almost four months. Once they graduate they are no longer a Recruit. They are a police officer. But then they come back to the police department for several more weeks of in house training. And then they are with a field training officer. Recruit status is five and a half to six months.

Councilwoman DeJesus: What is Other Outside Services?

Robert Hubner: That increased drastically because we added a vendor. I identified them as Straight Line, but that was a mistake. It's actually Traffic Line. They will do street painting and parking lot painting. We try to do in house with our Traffic Maintenance unit, but sometimes the job is beyond their scope.

Councilman Spillar: I wanted to express my extreme pleasure. Inaudible.

Councilwoman McAuliffe: Why is the salary at the impound lot increasing dramatically?

Robert Hubner: That is increasing because we have taken on additional responsibilities with the tow yard. In the past we have had a number of outside tow companies that aided the Police Department that were paid by the Township or Police Department. We have less tow companies so we have taken on additional towing with the Police Department equipment. It has gotten to the point where we are probably going to have to hire somebody at least part time, possibly full time. Because of some of the requirements by the Prosecutors Office and the Attorney General regarding

evidence, certain types of crashes or arrests, where in the past we would have a tow company come out. Because of Chain of Evidence, we now try to use our own tow vehicle so we keep that Chain of Evidence and we keep it in our storage area.

Council Vice President Anderson: I have a questions regarding painting on streets. What, as far as intersections, require a mile per hour that's painted on the street and how that is determined?

Robert Hubner: We do traffic studies but that is mostly the engineer's recommendation. The Municipal Engineer will go out and look at something. In conjunction with the Engineering Department, we will do a traffic study through our Traffic Enforcement Unit. And with that data we'll determine what needs to be done.

Council Vice President Anderson: Do we ever determine whether or not there has been improvement? Do we do a study after the fact to see if there has been any improvements and reductions in accidents?

Robert Hubner: We do. We'll check the crash data prior to and then after to make sure that what we've done is sufficient. If it's not, we have to get a plan b.

Vito Cimilluca: The Township Engineer will look at state and local regulations for traffic with either signage or painting and apply those standards. So, sometimes we may want it and sometimes the law may contradict with what we think is right.

Councilwoman McAullife: Now that were are going to handle that ourselves, are we going to be earning more income now that outside tow companies are not being used?

Robert Hubner: Absolutely. Over the years there has been a marked increase in revenue of the tow yard. It's substantial.

Director Cimilluca: We do auction those cars off. If we impound a car and have it for a long period of time and the fines and fees go over what the car is worth, we then auction the car off for more proceeds.

Robert Hubner: In addition, sometimes through criminal charges, we seize vehicles and they are included in the auction also.

Council President Ficarra: You can see on the revenue side that we make a pretty good deal of money on the Digital Trunk radio system that we share with Perth Amboy. But on the expense side. I think people don't understand what the Digital Trunk System is.

Robert Hubner: It's part of our radio system. Motorola is our vendor. We entered into a new contract so that is why there is an increase. We supply services to Perth Amboy and some other towns and they use that Trunk System.

Councilwoman DeJesus: I want to thank the Police Department. In the last few years, especially this year, Community Affairs has done a tremendous job coming up with different community events to interact with our residents and our community in a positive way. I commend you and everybody in charge because they are doing an exceptional job.

Robert Hubner: I appreciate that. Thank you. With the support of the Township, Administration and the Council we are able to do that.

Mr. Mitch: Director, before you leave, I know Mr. Kenny is here with you. Council, do you have any questions on the other two line items?

Impound Yard – 2215

Office of Emergency Management – 2250

Council President Ficarra: In our 2023 budget we budgeted \$6,000 and spent considerably more than that. For 2024 we asked for \$40,000 for Other Outside Services. Can you explain that?

Mr. Kenny: It comes down to the CodeRed, the announcement that we send out each week. With COVID, the prices have gone up for CodeRed. We had to take from one line item to make it whole for last year. They put it into one line item now.

Councilwoman Meehan: I just want to thank the Police Department for everything they do.

Councilman Bauer: Regarding the \$15,000 increase in Emergency Safety Supplies, can you explain that?

Mr. Kenny: That was for COVID. Getting hand sanitizer and wipes that we try and keep for all of the police officers. We actually do drop some off to the fire departments too. I know COVID is non-existing but you never know when it's going to come back. We try to make sure we have a supply of everything in case we do have another hit of it, we have the things we need.

Councilman Bauer: Thank you. Office of Emergency Management is there to back up the Police Department and the public. They are there at any public event to support our community. You guys are always there 24/7. With me being in the Fire Department, we have big fires and the Office of Emergency Management is always there for us along with the Police Department and First Responders. Thank you.

Council Vice President Anderson: Just a general thank you from our Council. We all have our specific events that we support and I've always appreciated having that presence there and the support from the Police Department and Office of Emergency Management.

Mr. Mitch: I am going to move in to Division of Assessment.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE
Office of the Business Administrator – 1210

Council President Ficarra: Any questions or comments?

Mr. Mitch: Office of the Mayor.

Office of the Mayor – 1010

Council President Ficarra: Any questions or comments?

Mr. Mitch: Law Department.

Law Department – 1510/1511

Council President Ficarra: Any questions on the Law Department?

Mr. Mitch: We'll jump over to the Municipal Council. And thank you Mr. President for helping me put that together.

Division of Assessment – 1330

Mr. Mitch: Mr. Duda.

Richard Duda: Good evening Council.

Council President Ficarra: Any questions for Mr. Duda?

Mr. Mitch: Hearing none, thank you Mr. Duda.

Richard Duda: Thank you Council. Everybody have a great night.

Mr. Mitch: Moving to Richard Lorentzen, Tax Collection and Sewer Administration.

