

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

JANUARY 21, 2023
140 EAGLE ROCK AVENUE
9:00 AM OPEN SESSION
EXECUTIVE SESSION TO FOLLOW IF NEEDED

COUNCIL BUDGET MEETING MINUTES

The January 21, 2023 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 were included in the Annual Meeting Schedule, sent to the official newspapers, posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building and filed in the office of the Borough Clerk. This meeting was also available via Zoom conference call.

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

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

Review of Capital Request

Council agreed to keep the computer server upgrades for this year. Council also suggested that data storage needs be evaluated during the coming year with plans to begin migrating to cloud service in 2024.

Rather than budget for the installation of Storz adapters on all fire hydrants, it was decided to change the water main replacement specifications to include new hydrants with Storz connections. Councilman Freda will review the matter with the fire chief to consider budgeting only to upgrade all new fire hydrants that have been installed within the past five years.

Council eliminated the funding for improvements at Bond Force Park with the intent of budgeting for the same in 2024 to coincide with the planned timing for the improvements.

Council discussed upgrading the community event signs to make announcements easier to read, possible solar lighting to enable nighttime visibility, and relocating the Livingston Avenue sign from the area of the exit ramp from Route 280 to to a location on Eagle Rock Avenue facing the terminus of Livingston Avenue.

Council agreed to add Belgian block curbing and speed tables to the Ridge Road Project. Adding the curbing will improve drainage and stabilizing the roadway edges will extend the life of the road surface. Once repaved, the speed tables will reduce the opportunity for excessive speeds on the new surface. Only two houses on Ridge Road belong to the Holmehill Association.

CFO Chumacas will prepare the necessary ordinances for introduction at the February 7th meeting in order for these projects to be included in the anticipated bond sale.

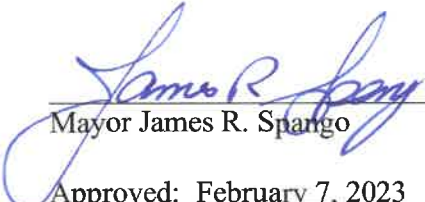
Budget Summary

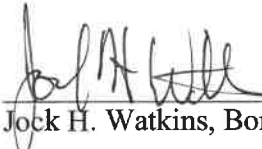
Council began a line-by-line examination of the budget and identified numerous expenditures for potential reduction or elimination. Councilman Freda excused himself from the meeting at 10:02 AM. Council also identified several items of revenue that could conservatively be increased. Council reviewed responsible budgeting options for utilizing and restoring surplus funds.

The next budget meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2023 at 9:00 AM at 140 Eagle Rock Avenue.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Bardi made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:06 AM. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Fishman and approved by a 5-0 voice vote (Freda absent).


Mayor James R. Spargo
Approved: February 7, 2023


Jock H. Watkins, Borough Clerk

VOICE VOTE

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