

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE  
BOROUGH OF HAMBURG HELD ON MARCH 19, 2012 AT THE MUNICIPAL  
BUILDING, 16 WALLKILL AVE., HAMBURG, NJ**

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**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Marino called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG:**

**ROLL CALL:**

Mayor Marino requested a roll call:

Councilwoman Oehler

Councilman Krasnomowitz

Councilman Law

Mayor Marino

Councilman Kelly

Councilman Sena

Absent: Councilmember Barr

Also Present: Doreen Schott  
Richard Clemack, Attorney

**STATEMENT OF CERTIFICATION:**

Clerk advised

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided to the public and the press January 6, 2012 by delivering to the New Jersey Herald and the Sunday Herald and posting at the Municipal Building a copy of the "Annual Notice of Meetings" pursuant the provisions of the "Open Public Meetings Act".

**Introduction of Budget**

Councilmember Krasnomowitz makes a motion, seconded by councilmember Oehler to open the meeting to Mr. William Schroeder, auditor and Mrs. Amy Maronpot, CFO. Mr. Schroeder advises that this year the presented budget shows an increase of 2.1 points which equate to \$21.00 per year for every \$100,000.00 assessment. The average home in Hamburg is assessed at \$134,000.00 meaning that the average increase will be \$28.00. Of the 2.1 points; 1.6 is capital increase and .8 is for pension increase. We are in very good shape and the fund balance is up \$34,000.00.

Mayor Marino advises that we will be seeing a savings of \$40,000.00 in the line item for police salary this year. The police budget presently supports the purchase of a new vehicle which we are waiting delivery on, the police director position and 7 officers. We will transfer that money that we are saving from police to the Capitol Improvement Fund and then next year do an ordinance to put the money in cap for the revaluation which we will have 5 years outside the cap to pay.

The road department is in need of a back hoe and chipper, the back hoe which will cost approximately \$65,000.00. We will fund the back hoe with the \$40,000.00 savings from the police

salary and wage budget and \$25,000.00 from the water budget. The chipper will be purchased from the money that was saved on the sand and salt this year.

The recreation budget has some extra money in it. We are presently in discussions with Hardyston and Franklin regarding joining the Littell center and we may use some of that money to offset the cost of joining. There is \$86,000.00 left in the budget for the ordinance for the recreation fields. We are still looking into purchasing equipment such as benches, picnic tables and playground equipment so that can be done utilizing that money.

Councilmen Law discusses an on-going issue with the court. The mayor and council are in receipt of a letter from the court judge. The volume of cases being heard at the court has gone up greatly. The request is to allow for the prosecutor who only comes to court on the first Tuesday of the month to also come on the Thursday evening session which in the past has only been for first appearance. Should this be permitted many cases that would be carried to the following Tuesday court date would be able to be disposed of on that Thursday, thereby lessening the court calendar. Councilmen Law advises that this year the courts brought in approximately \$90,000.00 and the budget was for \$64,000.00 so it is self funding. He is requesting that the council consider an increase of \$5,200.00 to cover his time during this added court night. He also advises that the court administrator is certified and has completed all of her requirements and will address her salary.

Mayor and Council discuss some items that the borough would like to address such as playground equipment, benches and picnic tables for the recreation fields; possible getting the "Hamburg" name on the trestle along with getting the Hamburg signs.

Some other issues are the paving of the borough parking lot and the concrete apron in front of the fire department. These items can be done by utilizing the \$63,000.00 that is still available in the capital improvement fund. The clerk will ask the engineer if the paving of the parking lot could be incorporated in the recent bid award to Mark Paving.

Mr. Schroeder discusses the Water / Sewer Budget; the projected budget is \$2,185,000.00. We still have a healthy fund balance but it did drop from 1.9 million to 1.2 million. This was mostly in part to emergency repairs that needed to be done on the system, one most recent was the cost involved in finding a major leak source, once repaired it helped our flows dramatically which in turn lowered our cost to SCUMA, we also are in the process of doing meter replacements which will increase the revenue. Mayor advises that the engineer and BPW are working on a 5 year plan so we will not see so much emergency work needing to be done. Mr. Schroeder makes the recommendation that like last year we still increase the water and sewer fees so it can continually supply the fund balance.

Motion by Councilmember Krasnomowitz, second by councilmember Law to close the meeting to Mr. Schroeder and Mrs. Maronpot. All members present in favor.

Motion by Councilmember Krasnomowitz, seconded by Law to increase the water and sewer rates by 5 per cent on a quarterly basis; there will still continue to be the senior citizen discount of \$15.00 per dwelling where there is at least one owner who is at least 65 year of age and the premise has been granted a senior citizen real estate deduction by the tax collector.

Roll Call

Ayes                   Krasnomowitz, Law, Kelly, Oehler, Sena

Nayes           None  
 Absent         Barr  
 Abstain        None

Motion by councilmember Law, seconded by Oehler to introduce the 2012 budget as submitted with changes to certain line items as discussed with the public hearing and adoption being held on April 16, 2012.

Roll Call

Ayes           Krasnomowitz, Law, Sena, Kelly, Oehler  
 Nayes         None  
 Absent        Barr  
 Abstain       None

Motion by councilmember Law seconded by Oehler to have the prosecutor come to an added court night with an increase of \$5,300.00 as long as it is necessary.

Roll call

Ayes           Krasnomowitz, Law, Sena, Kelly, Oehler  
 Nayes         None  
 Absent        Barr  
 Abstain       None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION:**

Attorney Clemack will offer the following resolution to enter into executive session later this evening.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Hamburg find it necessary to enter into executive session for the reasons hereafter cited:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:14012(b) of the Open Public Meetings Act provided for matters of this nature to be discussed in closed session; and

WHEREAS, the minutes of the closed session be taken and made available to the Public upon conclusion of the matter;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council advises the public that formal action may be taken later this evening on the matters discussed in closed session or on other matter.

**Committee Report**

**1. Councilman Law**

Hamburg Fire Department Coin Toss – Motion by Councilmember Kelly seconded by Councilmember Oehler to approve the Hamburg Borough Fire Department Coin Toss for May 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> 2012 and August 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> 2012

**2. Councilman Sena**

Motion by Councilmember Sena, seconded by Councilmember Kelly to approve the resolution to return the premium paid for tax sale certificate # 11-014 in the amount of \$300.00. All members present in favor.

**3. Councilman Krasnomowitz**

Councilman Krasnomowitz advises that on March 28<sup>th</sup> there will be a joint meeting at Hardyston to continue discussions regarding the Recreation fields and the Littell Center.

**PUBLIC PORTION**

Motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Krasnomowitz to open the meeting to the public for any questions or comments they may have with regards to the good and welfare of the borough. All members present in favor.

Mr. Don Ploetner introduces himself and advises that he is running for Sussex County Freeholder this year.

Motion by Councilmember Kelly, seconded by Councilmember Krasnomowitz to close the meeting to the public. All members present in favor.

Councilmember Kelly advises that after the last meeting he spoke with a couple who will be attending the next council meeting to ask for support in opposing the county sale of the Homestead. He asks that the members visit the website which gives information on the topic.

Councilmember Oehler asks the council to support a letter going out on behalf of the governing body to help get a past councilmember. He is very ill and trying to get admissions to a VA hospital. Motion by Councilmember Oehler, seconded by Councilmember Law to send a letter of support. All members present in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councilmember Krasnomowitz, seconded by Councilmember Kelly to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Released: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Doreen Schott, RMC  
Municipal Clerk