Division of Tax Collection – 1320

Mr. Mitch: We'll start with Tax Collection and then we'll go into Sewer Administration.

Council President Ficarra: Any questions or comments for Mr. Lorentzen?

Sewer Administration – 8510

Mr. Mitch: Anything on Sewer Administration for Mr. Lorentzen?

Council President Ficarra: Any questions? Thank you very much for everything you do.

Director Lorentzen: You're welcome. Thank you.

Mr. Mitch: Next we will take Purchasing, Utilities & Bulk Purchasing, Jen Burns. Starting with Purchasing followed by Utilities & Bulk Purchases.

Purchasing – 1225:

Council President Ficarra: Council, any questions for the Director? Director Burns, I think we're good. We appreciate what you do and we know that Purchasing is extremely important. There's a lot of rules and regulations and we appreciate your efficiency.

Jennifer Burns: Thank you.

Mr. Mitch: We'll go into Personnel, Darren Crocker.

Utilities & Bulk Purchases – 1290:

Personnel – 1240

Council President Ficarra: Are there any questions?

Councilwoman DeJesus: Regarding Office Machines, there is an increase from previous years.

Darren Crocker: Correct. When we restructured three years ago, we inherited the existing personnel equipment. We replaced our copier this past year which was an \$8,000 expense and we plan to replace computers in the upcoming Fiscal Year.

Councilwoman Meehan: There is a significant increase this year. Do you know what those Outside Services are?

Darren Crocker: Last year we decided to upgrade to ADP as a Human Resource Information System overall for the Township. That increase, streamlining our hiring, human resource processes, procedures, ultimately time and attendance and benefits. It's the cost for ADP for 1250 plus employees and 300 seasonal employees.

Vito Cimilluca: Right now instead of an employee reaching out to personnel, then can go on their phone and use the App. They can see how many days they have off, how many days they have pending, and what their salary is. Instead of making that call if you're going for a loan or at a car dealership, all of your information is on your phone.

Councilwoman McAuliffe: Can you explain the transfers and amounts that are over-budgeted for?

Darren Crocker: This year we did Diversity and Sensitivity training for our management level. We are going to continue that throughout this year for all of our employees, approximately 840 full time employees, throughout the Township.

Council President Ficarra: Are the courses online?

Darren Crocker: No, it will be in person training with an outside legal firm that has done all of our Management and they have also done other Township affiliation departments.

Council President Ficarra: Any other questions for Director Crocker?

Council Vice President: I noticed you have "Summer Help". Was this for your office only? That seems a little low for summer help.

Darren Crocker: That is strictly for the Human Resource office.

Council President Ficarra: Any other questions? Director, we appreciate your efficiency that you run department with. We appreciate your efforts.

Mr. Mitch: Thank you Mr. Crocker. Mr. Cimilluca, if it's ok with you we are going to go right into Information Systems. We'll come back to Comptrollers.

Vito Cimilluca, Business Administrator: We have a new Director. He started last Wednesday. So, we are going to try to field those as best we can.

Mr. Mitch: I did skip over Comptrollers. We're going to come back to that along with Administration, towards the end. We'll go to Information Systems.

Comptrollers – 1310:

Information Systems – 8250

Council Vice President Anderson: It looks like we exceeded our overtime estimations for 2023 by about \$60,000 and we are asking for \$21,000 again. Do you know if there was a system problem or something that caused the excessive overtime this year?

Vito Cimilluca: What we have done is taken those numbers from the overtime and we put it into their salaries. It will spread across. So we've kind of taken away the overtime and they will go on a ticket. They'll be on call and they'll flex their time instead of being on an overtime call. So, when something goes down on a Saturday or Sunday with the PD or at night time, that's where those numbers came in. So, with the new Director we moved some things around.

Council Vice President Anderson: So, we are not anticipating, it looks as though for the last 5 or 6 years, we've been at the exact same amount.

Vito Cimilluca: Not with the new system we have in place. We should be fine.

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. Any other questions? We can move on Mr. Mitch.

TV 35

Mr. Mitch: Thank you. Next, I do have TV 35. Is Gina Forbes with us? No? I am going to go then to Planning and Development. Director Darden is here.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Director's Office – 2010

Council Vice President Anderson: Director, I noticed that some of the descriptions of some of the positions there are titles know as Trainee. How long does a person have the title of Trainee?

Marta Darden: It should not exceed 2 years at max. And if they develop along faster than that, we move them along as fast as we can.

Mr. Mitch: Mr. President, we can continue with Planning, Zoning, Housing and Construction.

Planning Board – 2020
Zoning Board – 2030

Councilwoman DeJesus: Regarding miscellaneous expense, nothing was requested last year and there's a \$2,500 increase. If we didn't request anything last year, why are we requesting this year?

Marta Darden: Specifically, as I know you're aware, for well over a decade now, we are one of the largest permit issuers in the State of New Jersey. We typically issue over 5000 permits a year from our Construction Office. This year we closed out at about 4800. We've done well over 18,000 inspections. Tom Kelly who really was kind of groundbreaking in arranging all of this and everything that he did in the field has taken ill, and we anticipate in the coming year, that we may be moving around some office spaces and making some adjustments to offices and that's why we wouldn't have requested it in the past and we're requesting it now.

Council President Ficarra: Any other questions for the Director?

Council Vice President Anderson: Regarding Continuing Education and Professional Services. It doesn't seem as though we've taken up on the budget on that for a while. It's a small amount but we're continuing to budget for it but doesn't seem as though we're sending anyone to any classes.

Marta Darden: During COVID there were no classes occurring. The American Planning Association started fluctuating our licensure renewal dates which has an impact on how many classes we end up needing to take by what date. So we're anticipating that that's going to change again and if it doesn't you'll see us request something different in that line item. It's really so that we ensure that there is three of us in the department that are licensed planners. That's very unusual. Most towns don't have the luxury of having planners on staff that are licensed. And we just need to make sure that we stay up and well prepared for whatever continuing education requirements may now change back.

