

Meeting Minutes
Hightstown Borough Council
Budget Meeting
April 13, 2010 6:00 pm

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert Patten at 6:00 pm and read the Open Public Meetings Act statement which stated, "Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice was advertised in the *Trenton Times* and the *Windsor-Hights Herald*, and is posted in the Borough Clerk's office."

The Flag Salute was followed by Roll call.

ROLL CALL

	PRESENT	ABSENT
<i>Councilmember Bond</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember McGinty</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Musing</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Quattrone</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Sikorski</i>	✓	
<i>Councilmember Theokas</i>		✓
<i>Mayor Patten</i>	✓	

Also in attendance: Debra Sopronyi, Borough Clerk; Herbert Massa, Borough Administrator; and George Lang, Chief Finance Officer

Council President Quattrone motioned to accept the agenda, Councilmember Musing seconded, all approved.

Public Comment

Mayor Patten opened the floor for public comment.

Torry Watkins – 68 Meadow Drive, commented that he was concerned that the Fire Chief did not mention the donation they receive from Peddie during his budget presentation at the last meeting, nor do they open their books to the Borough for review. He felt it was important that the Council address an increase in the donation the Borough gets from the Peddie School.

There being no further comments from the public, the Mayor closed the Public comment period.

Mr. Lang then proceeded to review budget information that was distributed to Council; and advised that it was now a state requirement that employees contribute 1.5% of their salary toward health benefits. In the presently proposed budget, each penny is worth \$49,000.00; said budget consists of a possible reduction in the cost for EMS services and no salary increases. There was discussion regarding furloughs, lay-offs, energy tax receipts, health benefit costs, surplus and the reduction in state aid. The conversation also addressed sewer rates, revenue and infrastructure needs.

It was decided that the next budget meeting would be held on Wednesday, April 28th at 6:30pm.

Councilmember Sikorski motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm and Council President Quattrone seconded; the Motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra L. Sopronyi

Borough Clerk