



Mayor Sobel asked anyone wishing to be heard on agenda items to come forward and state their name and address.

Paul Rinear  
109 Wilson Avenue

Mr. Rinear asked what the 9.9 cent budget increase exactly does that mean.

Mayor Sobel stated it is approximately \$140 on the average Strathmore house.

Mr. Rinear stated was there was no tax increase in 2007 because it was an election year.

Mayor Sobel stated there has not been a tax increase in three years. It has nothing to do with 2007 being an election year. If you look back over the history of this Town, it was rare to have a tax increase and when we did it was smaller than the surrounding communities. It is with a heavy heart that we introduced this evenings budget. There was a critical amount of hard work put into this budget. It is a fiscally sound budget. There will be no reduction in services which is something we have seen in other surrounding communities.

Mr. Rinear asked if the revaluation is still this year.

Mayor Sobel stated that is correct.

Phil Petrognani  
178 Wilson Avenue

Mr. Petrognani asked if the budget includes a raise for the Council.

Mayor Sobel stated it includes all salary increases.

Mr. Petrognani asked if they thought it was fiscally responsible to give yourself a raise and raise the tax rate this year.

Mayor Sobel stated all municipal employees have their salaries increased by 4% this year. If you think about the total cost it is approximately \$300 a person.

Mr. Petrognani stated in order not to raise taxes it is a start by not taking a raise this year. It would be a stepping stone.

Mayor Sobel stated first all for the record I am not taking an increase this year.

Mr. Petrognani asked Council if they are taking raises this year.

Councilman Raymond stated no increase.

Councilman Vinci stated increase.

Mr. Petrognani asked why.

Councilman Vinci stated why shouldn't I. The time I spend in this town and I have to take money out of my family. I am retired. I have to put gas in my car. I am not here to make money, but I am not here to take money out of my pocket to supplement my family to do this.

Mr. Petrognani stated when you ran for election you knew what was involved.

Councilman Vinci stated yes, so I can't get a raise like every employee.

Mayor Sobel stated the decision to take an increase or not was a personal decision. No one here on this Council is judging anyone as to the decision they make. If we all took increases this year it would cost the Township \$2,100. In this Township \$80,000 equals one cent. \$2100 would not effect your tax bill.

Mr. Petrognani stated don't you think that money can be put to better use, slide, part of swingset.

Councilman Perry stated no raise.

Deputy Mayor Gumbs stated raise.

Councilman Drapkin stated no raise.

Councilwoman Gallo stated no raise.

There being no one else wishing to be heard Mayor Sobel declared the Hearing of the Citizens closed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2008-51 - INTRODUCTION - 2008 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

Councilman Raymond made a motion to introduction Resolution No. 2008-51, 2008 Municipal Budget, seconded by Councilman Drapkin

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: Councilmember Drapkin, Gallo, Raymond, Vinci, Deputy Mayor Gumbs and Mayor Sobel

Nays: None

Abstain: Councilman Perry

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2008-52 - INTRODUCTION - 2008 SOLID WASTE COLLECTION DISTRICT BUDGET**

Councilman Perry made a motion to introduction Resolution No. 2008-52, 2008 Solid Waste Collection District Budget, seconded by Councilman Raymond.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Ayes: Councilmember Drapkin, Gallo, Raymond, Vinci, Deputy Mayor Gumbs and Mayor Sobel

Nays: None

Abstain: Councilman Perry

Public Hearing for Resolution No. 2008-51 and 2008-52 will be held on May 6, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building at One Aberdeen Square, Aberdeen, NJ

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Deputy Mayor Gumbs made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, all items listed under 6C. Seconded by Councilman Drapkin

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Ayes: Councilmember Drapkin, Gallo, Perry, Raymond, Vinci, Deputy Mayor Gumbs and Mayor Sobel

Nays: None

Abstain: None

1. RESOLUTION NO. 2008-41 - BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council that it hereby authorizes the Mayor to execute a Developers Agreement with Cliffwood Properties, LLC.
2. RESOLUTION NO. 2008-53- BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council that it hereby authorizes the emergency temporary appropriation for 2008.
3. EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION - BE IT RESOLVED that the general public shall be excluded from discussion held during executive session - Negotiations Contractual.

**HEARING OF THE CITIZENS/CORRESPONDENCE AND PETITIONS**

Mayor Sobel asked any member of the public wishing to be heard to come forward and to state their name and address.