Council Vice President Anderson: Professional services. That seems to be significantly lower than the amount that we're budgeting for.

Marta Darden: That is Conflict Professional Review. We have professionals and depending in a year, if there are any conflict reviews such that I'll just mention that already in this year we had our Planner's Office is within 200 feet of an application that's in front of the board so we'd need a conflict review. That is to ensure that we have money set aside for something like that.

Council President Ficarra: Director, seeing no other questions, we thank you. The scope of the work of your department is absolutely incredible and to be able to do it in fiscally responsible way, we appreciate your efforts. Thank you.

Marta Darden: We are here to serve and I appreciate your kudos. Thank you.

Mr. Mitch: We'll go to the Library.

Housing Bureau – 2050
Construction Code – 2075

LIBRARY

Mr. Mitch: There is the Director before you right now, available for your questions.

Council President Ficarra: Good afternoon Director. Questions or comments from Council?

Monica Eppinger: Library systems things on them too because they are our patrons too and we would like to make sure that they are successful and that we can reach them with the resources that the Main Library has.

Councilwoman McAuliffe: Thank you.

Council President Ficarra: Monica, I know we had some discussion, but again, we have reserves that we did not use and then we are back here in 2024. I know you explained it can you kind of describe what that reserve is for?

Monica Eppinger: In the month of June, we stopped purchasing materials and to kind of make a fiscal year end as neat as possible. But then the materials that come in like time dated materials, magazines, anything that comes in encumbered for the rest of the year and should be paid, we leave that money there to make sure those invoices are paid.

Council President Ficarra: Also regarding Equipment Repair and Maintenance. In actual we spent around \$7,000 in 2023 and we're requesting considerable amount more.

Monica Eppinger: In addition to the chiller that we had to ask the Township to purchase with capital funds this year, the air handlers in the building are also in need of replacement, but we're going to have to repair and replace some of that equipment and we feel that that will cover that that kind of an expense throughout the year.

Council President Ficarra: Great. I think when you are in the library for pleasure or research any reason the comfort level is very important so I appreciate you taking care of the infrastructure there.

Council President Ficarra: Council, any questions for the director.

Council Vice President Anderson: I just want to make a comment and thank you and your team for the programs that are provided to our community and schools. We encourage our students to

utilize our library system as often as they can. I enjoyed the ceremony a few weeks ago, the dedication to Mr. Beckerman for his groundbreaking work and the development of the library system that we know today. And I'll look forward to working with you and your board and making sure that the library services are continued to be used.

Monica Eppinger: Thank you, Councilman.

Councilwoman DeJesus: In the last couple of years there has been a huge precedence of the children's libraries in all of our Township events. Your librarians for the children's department are phenomenal. The programming for the children is beyond anything I have ever seen. I used to take my kids there when they were younger and it has gotten better and better. I just want to thank you for always being present in all of our activities throughout the Township and having your librarians there to interact with our residents and our kids. They are wonderful. Job well done.

Monica Eppinger: Thank you so much. I hope you are as proud of them as I am.

Councilwoman Meehan: I used to think that residents didn't use our libraries as much as they do. Since Colonia has been out of service that is the one issue that everybody in Colonia looking to resolve and they really can't wait for it to come up and open again. Because it was really used especially for the seniors and the children and it was just a place for people to gather. I know the resident of Colonia are truly looking forward to the branch being back open. Thank you.

Council President Ficarra: Are there any other questions? Monica, thank you. The services you offer are so expansive but yet you find a way to keep it financially in check. Please give our best to the staff.

Mr. Mitch: We'll go into the Municipal Court.

MUNICIPAL COURT
Municipal Court 6010

Mr. Mitch: Director DiNicola. We might skip this for a moment. Mr. Klepchick will take those questions.

Council President Ficarra: Council, the floor is open. Am I correct to make a general statement that our Court is one of the busiest courts in the State of New Jersey?

Vito Cimilluca: That it is Council President. It does a fantastic job. It's extremely organized.

Mr. Mitch: We'll go to the Department of Health beginning with Health Administration.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Health Administration – 3010

Mr. Mitch: Mr. Bujalski is with us.

Council President Ficarra: I am going to start off. In other services, the actual in 2023 was \$14,500 and we are requesting a considerable amount more. Could you give us an explanation of that?

Phil Bujalski: This is for our Special Data Logistics program. And I believe that figure was underspent for that particular year. We're simply not built evenly with the noted fiscal year and the requested amount remains accurate.

Health – Community Outreach - 3000-3020

Council President Ficarra: Excellent. And also, Linden Health Administration, there was no actual in 2023 but we requested \$160,000, so I assume we didn't use it. And now in 2024, we are requesting a considerable amount more. What's changed there?

Phil Bujalski: That is the line item in the new division of our Community Outreach specifically our Health Mobile. That was the inception of the Mayor and Caroline Ehrlich before we even did the 2023 Fiscal Year budget. That whole entity was dependent upon the manufacturing and the delivery of the Health Mobile itself. So what we did was, at the time it was projected to be delivered, around January of 2023, which would be half the fiscal year, we projected as best we could what the cost would be and cut it 50% for the second half of the fiscal year. As it turned out, due to manufacturing delays, the vehicle didn't arrive until late June. So we didn't incur any of those expenses. However, now that we see, we'll have it for a full fiscal year, we are asking for that amount.

Vito Cimilluca: Council President, just to correct that, your question was about Community Outreach, correct?

Council President Ficarra: Yes.

Vito Cimilluca: The Linden portion of that is zeroed. We had an inter-local agreement with the City of Linden that we used to go back and forth with where we used to help them out. That is no longer in place. That was with Director Green. He was answering the question for the Community Outreach, so I apologize.

