

**ABERDEEN TOWNSHIP COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2009**

Present: Owen Drapkin
Thomas Perry
Joseph Raymond
Fred Tagliarini
Vincent Vinci
Wilhelmina Gumbs
David G. Sobel

Absent: None

Also Present: Joe Criscuolo, Township Manager
Diane Dabulas, Township Attorney

Mayor Sobel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and stated that notice of this meeting has been posted and published in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Agreement with the Matawan Aberdeen Public Library: Mayor Sobel stated at the last Library meeting, Deputy Mayor Gumbs attended. Mayor Sobel asked Deputy Mayor Gumbs to give a summary of the meeting.

Deputy Mayor Gumbs stated she made a plea for the Township as passionate as she could. They were ready to give the \$300,000. There were only a couple of library board members present. One board member went after the treasurer, after that it died. There were no representatives from Matawan there. \$275,000 proposal came up and it was approved.

Mayor Sobel stated the Library Board needs to be looked at.

Councilman Drapkin stated they are not supposed to be running at a surplus.

Mayor Sobel stated correct. Any project over \$10,000 needs permission from both municipalities. It is not the best place for a library, the Building is not suitable.

Councilman Vinci asked if the board was told we are looking to get out of the building.

Mayor Sobel stated yes, he told them. By the end of next year, we can get out of it.

Councilman Vinci asked are the members we appoint to the board looking out for Aberdeen.

Deputy Mayor Gumbs stated no one spoke up.

Mayor Sobel stated they have \$900,000 in surplus and are giving \$275,000 back to the municipalities; Aberdeen will get approximately 2/3, which leaves them with \$625,000. Next year they will be up to \$800,000 in surplus.

Mayor Sobel stated we have the resolution, the dollar amount is \$184,402 being returned to Aberdeen, also we promised if the library request the Township will bond for capital improvements in an amount up to funds transferred back to the Township and funding for 2009 will remain unchanged, 1/3 million.

This does not mean next year you could revisit return of excess monies to municipalities. End of 2010 or 2011 deed restriction expires. The present building can be sold.

Councilman Vinci stated if we bond for them who is responsible to pay for it.

Mayor Sobel stated you would consider bonding.

Councilman Perry stated who would be responsible for the costs of bonding. Would it come out of the funding we give them for that year.

Mr. Criscuolo stated we would be responsible for it.

Councilman Perry asked if it was understood that Matawan Council representatives or Mayor would be at the library board meeting.

Mr. Criscuolo stated we thought we would be able to get the maximum amount of money, I was negotiating with the librarian and treasurer prior to that. They did not want a big crew of people showing up.

Deputy Mayor Gumbs stated I thought someone from the borough would be there.

Mayor Sobel stated he was with the Mayor of Matawan and they were deferring to Joe Criscuolo on this. They did not intend on going to the meeting.

Councilman Perry asked about the impact on our present budget. We expected \$232,000 from the library. Where will we be making up the extra money.

Mr. Criscuolo stated we have to go through the budget again and look for more cuts.

Mayor Sobel stated look at capital purchases.

Mr. Criscuolo stated we need to pass a resolution for the library to get approval for the transfer from the State Librarian. Other options would be litigation, but would not be done in time for the budget adoption.

Councilman Tagliarini asked what can we do to circumvent this for next time.

Mr. Criscuolo stated the funding formula may change and we can start the process much earlier next time.

A straw poll vote was not in favor of bringing this resolution to tonight's public meeting.

Councilman Perry stated this should send a signal there is still room for negotiation and both Townships should be represented. We could change resolution to read we are willing to accept no less than \$184,000 and continue negotiations because of the impact to residents of the Township.

Mayor Sobel stated the library committee from both towns and library board will meet.

A straw poll vote was unanimously in favor of bringing this resolution, as amended, to tonight's public meeting.

Mr. Criscuolo stated there was no progress with the County on getting information on Lloyd Road.

Mr. Criscuolo stated the Avon Street house that was on fire has been demolished.

Mr. Criscuolo stated we are finished up last year's road paving program. Some stripping will occur.

Mr. Criscuolo stated he reached out to the State for additional signage and stripping in Cliffwood.

Councilman Perry stated a few meetings ago we were asked by Mr. Gentile to send a letter to the League of Municipalities encouraging Credit Unions as a depository. Councilman Perry received a letter thanking the Council for their support.

Councilman Tagliarini made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gumbs and unanimously concurred by Council.

David G. Sobel, Mayor

Karen Ventura, Municipal Clerk