Paul Rinear

109 Wilson Avenue

Mr. Rinear stated March 8<sup>th</sup> is the Environmental Roundtable meeting, every Mayor of Monmouth County was invited. He wondered if Mayor Sobel attended.

Mayor Sobel stated no.

Mr. Rinear asked about the Seawall project, what is the status.

Mayor Sobel stated we received funding from the County with matching funds from the municipality. It should be beginning this year.

Mr. Rinear stated it is something I look forward to.

Mr. Rinear asked about the River Gardens area, their was a presentation awhile back, what is the status.

Mayor Sobel stated we applied for funding and we were declined. The costs would be in excess of \$300,000 or \$400,000. We came out of the presentation with the residents wanting passive recreation. Most of the costs would go to cleanup. Right now we do not have the money.

Mr. Rinear stated he walks the Henry Hudson Trail and walks buy the South River Metals site. What is the status of that.

Mayor Sobel stated PRC Group is the builder of the property. We are waiting for DEP approval at the present time.

Mr. Rinear stated he heard SK Properties was names a redeveloper for Aberdeen Forge.

Diane Dabulas stated yes SK Properties is associated with Aberdeen Wilson Associates.

Mr Rinear asked if they are on target and did they give the Town what it was suppose to.

Diane Dabulas stated no they are not on target.

Mr. Rinear asked if the Town is looking into getting a new Township Manager.

Mayor Sobel stated that is correct.

Mr. Rinear asked why did he leave.

Mayor Sobel stated they had a meeting with Mr. Brown, it was a mutual agreement. The majority of council was unhappy with his governance and how tax dollars were being spent. Mr. Brown chose to resign.

Mr. Rinear asked if it was fiscal.

Mayor Sobel stated that is one of the reasons. There is a separation agreement and they are not allowed to talk about the details of specific reasons why he is no longer here.

Phil Petrognani  
178 Wilson Avenue

Mr. Petrognani stated in regards to Mr. Brown who was involved in the process.

Mayor Sobel stated five members of the Council was in favor of the action taken. One abstained and one was not in favor. This is a personnel matter. Mr. Brown had the opportunity to have his case in public and he chose not to. It does not service Mr. Brown well if we went into detail. I am not going to put myself or this Council at risk for a lawsuit.

Mayor Sobel stated Mr. Brown was given six months of separation allowance. He moved from Fanwood to Aberdeen. He has a young family and we thought it was the least we could do.

Mr. Petrognani stated he keeps hearing the name Norman Kauff. Who is he?

Mayor Sobel stated Mr. Kauff was a former Municipal Attorney who retired approximately three years ago.

Mr. Petrognani asked does he no longer work here.

Mayor Sobel stated that is correct, he does not for the Township. He is "Of Counsel" to our Municipal Attorney.

Mr. Petrognani stated he heard he was in Town Hall for five hours.

Mayor Sobel stated if he was in Town Hall he could have been working on behalf of the Municipal Attorney.

Mr. Petrognani asked how many times a week do you have a conversation with Norman Kauff.

Mayor Sobel stated is a friend of mine.

Pat Michels  
59 Inverness

Ms. Michels asked what is the time span in which the assessment is completed.

Mayor Sobel stated the revaluation should be done within six months. They will be starting in springtime.

Ms. Michels asked if there is a start date for the senior housing at South River Metals.

Mayor Sobel stated there is a process, DEP approval, remediation, and than the building. There is no time frame. We do have a lot of interest from Aberdeen residents.

Ms. Michels stated she finds the departure of Mr. Brown disturbing. I find it objectionable that he is receiving that much money.

Sam Rascalla  
117 Duda Lane

Mr. Rascalla stated there is a big problem with his property. In the last year he lost two feet of property due to water problems. Engineers have been out looking at the problem.

Diane stated there are options available but needs to be discussed with Council and Mr.

Gillen first.

Mayor Sobel asked for Mr. Gillen to come to the next meeting.

Bill Mariello  
Lloyd Road

Mr. Mariello addressed his concerns with the traffic on Lloyd Road. This week a flipped over in front of his house and another drove over his lawn. Neighbors and himself are afraid for their lives and they get no response from the County. Petitions have been signed and letter sent and they got no response. He has been in touch with the County being it is a County Road. The County says it is a policing issue. He is very frustrated.