Council President Ficarra: That's ok, that was a good answer for that question and yours was good for the other. It was all taken care of. Thank you Director.

Councilwoman Meehan: I really have to say, your crew is amazing. I'm at the Evergreen Senior Center quite often and the seniors really like it when it's there. They come in and a lot of them sometimes don't feel well and don't go to the doctor. And your staff there has been so welcoming to them and it really is such a great service. Thank you for all that you do and your staff.

Phil Bujalski: Thank you for the kind words. As you know just while we are on that subject, it was donated at no cost and we staffed it with a lot of cost effective measures in line. And we used all existing staff. We only hired one non-existing staff member. As a matter of fact, that person, for those who were able to make the awards ceremony, in two weeks on the job, ended up saving a choking victim, arguably saving their life. But the Health Mobile, it was a brainchild of the Mayor and Caroline Ehrlich. It offers free screening services such as blood pressure, glucose, cholesterol, oxygen levels, and heart rate. It was delivered to us last June and we put it in to service right away. As you've seen from the schedule we're focusing on our seniors, senior buildings, underserved communities and our residents at large. We were at Town Hall today. We conducted approximately 400 screenings to date. Some of those screenings have identified issues of concern that the patients were not aware of and they've been referred to their healthcare provider for appropriate follow up. If anyone wants to know where we're at, the monthly schedule can be found on the Township website or the Health Department Facebook page.

Councilwoman DeJesus: When we go out to Keasbey for the back pack drive, the last two years I think we had Hackensack Meridian bring their mobile clinic. But I want to commend your staff because before you had the mobile clinic, your staff was there under tents doing the work that you're doing now. When I heard about the mobile clinic, I was really excited. I'm a firm believer that if the residents can't come to us, then we should be able to come to them and bring them the services that they need. I just want to thank you and your staff for always doing a phenomenal job.

Phil Bujalski: Thank you, Councilwoman. We are blessed with a really passionate and talented staff. They really care and their actions speak to that.

Council Vice President Anderson: I just have a question and a comment. Regarding drugs and pharmaceuticals, over the last two years, it seems as though there's been a significant increase in requests for drugs and pharmaceuticals. What we're asking for this year is the same flat amount.

Phil Bujalski: The increase is a combination of resuming our non COVID child and adult clinics and related increase in drug costs. So, that would answer the increase in its expenditures. What would answer the absence of requesting any more than we have and I'll speak on this later because it's something I'm quite proud, of is our pursuit for grants. We have secured a grant and that item is specifically eligible for and it would offset the cost that we know going in to this fiscal year. We felt it to be fiscally responsible we didn't want to ask for any more than we figured that grant would cover any overage of that request.

Council Vice President Anderson: I want to compliment on your pursuit of grants. You explained that at our Council meetings a few weeks ago about some grants that were achieved by your department. I wanted to thank you very much for that. It helps and assists with our budget when

we can get it from outside sources. I also wanted to thank you for the great definition at our meeting of how a noise complaint is evaluated and how it is handled. I thought your explanation was thorough and very clear and concise for our community to understand how noise complaints are handled.

Phil Bujalski: Thank you, Councilman. As you mentioned grants and how that is so germane to our hearings here. Your recognition of that over the past two years, our staff and I have made concerted efforts to explore the availability of useful grants and aggressively apply for them. I'm pleased to share with you that for fiscal years 2023 and 2024, we have achieved over \$2,600,000 in grants. Some examples are a supplemental funding grant, a strengthening public capacity grant, public infrastructure, childhood lead and abatement, and blue cares. These things cover a lot of our operational complete costs of operation specific to COVID clinics. But it covers a lot of costs of other important services and significant portions of our salaries. Thanks to the infrastructure grant in it of itself over the two years, \$1,341,000 our aging health center received some much needed repairs and remodeling and as a results that building will be viable for decades to come.

Council Vice President Anderson: We appreciate that but we know our residents and tax payers appreciate that you are reducing the burden on the tax payer to fund our Health Department. Being in education throughout the County, there's a very few townships that have their own Health Department. Many of them do rely on the County. Knowing that were getting a funding outside of Woodbridge Township, it makes it even better that we have our own Health Department that knows our community and our residents and we're keeping the costs down.

Animal Control – 3020/3020A

Environmental – 3030

Mr. Mitch: Mr. President, while Mr. Bujalski is here we should also include Animal Control, Environmental, Nursing and Drug Addiction Services.

Council President Ficarra: Regarding Animal Control Professional Services other. The last few years we have requested \$50,000 but always spent a little bit more and we're back to \$50,000 requested for 2024. Is there a reason for that?

Phil Bujalski: That cost has to do with us addressing injured animals stray animals and surrender animals that need professional veterinary services which has a cap to it. Any overage we're able to address with a trust that was provided specific to the Animal Shelter from a very caring donor.

Council President Ficarra: Are there any questions on any of Mr. Bujalski's departments, which are numerous? Phil I know your leadership style is to do things with the team together and everybody has input so please extend our appreciation for a lean budget yet multiple services. We appreciate that.

Nursing – 3040

Drug Addiction Services – 3066

DEPARTMENT OF SENIOR SERVICES

Mr. Mitch: We'll go into Department of Senior Services. That will include Office of Aging, the Senior Centers and Senior Transportation. Director Michelle Morgan will be before you.

Council President Ficarra: We'll give the Council a chance to flip some pages on their binders.

Councilman Spillar: Maple Tree Senior Center has turned out incredible. It's everything that I envisioned. I see it at all of the Senior Centers that your staff does an incredible job. The seniors kind of treat the staff like they are their own family. Thank you.

Michelle Morgan: Thank you. You are absolutely correct. The staff is very engaging and supportive of the seniors. It is a second family and second home for many of our seniors. Maple Tree has been very well received.

