

**ABERDEEN TOWNSHIP COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2008**

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

Absent: None

Also Present: James Lauro, Acting Township Manager
Diane Dabulas, Township Attorney
Angela Morin, Chief Financial Officer

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.

2008 Municipal and Solid Waste Collection District Budgets: The Chief Financial Officer has submitted the 2008 Municipal and Solid Waste Collection District Budgets for introduction and approval. Mayor Sobel stated at the budget meetings through now, the Acting Township Manager, Township Clerk and the CFO met with department heads and Councilmembers and have cut an additional \$149,000 from budget. We will be applying for extraordinary aide and will see what final action the Governor will take on municipal aid. We will continue to work to reduce spending in the Township. Mayor Sobel wanted to make note the great effort of all department heads and all employees have made in presenting us with a lean budget. The budget introduction has a 9.9 cent increase. The reason of the increase is the increase cost to the pension funds which account for \$279,000. Health Care cost increased \$275,000. We had a cut in State Aide of \$210,000. There was a decrease in our Safe & Secure Communities Grant of \$6,000. Taking all those costs together it accounts for the proposed tax increase for this year. At the end of the day we will have generated approximate 1.5 million dollars in surplus. The budget looks very secure. A straw poll vote was unanimously in favor of introducing the 2008 Municipal and Solid Waste Collection District Budgets at tonight's public meeting.

Developers Agreement with Cliffwood Properties, LLC: This is for property at Block 227, Lots 3 and 7 on County Road. It was granted preliminary and final major site plan and subdivision approval from the Aberdeen Township Zoning Board. In a memo dated March 5, 2008 from Maxine Rescorl, Zoning Board Secretary explains the Zoning Board of Adjustment on February 28, 2007 gave Board approval for the applicant (Cliffwood Properties, LLC) to build a 10,000 sq. ft. addition to an existing building, conditions

including landscaping, curbing, sidewalks, lighting and storm water management. The purpose of the addition is to enable the applicant to do repairs of trailer jockeys an exiting use, in an enclosed environment rather than out in the open. This will cause no extra traffic conditions. A straw poll vote was unanimously in favor of bringing this resolution to tonight's public meeting.

Emergency Temporary Appropriation for 2008: This is an annual event until such time as the budget is adopted. This appropriates funds in the general, water, sewer and sanitation funds for 2008. A straw poll vote was unanimously in favor of bringing this resolution to tonight's public meeting.

Engineering Proposal: CME Associates has submitted a proposal dated March 7, 2008 for engineering services for the Aberdeen Swim Club - Concept Phase Services. This comes from the last Council Meeting and the presentation made by Art Perri for a recreational facility. The costs \$5,345.00. In the meantime, a couple offered to buy the swim club from the bond holders for \$750,000.00. This property is deeded for recreational facility, Council will not take action on the engineering proposal at this time.

Township Events: WAM Productions was used last years for the 150th Anniversary events. They will be running and assisting in scheduling, developing and managing the Choir Fest, Aberdeen Day and the 5K run. The budgeted amount is \$12,500 for 2008. All other events will be run by the recreation department.

Mayor Sobel stated that Mr. Samuelson from Cross of Glory was here at the last meeting. Cross of Glory feels that there is not sufficient money for off-site issues left in the performance guarantees. Jimmy met with Tim Gillen, CME Associates and Tim felt that Cross of Glory was asking for more than was agreed upon. Mayor Sobel stated we stepped into a private affair to a great extent. Mayor Sobel stated he feels uncomfortable taking action this evening on the Resolution reducing performance guarantees for Ciaglia Custom Builders until our engineering firm has seen the letter from the Cross of Glory and has submitted written comments to us.

Councilman Perry suggested if we are going to continue in the role of facilitator we should cut to the chase and have the engineers sit down with the Church and developer and someone from Council present and resolve this once and for all.

Mr. Samuelson agreed.

Mayor Sobel stated we will remove the resolution from this evenings agenda.

Councilman Perry stated the 7th Annual Business Expo is March 25th between Matawan/Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce. Are we having a table again.

Mr. Lauro stated it was there for the 150th Anniversary with Jim Colabelli. That was the first time we were there.

Councilwoman Gallo asked if we have a representation attending the COAH meeting.

Mayor Sobel stated it is Mr. Lechstein.

Mayor Sobel stated there is a meeting tomorrow evening with Art Perri, School District, Matawan Borough, YMCA regarding the Community Center (Recreational complex).

Mayor Sobel stated when Art Perri was here, we talked about looking for money for a feasibility study. He was in touch with Congressman Pallone and Mayor Sobel followed up with his legislative aide yesterday and applied for funds on Mr. Perri's behalf for the study. I used the figure of \$20,000.00.

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

David G. Sobel, Mayor

Karen Ventura, Municipal Clerk