BARNEGAT TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OCEAN COUNTY 900 WEST BAY AVENUE BARNEGAT, NJ 08005

SPECIAL MEETING July 14, 2014, 6:30 PM

1. Call to Order

2. Provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law:

Pursuant to the requirements of the OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW, adequate Public Notice of this meeting has been given:

- a. By publication in the required newspapers of the date, time and location of this meeting more than 48 hours in advance.
- b. By posting advance written notice on the official Bulletin Board in the Municipal Building.
- c. By filing advance written notice with the Township Clerk for the purpose of Public inspection.
- 3. Roll Call of Officials Present:

Committeewoman Taylor - Present Committeeman Bille - Present Committeeman Morano – Absent Deputy Mayor Lisella – Present Mayor McCabe - Present

- 4. Salute to the Flag
- 5. Administrator's Comments on the 2014 Municipal Budget Purpose of this meeting is to keep the process of adopting the Municipal Budget moving. Copy attached and made a part of these minutes

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Motion to open Public Hearing on 2014 Introduced Budget: A. Bille Second: M. Lisella

Jake Taylor – 106 Newark Road: Why are there different amounts in the anticipated revenue sections of the proposed budget? Admin: we are not using the entire amount; the committee should be praised for the savings. The Township will be using Open Space funds in accordance with the Ordinance.

Motion to close Public Hearing on 2014 Introduced Budget: A. Bille Second: M. Lisella

6. New Business

Ordinance 2014-19 (First Reading)

Refund Bond Ordinance providing for the refunding of all or a portion of the Township's General obligation bonds, Series 2005, heretofore issued to financial Capital Improvements, appropriating an amount not exceeding \$4,200,000 therefor and

authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$4,200,000 General Obligation Refunding bonds of the Township of Barnegat for financing the cost thereof

Motion to introduce ordinance: A. Bille

Second: M. Lisella

Roll Call:

Taylor: Yes

Bille: Yes

Morano: Absent

Lisella: Yes

McCabe: Yes

7. Formal Action Agenda:

Resolution 2014-330

Resolution submitting a Corrective Action Plan to the Barnegat Township Committee

Motion to introduce ordinance: A. Bille

Second: M. Lisella

Roll Call:

Taylor: Yes

Bille: Yes

Morano: Absent

Lisella: Yes

McCabe: Yes

Resolution 2014-331

Resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to prepare and mail estimated tax bills in accordance with P.L. 1994.C.72

Motion to introduce ordinance: A. Bille

Second: M. Lisella

Roll Call:

Taylor: Yes

Bille: Yes

Morano: Absent

Lisella: Yes

McCabe: Yes

10. Motion to Adjourn: A. Bille

Second: M. Lisella

All are in favor

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes were formally approved by the Barnegat Township Committee:

Municipal Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF BARNEGAT, NEW JERSEY

Summary of 2014 Municipal Budget

1. Total Appropriations (Expenditures)

Introduced 2014 Budget -- \$22,949,273 Final 2013 Budget -- \$22,595,033 Increase -- \$354,240 (1.6%)

The vast majority of appropriation increases can be contributed to an active winter season. Cost of snow operations exceeded \$300,000 for the winter of 2013/2014.

2. Tax Rate Impact

Introduced 2014 Municipal Budget would increase the town's taxes by 1.57 cents. That would equal a \$39 tax increase on the average assessed house of \$250,000, of which most is related to snow removal.

3. Tax Rate History

Since the revaluation in 2011, the tax rate for town operations has only increased by 3.6 cents, which is less than a penny increase per year or the equivalent of \$22 per average assessed house of \$250,000. This nominal tax increase occurred during a time of Hurricane Irene, Superstorm Sandy, the past harsh winter along with the conclusion of a major recession.

4. Shared Services Impact

A major reason why the town has been successful with stabilizing taxes since the revaluation in 2011 is because of shared services. It is estimated that shared services has a direct financial impact of at least \$750,000 on the municipal budget.

5. Major Budgetary Accounts

A. Reserve for Uncollected Taxes

For 2014, the town will budget \$1,135.221, for the Reserve for Uncollected Taxes, which is more than total salaries in the Public Works Department.

B. State Aid

For Barnegat, state aid peaked in 2005 at approximately \$1.5 million dollars. In 2014, state aid received by Barnegat will be 1,048,932, which reflects a loss of upwards of \$450,000 in state aid to a growing community.

C. Pension Cost

In 2006, the township paid \$173,000 in pension cost to the state. For 2014, the township will pay over \$1,572,000, an increase of 1.4 million dollars or 800% since 2006.

D. <u>Debt Management</u>

The town continues to drive down debt service and overall debt. Currently, the town only uses 14% of it borrowing capacity.

6. Bond Rating

Despite the major economic downturn, massive tax appeal loss, decrease in state aid, significant increase in pension cost and historic adverse weather events, the township was able to maintain it's quality bond rating of A1, which was just reaffirmed. This clearly demonstrates that the township was been following sound financial practices.