Councilwoman Meehan: You've done great work over at the Evergreen, not just the Senior Center, but the social department over there too. I know I have sent people there to you that have had issues and your staff is always willing and they are very kind and compassionate. Please let them know.

Michelle Morgan: We have the support of the Council and a Mayor that is absolutely driven to support older adults. Between six senior centers, transportation and the social work, it really provides that kind of framework so that our seniors can live a healthy, long, and prosperous life.

Council President Ficarra: It seems that you do more than just work with seniors. Although as a senior I understand how important that is, but I know you do a lot of work with the underserved and you have forged relationships with organizations in our town and out of our town to service people. Extend our appreciation to your staff and your team and good job on the budget.

Office of Aging – 3601

Evergreen Senior Citizen Center – 3062
Senior Transportation – 3063

Port Reading Senior Center – 3065
Five Branches Senior Center – 3067
Hickory Senior Center – 3068
Oak Tree Senior Center – 3069
Maple Tree Senior Center – 3070

Mr. Mitch: We will now go to the Department of Public Works, Mr. George Brew.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Office of the Director – 1610

Mr. Mitch: We'll begin with the Office of the Director. Any questions or comments?

Council President Ficarra: Anything for Director Brew? I personally don't have any questions but that is no reflection on the appreciation I have for the work you do for our town.

Councilwoman McAuliffe: Can you explain the miscellaneous expenses that you didn't use any of the money. You did not have money budgeted for this year, but for next year you put in \$25,000?

George Brew: We added some funding in there for some of the community projects we do that are not funded through the other budget. Also for the handicapped ramps we do around town there's some maintenance and supplies that are needed. We typically get them donated but we use that funding for that also.

Councilwoman Meehan: I make a lot of calls to Public Works and to Mr. Gelin and you all work really hard for this Township and we truly appreciate everything you do. When we have a resident that has a problem, you go out there and take care of them and you're are kind to them. And it really matters. Thank you for everything you do for us.

Mr. Mitch: We'll go into the Engineering Division first after the Director is done. Beginning with Mr. Gelin.

Engineering – 1620

Councilwoman McAuliffe: The computer software. Did we get a new program that we needed to upgrade that it increased it by \$40,000 more than what you had budgeted? And then for next year

you're decreasing in what you budgeted in 2023 by \$20,000.

Michael Gelin: Right. This year was for GIS Maintenance. It was more than we had imagined and next year we're going to a professional service. The amount is correct.

Council President Ficarra: Michael, we appreciate your efforts and the folks that you work with. It's seems that every time we have environmental or structural issues somehow it winds up in your lap and we appreciate the delicate way in which you handle that.

Mr. Mitch: Road Repairs and Maintenance.

Road Repairs and Maintenance – 1631

George Brew: Kevin Teehan. He runs our Road, Streets and Sewer department.

Council Vice President Anderson: Thank you for being here Mr. Teehan. For copier supplies, you didn't have any last year?

Kevin Teehan: With the copier supplies it's basically for ink. They changed something in the IT Department where I didn't have to pay for ink anymore. Which was great.

Council Vice President Anderson: That's good. Why are we asking for more money next year?

Kevin Teehan: I just kept it the same.

Casey Wagner: We are going to continue to carry that number just in case a copier or anything should break along the way.

George Brew: Yes, there is a maintenance portion of that as well. We anticipate that we won't end up using it.

Council President Ficarra: I think the roads of our town are kind of our life line and we appreciate the great work you do. You guys are pretty efficient at what you do.

Councilman Bauer: Can you explain Road Material Asphalt please? Last year \$35,000 was budgeted and \$35,000 requested this year and spent \$111,000.

George Brew: We did some paving projects, some of our own that weren't funded. Also we did some work with the Board of Education. That money was put in an escrow account so we have the money on hand in an escrow account to offset that.

Mr. Mitch: We'll go into Snow Removal and Calamities.

Snow Removal / Calamities – 1632

George Brew: That's also under the Road Department. Kevin Teehan.

Councilwoman McAuliffe: Overtime was almost doubled. How did that come about? If it's for snow removal, I don't think it even really snowed.

George Brew: Under Calamities it says snow. But any major type of storm related calamity gets charged off to this budget. That's why the numbers depends on what kind of year we have and what actually happens.

Councilman Bauer: I think this budget can't be predicted. You can't predict the weather, so you never know what you are getting.

Manuel Fernandez: About five years ago the State came out and said you have to use a trust account. A storm recovery account. We don't usually use all of our DPW money and fund it into the storm recovery account and whenever George's crew does any kind of work that would help, if we get a storm, we charge some of that whether it be S & W or expenses like materials and equipment. In the past that number had been about \$1,000,000 and that has gone down.

Council Vice President Anderson: Under Vehicle Replacement parts. We seem to be spending around \$100,000 and last year we only appropriated \$24,000 for this year but then spent \$124,000 and we are back to asking for \$128,000. Why the request was so low is perplexing.

George Brew: I believe this goes back to this same storm recovery trust. But we want to keep that money in our actual budget. That's why this year we put it back in. We had pulled it out. We kept it minimal. And then this year we put it back in just for ease of operation and operating on that.

Council Vice President Anderson: I understand why it's just that I think I wouldn't want to mislead the public that we're moving money around differently every year. It's more about consistency in our budget.

George Brew: The previous years we were consistent with that number. Moving forward we are going to keep that number in and possibly a little more going forward.

Council President Ficarra: We do appreciate some of the maintenance you do before the storms hit by cleaning out the streams. I think that makes a big difference when the storm do hit. I think it put the public at ease that we're not reacting, but we are making those adjustments. I know that some of that area is the money you are talking about Director Brew. We do appreciate that kind of foresight thinking.