Councilman Perry stated one of the problems is a timing issue with respect to the traffic coming into Aberdeen on Church Street.

Mr. Mariello stated he has many other solutions for the intersection. The lines are not painted. There are simple things he would like to discuss with the County. He spoke to the County Engineers, but no one comes to his house.

Mayor Sobel stated on the local level we should refer the matter over to the Police Chief to give us a report on that intersection and other parts of Lloyd Road to see whether or not anything that can be done locally. Or a recommendation of reconstruction of the road, stripping or timing of lights.

Brian Pfeiffer  
Cliffwood Beach

Mr. Pfeiffer asked if the Township Manager was fired or resigned.

Mayor Sobel stated he resigned.

Mr. Pfeiffer asked how much notice he gave when he resigned.

Mayor Sobel stated this was a meeting with municipal Attorney and Mayor representing the majority of the Council with Mr. Brown after a discussion Mr. Brown decided that he would resign and we gave him a separation package.

Mr. Pfeiffer asked if Mr. Brown is getting a year health insurance.

Mayor Sobel stated he will unless he secures employment within that year. Majority of Council felt that six months salary was fair and the right thing to do. We are working with a Acting Township Manager with no additional costs to the Township and it would take another three or four months for a new manager to come on board. There will be no costs to the Township.

Mr. Pfeiffer stated it would be nice to just here a little more of what happened.

Mayor Sobel stated he understands.

Anthony Garaguso  
105 Atlantic Avenue

Mr. Garaguso asked if there is a time frame when both parties can talk.

Mayor Sobel stated it is indefinite.

James Black  
132 Marshall Concourse

Mr. Black stated he received a letter in the mail regarding his road being ripped up to put in water mains. When will this happen.

Mr. Lauro stated he will get back to him, the road is being worked on on Gerard Avenue and Marshall Concourse will be next.

Paul Rinear  
109 Wilson Avenue

Mr. Rinear asked if Norman Kauff worked here.

Mayor Sobel stated yes it was the municipal attorney.

Mr. Rinear did you and Norman Kauff ever discuss Stuart Brown performance.

Mayor Sobel stated no.

Vito Turchiano  
863 South Concourse

Mr. Turchiano stated the Council that we voted in work long hours to keep this town moving. Stuart Brown is gone, move on. Mr. Turchiano told Council you are doing a good job, keep it up.

Brian Pfeiffer  
Cliffwood Beach

Mr. Pfeiffer stated he is in no way saying Council is not doing a good job. He is just curious as to what is going on.

Mayor Sobel stated we are trying to do the best job we can. At the end of the day all you have left is you integrity.

There being no one else present wishing to be heard, Mayor Sobel closed the public portion.

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

The meeting reconvened with the same members in attendance except for Councilman Vincent Vinci.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2008-55**

Councilman Drapkin made a motion to introduce Resolution No. 2008-55 and move its adoption. Seconded by Councilman Raymond.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Ayes: Councilmember Drapkin, Gallo, Perry, Raymond, Deputy Mayor Gumbs and Mayor Sobel

Nays: None

Abstain: None

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF ABERDEEN  
TO ESTABLISH A COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM AND TO ENTER INTO  
COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER CONTRACTING UNITS**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2008-55**

WHEREAS, *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)* authorizes two or more contracting units to establish a Cooperative Pricing System and to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement for its administration; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Aberdeen, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey is desirous of establishing a Cooperative Pricing System and entering into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with other contracting units;

WHEREAS, the Township of Aberdeen has agreed to serve as the Lead Agency for a Cooperative Pricing System; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2008 the governing body of the Township of Aberdeen, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey duly considered the establishment of a Cooperative Pricing System for the provision and performance of goods and services,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

**COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM ESTABLISHED**

The Township of Aberdeen Council hereby authorizes the creation of a Cooperative Pricing System to be known as Township of Aberdeen Cooperative Pricing System with the Township of Aberdeen serving as the Lead Agency.

**COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT**

The Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into separate Cooperative Pricing Agreements with the participating contracting units and said Agreement shall be deemed a single Agreement.

**COPY OF RESOLUTION TO DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES**

A single certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Division of Local Government Services as part of the application for the registration of this Cooperative Pricing System.

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilman Drapkin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Raymond and unanimously concurred by Council.

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David G. Sobel, Mayor

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Karen Ventura, Municipal Clerk