

**BOROUGH OF ROSELAND  
COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

JANUARY 22, 2022  
VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL  
9:00 AM OPEN SESSION

**COUNCIL BUDGET MEETING MINUTES**

The January 22, 2022 budget meeting of the Roseland Mayor and Council was called to order at 9:00 AM 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 was included in the annual meeting notice, and notice of the change to a remote only meeting was sent to the official newspapers, posted on the Borough's website, and filed in the office of the Borough Clerk.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Eileen Fishman, Councilwoman  
Roger Freda, Councilman

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Mayor Spango led the salute to the flag.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**DISCUSSION**

**Police Department** – Angelynn Rittweger attended the conference call representing the police department. The clothing allowance line item was increased to \$19,600 to correct an error. The office equipment line item was reduced to \$500 with the understanding that police department computers will be linked to their new network printer. Council asked the police department to provide a recommendation for which firing range will be used. If the recommended range is not the least expensive, the recommendation should include the reason why the less expensive range is not being used. Council asked Administrator Chumacas to look into the pricing options for to find the least expensive option for all cell phones and air cards. Council asked Mrs. Chumacas to look into the possibility of discounted warranty for longer terms for the Vigilant camera system. The training and first aid line items were increased to account for training of new officers and basic first aid training for all officers. The capital

improvement budget discussion will be rescheduled for a time when Captain Costello is able to attend.

**Fire Department** – Chief Rich Loveless attended the conference call representing the fire department. Council thanked Chief Loveless for bringing in a zero-increase budget. Chief Loveless explained that the tire repair line item was increased in order to purchase fire truck tires that are long overdue for replacement. The school line item was increased in order to send new members to fire school for basic training. The communication line item was increased in order to purchase new portable radios for the officers. All of these increases were offset by reductions in other line items.

**Office of Emergency Management** – OEM Coordinator John Matheis attended the conference call representing the Office of Emergency Management. Captain Matheis explained that the amount of the safety equipment line item was kept the same despite no expenses last year. This is the line used to upgrade traffic lights for emergency backup generators. There are still a few traffic lights that have not been upgraded. The consulting service line item was increased in the hope of utilizing specialists to assist with the laborious process of filing FEMA grant applications. It is expected that the increased cost will be offset by more productive grant applications. Mr. Matheis requested capital improvement funds be authorized to repair the Borough's fire sirens. Council asked Mr. Matheis to request more accurate prices so that the correct figures can be included in subsequent budget considerations.

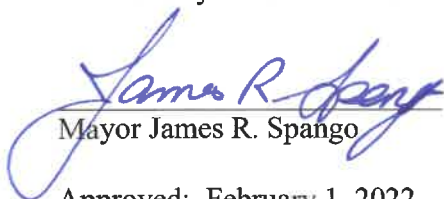
**Municipal Court** – Judge Genaro attended the conference call representing the Municipal Court. Judge Genaro requested an increase in the interpreter line item in order to have a Spanish speaking interpreter attend court once a month rather than using the language line. The language line bills by the minute, and call quality and connectivity are spotty. Having an interpreter present will more reliable and would likely improve efficiency. The language line would still be used for other language needs. Judge Genaro expects that the need for a conflict judge will decline this year, as open cases during which she served as Prosecutor continue to be adjudicated.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

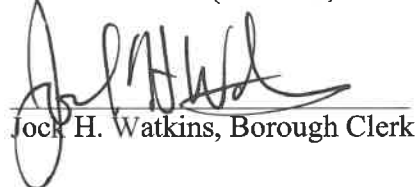
None

### ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Bardi made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:02 AM. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Perrotti and approved by a 4-0 voice vote (Fishman, Freda absent).



Mayor James R. Spango



Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

Approved: February 1, 2022

### VOICE VOTE

Aye: Bardi, Tolli, Trillo  
Nay: None  
Abstain: Fishman, Freda  
Absent: Perrotti