George Brew: Having the funds to do it and the public sees our equipment. At Heards Brook right now we have a long stick excavator out there. People don't think we own a piece of equipment like that. But that's how we accomplish all of that work. It does require a lot of maintenance with

that equipment. Thanks to the Council and Administration for the support, we are able to have the equipment to do the work that we do. It's thanks on our end to you as well. We really appreciate the support we get.

Mr. Mitch: Street Cleaning next, or do you want to take something else George?

George Brew: Let's go to Sewer Maintenance.

Street Cleaning – 1633

Council President Ficarra: I think the street cleaning program is amazing. You go to bed at night and you see some things out there and wake up in the morning and everything is clean. And you don't even know how it happened. I personally appreciate the efficiency of the way that operation works. I'm sure there is maintenance as far as keeping our sewers clean and that takes care of it. We appreciate that.

Council Vice President Anderson: In general, is the amount of trash that is picked up through the sweepers evaluated as far as the weight, to determine if we have more litter or less litter?

Kevin Teehan: It goes by cubic yards and then I give report to Mike Gelin once a year for Storm Water Management. It's basically 5000 cubic yards. It's on the steady side all the time. It's around 5000 cubic yards for many years. It's not calculated by weight. When we dump it, we test it and send those samples to the Superintendent of the Middlesex County Landfill. Then they give you're a price based on how it comes back. Nine times out of ten it's always good so they only charge us maybe \$20 which is great. And they use it for capping the landfill. It's consistently around 5000 cubic yards a year.

Mr. Mitch: We'll go to Equipment Repair.

Equipment Repair – 1640

George Brew: I have Joe Rudy. He runs our Equipment Repair Division. His crew maintains all of our fleet and being a mechanic myself as well as Vito, Joe and his crew keep our equipment running well.

Vito Cimilluca: As well as police vehicles.

Councilman Spillar: The amount of money the Township saves by investing in the equipment and mechanics we have down in Keasbey is very beneficial.

Council President Ficarra: Thank you. We appreciate your efforts.

Mr. Mitch: Going into Sanitation.

Sanitation – 1660

Mr. Mitch: Mr. John Mazza.

Councilman Bauer: In 2023, \$2,200 was requested and \$2,200 next year but we actually spent \$93,000. Can you explain that please?

George Brew: We had a sanitation truck fire not too long ago. Our insurance company totaled. Our insurance company reimbursed us. We couldn't reimburse a capital expense. We put this into Operating and we used it toward the purchase of another vehicle.

Council Vice President Anderson: I have a question regarding fees and permits. The number seems to have declined significantly over the last two years and we are asking for the same amount. Is there something that we are not doing like seeking out fees as much or not paying out that many fees?

John Mazza: This is for registering our vehicles that go to the landfill. Every four years, I believe it is, we have to do the entire fleet. We keep this money in here because every year we wind up getting new trucks and they all have to be registered before they go to the landfill. If we only get two or three trucks in a year, that is why you will see lower numbers. If we get ten trucks then the number goes up.

George Brew: Also, if we had different vehicles, whether it be a Road Department or Parks Department truck, that we need sent to the landfill, we may have to throughout the year, add additional vehicles. So, we keep that money in the account just for that occasion.

Council Vice President Anderson: Have we ever considered rolling over the money from the year before?

Vito Cimilluca: You can't do that. If the money was allocated in the previous budget year, you can use those dollars, otherwise it rolls into surplus.

Council President Ficarra: From our perspective, anything that we hear about sanitation is always positive. We do appreciate your efforts. Please pass that along to your team and we thank you.

John Mazza: Thank you. I've got a very good management team under me and we've got very rank and file workers. And you give us all the equipment we need.

Councilwoman McAuliffe: On the cleaning of the trash cans, is that a cycle that you do? Do you post that so people know when they need to put their trash cans out? How does that work? I think it's a great program.

John Mazza: You can call and schedule it and we'll put you on the list. We'll come out on your scheduled date. The day we do that we also go into an area of town that is being serviced that day and try to capture as many cans as we can that are out on the street for people that don't call in.

George Brew: We'll run maps of the town and you'll notice all of the cans on the street parallel to the curb so you will know that we were on that street and cleaning cans. Typically neighbors will see it and then they call and schedule a cleaning. It is easy to call and let us schedule it out for you.

Vito Cimilluca: It's also has a decal that says cleaned.

Mr. Mitch: Thank you. We're going to Public Buildings & Grounds.

Public Building & Grounds – 1670

George Brew: We have Brian Burke. He runs our Buildings & Grounds Division.

Council President Ficarra: Questions or comments from Council on Buildings & Grounds? We appreciate your work and the way you go about running your department.

Mr. Mitch: We'll go into Parks Maintenance, Bobby Higgins.

Parks Maintenance – 3310

Council President Ficarra: Anyone for Bobby on Parks? Bobby, just in general, you know we have our little neighborhood park up in Strawberry Hill where I live. It's a big hit with my grandkids. I appreciate the good work that you guys do. I know we have them all over town and sometimes we underestimate how important they are until you start to take advantage of them again.

Councilwoman McAuliffe: I agree. The park where my grandkids live is packed. If there are any problems with the equipment, you come out right away. You're very responsive to when the neighborhood sends an email saying something is wrong with the playground equipment.

Councilwoman Meehan: Springwood Swim Club looks amazing. You have all worked so hard over there. It's such an asset to Colonia and I'm sure it's going to draw new families in. It's just absolutely beautiful. Thank you to your staff.

Council Vice President Anderson: All of the events that we the Council are responsible for, and we ask Public Works to help us out, you guys are great. We know that we can't do these types of events without Public Works. Thank you.

Mr. Mitch: Let's go to School Custodians.

