

BOROUGH OF ROSELAND  
COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

JANUARY 30, 2021  
VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL  
9:00 AM OPEN SESSION

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW

**SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING MINUTES**

Due to the ongoing Coronavirus (COVID-19) emergency, the January 30, 2021 Special Budget meeting of the Roseland Mayor and Council was called to order at 9:00 AM via teleconference by Mayor Spango. Adequate notice of the meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act in that the date, time, and location of the meeting were sent to the official newspapers, posted on the Borough's website, and filed in the office of the Borough Clerk. The public was invited to join the Roseland special Council meeting via computer by logging in to:

<https://zoom.us/j/95597784464?pwd=b0dNdHFjZE9lQ2tSamFIT3orS1BUdz09>

or via telephone by calling +1-312-626 6799, or +1-646-558-8656, or +1-301-715-8592, Webinar ID: 955 9778 4464, Passcode: 705407.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

James R. Spango, Mayor  
Christopher Bardi, Councilman  
Eileen Fishman, Council President  
Jean Perrotti, Councilwoman  
Michele Tolli, Councilwoman  
Marcelino Trillo, Councilman

**ABSENT:**

Roger Freda, Councilman

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Maureen Chumacas, Borough Administrator  
Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk  
Joni Noble McDonnell, Borough Attorney

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Mayor Spango led the salute to the flag.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**DISCUSSION**

Council conducted a line-item review of the proposed appropriations in the 2021 municipal budget:

## Council Special Budget Meeting Minutes January 30, 2021

### Police Department

The police department submitted a proposed budget reflecting an increase from 2020 in the amount of approximately \$160,083.50. Council identified a number of items which appeared to be redundant and proposed cuts of approximately \$165,000.00.

### Insurance

The increase in insurance costs of \$73,577.00 reflects the projected increase in the New Jersey Intergovernmental Insurance Fund (NJIIF) All-Lines and Worker's Compensation, and an increase in retiree benefits.

### Department of Public Works (DPW)

The projected increase in the DPW budget of approximately \$10,307.00 is in anticipation of the need for additional asphalt resulting from the Borough assuming some of the maintenance costs for private roads.

### Garbage Collection

The projected increase in the cost of garbage collection in the amount of \$141,000.00 is the result of an increase in tipping fees. Prior to Covid-19, tipping fees were approximately \$18,000.00/month. Since Covid-19, the Borough has been paying approximately \$25,000.00/month.

### Construction Code

The 2020 Construction Code budget included the salary of a new employee for three months. The projected increase of \$32,050.00 in the 2021 budget is the result of budgeting for the employee for the full year.

### Statutory Expenses

There is a projected increase in statutory expenses which includes \$131,712.00 for police pensions and \$30,684.00 for public employee pensions.

Other factors impacting the 2021 municipal budget include a decrease in assessed property valuation in the amount of \$91,000.00. The property revaluation process has been postponed due to Covid-19.

The minimum, legally required debt service payment is \$120,000.00. The proposed budget anticipated paying \$664,000.00. To enable balancing the budget, Council reduced the payment for debt service to \$333,000.00.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilman Trillo made a motion to accept with regret the resignation of LeeAnn Leonard from the Department of Public Works Building Department effective January 22, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Freda absent).

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

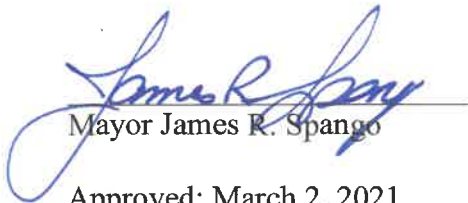
**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilwoman Fishman made a motion to approve Resolution No. 50-2021 Approval to Close to Executive Session at 12:11 PM to discuss the following:

1. Personnel

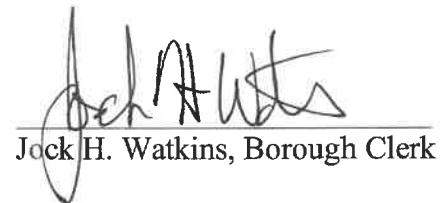
**ADJOURNMENT**

Council returned to open session at 12:30 PM and Councilman Bardi made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 4-0 voice vote (Freda, Trillo absent).



Mayor James R. Spango

Approved: March 2, 2021



Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

**VOICE VOTE**

Aye: Bardi, Fishman, Perrotti, Tolli, Trillo

Nay: None

Abstain: Freda

Absent: None

