

**TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON
SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING**

APRIL 1, 2020

5:00 P.M.

Mrs. Cosnoski, at the request of Council President Burton, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Mrs. Cosnoski then advised the public that due to the COVID-19 pandemic this meeting was being done via teleconference and then explained how the meeting process would work.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Council President Burton took over the meeting at this time.

PRESENT:

Council Members: Elisabeth McCartney, Jason Allen, Donovan Gardner, Gaye Burton; Mayor David Patriarca; Business Administrator, Daniel Hornickel; Township Clerk, Amy P. Cosnoski and Deputy Township Clerk, Sunshine Dashiell.

PRESENTATION

Mayor Patriarca presented the 2020 Budget for Council and advised on several points for this year's expectations including salary and wages and total debt. Noted he feels this is a responsible budget. Mr. Hornickel further explained items including the Sewer and Water utilities and Capital Expenses. It was noted that the Power Point presentation done by the Mayor with the budget numbers was available on the Township website as well as the introduced budget.

DISCUSSION FOR 2020 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Councilwoman McCartney commented on the Township acquiring 12 additional properties with the dissolution of the MUA being a surprise. Mr. Hornickel noted that this was unexpected and advised where the 12 properties were. Advised that 4 of the properties were the Jones Farm and the other 8 were throughout the Township with some hosting pump stations and others being attached to pump stations. Councilman Allen stated that this was a great presentation and thanked Administration for answering all their questions. Stated they continue to keep taxes low for residents and continue to be creative and seek out funding mechanisms in the form of grants. Noted they continue to pay down the municipal debt and maintain services. Commented that he believed this was a responsible budget that allows the Township to continue to grow with little interruptions to services. Council President Burton concurred with Councilman Allen's comments. Thanked Administration for answering all her questions and concerns.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council President Burton instructed Mrs. Cosnoski to open the meeting for public comments. Mrs. Cosnoski advised the public how the process would work and then opened the meeting.

James Boland, Browns Mills – 1. Stated he hopes that Councilwoman Trueblood is okay as she was not present at the meeting. **2.** Commented that it would be interesting to note the salaries for the entire municipality as a whole and see all the amounts. Mayor Patriarca advised where this information could be found.

Joseph Fallon, Browns Mills – 1. Noted that he appreciated the opportunity to hold this meeting remotely. Noted he was following along with the slides during the presentation. Asked if any concessions were being made due to the COVID-19 impact. Mr. Hornickel noted that at this time it would be hard to determine what exact impact the State of Emergency would have on the Township Budget. Noted that we are keeping track of expenses including additional costs for cleaning supplies to sanitize more often. Advised that we would be able to get some reimbursement.

Doug Melagari, Pine Barrens Tribune – 1. Stated that he appreciated this being done remotely. Asked if audio would be available later. Mrs. Cosnoski advised it was.

George Petronis, Browns Mills – 1. Stated he appreciates the efforts to make the meeting available to the public. Wondered if there was any impact from the COVID-19 pandemic and asked where cuts would be made. Mr. Hornickel noted that we would be applying for

stimulus funds to cover any impacts. Mr. Petronis asked if the May 1st tax deadline would be delayed. Mr. Hornickel stated that we do not have the authority to do that but that we would be changing the tax sale from April 30th to June 17th.

Joseph Huber, Browns Mills – 1. No comments.

Seeing no other residents wishing to be heard, this portion of the meeting was closed to the public.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:11 p.m.

Note: The Regular Council Meeting started directly after this Special Meeting with a short break in between.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy P. Cosnoski

Amy P. Cosnoski, RMC, Township Clerk