School Custodians – 1675

George Brew: We have Tom Patten who runs the Custodian Division. He has quite a few employees and a lot of schools. Not an easy task.

Council President Ficarra: I am in and out of a lot of our buildings and some are old and some are not. But what is consistent there is the cleanliness, maintenance and the respect that your staff has when they interact with the public. We appreciate that.

Tom Patten: Thank you.

Council Vice President Anderson: I'm all about preparing and anticipating. I see that we spent some money on furniture this year that although we didn't budget anything, did we experience a flood or something? We spent \$6,240 on furniture but we didn't appropriate anything for last year. I'm sorry, that is personnel. I'm looking in the wrong area. Sorry about that. I will say this. Mr. Patten, you always pick up the phone when I call. You know I get a lot of usage out of the schools and you make sure that there is a custodian that is available to come and help out.

Tom Patten: It's a pretty monumental task and I have an excellent group of supervisors as well as my rank and file that make this all happen. Thank you.

Mr. Mitch: We'll go into Wastewater and the CP Site.

Sewer Maintenance – 8530

Council President Ficarra: Anyone?

Councilwoman DeJesus: I live on Claire Avenue and one evening there was an issue with the sewer lines and your staff was there. It was late in the evening and they were there for a couple of hours answering the neighbor's questions and concerns. And they were there early the next morning to follow up. I appreciated the fact that we didn't have a major catastrophe on our street because you responded immediately in off hours. Thank you for that.

Kevin Teehan: We take pride in that.

Mr. Mitch: Any other areas?

George Brew: Yes. Street Cleaning.

Wastewater/Sewer Treatment – 8540

George Brew: We have Joe Fugaro.

Council President Ficarra: This is an area where nobody thinks or talks about until something goes wrong. I think the way your department is run and your team is greatly appreciated.

Council Vice President Anderson: Living so close to a pump station, the way your crew comes in quietly, very early in the morning, services the pump station and moves throughout the community, it's something we take for granted. A lot of it starts with you and your crew.

Joe Fugaro: Thank you we have a great crew down there.

George Brew: Also, the equipment that is involved, you see it reflected here. The amount of equipment and upgrades that we are constantly doing to the stations and the main plant, it's a large budget but its money well spent. These guys do a phenomenal job in maintaining all that equipment.

Vito Cimilluca: There's about 475 years of experience here. As I'm looking down this row, I have worked with these guys for over 40 years. It's incredible. Thank you guys for what you do.

Mr. Mitch: Director am I missing anything else?

George Brew: No, just the CP Chemical Site. That's all.

Sewer CP Site – 8550

Council President Ficarra: Anyone? I think we are good.

Mr. Mitch: We will go into the Department of Recreation, Mr. Molnar. We'll start with Recreation, then Barron Arts Center, then Recreation to follow, and then Celebration of Public Events, then Rec Utility.

MCUA

RVSA

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION/RECREATION UTILITY

Council President Ficarra: Is 127 Avenel Street the APAC office?

Brian Molnar: Yes.

Council President Ficarra: And 86 Green Street is the History Museum?

Brian Molnar: Yes, it is.

Council Vice President: Can you give the definition of what is included in Other Outside Services for \$455,000?

Brian Molnar: That is our AED program and Fireworks come out of there.

Council Vice President Anderson: I want to thank you very much for providing the AED devices

to all our recreation programs throughout Woodbridge Township as well as the training that goes along with it.

Brian Molnar: That was a great program that started under Mr. Cimilluca when he was Director. It is a great program to have so we are honored to do it.

Council Vice President Anderson: Being president of the Pop Warner organization, I know that you have a lot of involvement with Pop Warner as well. I get updates regularly from Mr. Timinski about the numbers. They are continuing to increase whether it be soccer, baseball, or basketball programs. The utilization of our outdoor courts and our indoor courts and have been phenomenal also appreciate you working with the recently around men's recreation and increasing the opportunity for men to go out and shoot some hoops after work and to have that avenue in Woodbridge township totally appreciate that.

Brian Molnar: Thank you. We have that program that was in place for a long time. We have women's rec on Monday nights and Men's rec on Wednesday night. After COVID, this summer was finally like the summer of 2019. In September when we go back, we will have men's rec again on Wednesday night at Woodbridge Middle and women will have their nights still. We're just looking to get back.

Council Vice President: Two years ago Woodbridge had never celebrated their Juneteenth event. The Recreation Department was extremely supportive over the last three years and we're looking to have a fourth year of our Juneteenth Celebration.

Brian Molnar: Thank you to you and your committee. Anything we can do to help, we are here.

Councilwoman McAuliffe: I just want to say thank you so much for all of the children's programs that you started this year along with the concerts. The children's plays and music is just another added event to take care of the youth in our town. It's really exciting for a lot of the families. We've received great feedback from the plays that were done at the Acacia Center as well as the music for the children that was done at the New Parker Press. Parker Press is great, the Farmer's Market is really doing well now that it's in the new park. You guys do a great job. I appreciate everything that you and your staff do for our town.

Brian Molnar: Thank you to the Council for their support in allowing us to do these programs. We piloted the children's programs this year and it was a huge success. I'm sure next year there will be more dates on that concert card that goes out. I'm looking forward to it.

Council President Ficarra: Under the Ice Rink, I just have a question on Maintenance. In 2023 we only spent around \$1,000 but requested \$80,000 and now we are requesting \$30,000. Are we doing our own maintenance?

Brian Molnar: It's the line for preventative maintenance on The Club dehumidification system.

Council President Ficarra: You have a tremendous staff and we appreciate all of the great work

that you do. We have that saying that we are “The Best Town Around”. And many of these programs that you do are the reasons why we get all of these compliments. Thank you again to you and your staff.

Brian Molnar: Thank you. I’m lucky and blessed. I’ve got a great staff and I work in the best town around because we have the best Mayor and the best Council. You support us in everything we do. We get to be creative, you allow us to be creative and we are glad that you appreciate everything. It’s for the residents.

Council President Ficarra: We’re a good team.

Councilwoman Meehan: For Springwood, I just complimented Mr. Higgins for all of his hard work but I know a lot of it was your vision and it is absolutely beautiful. You worked very hard on it. I appreciate all that you did and I know the residents do too.

Brian Molnar: I’m excited for Springwood. I never stepped foot in Springwood until we took it over. It is such a great spot. It’s a mini resort.

Mr. Mitch: If there is nothing else, we will go into the other Utilities. Parking Utility and the Marina Utility.

Recreation – 3320

Councilwoman McAuliffe: We are decreasing our salaries. Are we rearranging someone or changing the number of people we have? It went up this year but next year we are reducing it.

Brian Molnar: That was the 27th pay for Fiscal Year 2023. Also, we are down one part-time employee at the Barron Arts Center.

Councilwoman McAuliffe: Are we keeping it that way or are we looking to hire someone?

Brian Molnar: I think she is looking to find somebody if she could. The extra hands are always good.

Council President Ficarra: Director Molnar, with regards to advertising, we requested \$15,000 in 2023 and then we only spent \$1,200. What’s the reason?

Brian Molnar: Council President, we put money aside for the Middlesex County Magazine. But, it actually went into John Haggerty’s budget to hit there.

Councilman Bauer: For Other Outside Services, it seems like we’ve had a half million since 2019, up to three quarters last year, spent 864, but we are only requesting 260 for the upcoming budget. Can you explain please?

Brian Molnar: We used to do our Rec Programs out of there but now we moved that under Rec

Programs.

Mr. Mitch: We can also take Celebration of Public Events.

Celebration of Public Events – 3330

Council President Ficarra: Any questions on Public Events?

Mr. Mitch: If not, then we can follow also with Mr. Molnar, with the Rec Utility, The WCC, Springwood, all the Rec centers, The Club, the Museum and the APAC office.

Woodbridge Community Center – 8220

Barron Arts – 1410

Springwood & Highland Grove – 8240

Recreation Centers – 8250

The Club at Woodbridge – 8200

Evergreen Youth Center – 3064

Highland Grove Teen Center – 4000

Acacia Teen Center – 5000

86 GREEN STREET – 3321

127 AVENEL STREET – 3322

OTHER UTILITIES

Parking – 1910

Council President Ficarra: Director Cimilluca, Other Services as it relates to Parking Utility, we requested a significant amount over what we actually spent last year.

Mr. Cimilluca: That was engineering for the parking deck that was never built.

Council President Ficarra: My other one is just a general question. What is Principal – BANS for \$182,794?

Michael Klepchick: That's service for the Parking Utility. Short term financing.

Mr. Mitch: We'll jump back to Business Administrator.

Marina – 8700

Council President Ficarra: As someone that frequents that area, I think it's tremendous. The upgrades we did, the security around the Marina and the efficiency of having 2 areas to launch your boat. It separates us from many other towns that have access to water. In the old days, for those of us that are in to boating, we used to have to wait in line all the way up to Moby Dick's for one spot. And it's maintained really well and everything down at the Marina is awesome. Thank you.

Mr. Mitch: Mr. President, we are going to go back to the beginning.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
Municipal Council – 1020

Council President Ficarra: Questions or comments on that department?

Mr. Mitch: Lastly, on to the Municipal Clerk.

MUNICIPAL CLERK
Municipal Clerk – 1030

Council President Ficarra: The Municipal Clerk who keeps us all on the straight and narrow, answers all of our questions and gives us guidance when we need it. Mr. Mitch, we appreciate your effort and guidance along the way.

Councilwoman Meehan: Thank you for all of the time you spent with us. You're so easy to call and explain any question we have. We appreciate all of the hard work that you and your staff does for us.

Councilwoman McAuliffe: I'm still learning a lot. No matter what I have, no matter what time of day or on the weekend, even when you're on vacation, you answer. I appreciate everything you do, especially for me.

Mr. Mitch: Thank you. I appreciate that.

Mr. Cimilluca: First, I would like to thank Mayor McCormac. This is the third consecutive budget cycle that we have kept the budget flat. His leadership and your stewardship over the budget has been second to none. I heard all of the accolades that you laid out before the employees and all of that credit goes to these folks. Because day in and day out, they live this budget, they work within it and they perform at an extremely high level. I work with fantastic people. Not to mention, the folks that work with this budget. Our CFO, Manny, our Deputy CFO, Michael Klepchick, Katie Mullen, Casey Wagner, does all of the hard work. We work with each other day in and day out. I know you guys look at this and you approve it and you file through it. These folks live these numbers and try to make them work. I appreciate them and I hope they know that. I hope I don't twist them too much but they get it done every year. A special thanks to the Mayor. There is no one that knows Municipal, State and County budgets better than Mayor McCormac. I learn from him every day and I think collectively we learn from him every day and we appreciate his leadership. Thank you for your cooperation and everything that you do. I know this is not an easy task. We appreciate your oversight. Thank you Council President.

Council President Ficarra: Thank you Director Cimilluca. Any questions or comments?

Councilwoman Meehan: Thank you for all of your hard work. I know we had a lot of questions and we get a little frustrated with things because we don't always understand them. Thank you for being patient. We know you put a lot of time into it and we do appreciate it. Thank you.

Council President Ficarra: Absolutely. Anyone else? Thank you for your efficiency, as I said to all of your department heads, we appreciate the great work that you do. Can I get a motion to adjourn?

On a motion made by Council Vice President Anderson, seconded by Councilman Spillar and carried unanimously, Mr. Mitch adjourned the hearing at 5:47 P.M.