

## City of Englewood

### City Council Budget Meeting Minutes

**February 26, 2014 at 7:30pm**

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A Budget Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Englewood, Bergen County, New Jersey, was held in City Hall, 2-10 N. Van Brunt Street in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room commencing at 6:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Present: Council member Marc Forman  
Council member Michael Cohen  
Council member Eugene Skurnick  
Council member Wayne Hamer  
Council President Lynne Algrant  
Mayor Frank Huttie III  
City Manager Timothy Dacey  
City Clerk Lauren Vande Vaarst  
Ronald Amorino, CFO

President Algrant called the meeting to order.

The City Clerk stated that adequate notice of this meeting was given by the posting, filing and distribution of the notice as required by the Open Public Meetings Act.

#### AUDITOR INFORMATION:

- Ron Amorino, CFO and Tim Dacey, City Manager presented.
  - Appropriation Cap this year could be 3 ½ % and we must introduce a Cap Bank ordinance before the budget.
  - Mr. Amorino reviewed his memo dated February 26, 2014:
    - Health benefits went up 10%
    - Under 2% Levy Cap
  - Tax Levy Cap- City is about \$700,000 under Cap so it is not an issue.
  - On March 11<sup>th</sup> we need to Introduce the Appropriation Cap, Introduce the Cap Bank and the Accelerated Tax Sale Resolution.
- Councilman Skurnick wants a list of what is in the Cap and what is outside of the Cap. Councilman Cohen wants a list showing Residential versus Commercial net valuations.
- Mr. Dacey explained that \$300,000 still has to be cut from the preliminary budget.
- Mr. Amorino mentioned that property valuations went down about \$2.2 million dollars.

#### FIRE:

- Gerald Marion, Fire Chief presented.
- Spoke about the need for new equipment that will comply with today's standards. Mr. Dacey stated that most of the Fire Department equipment requests are included in the 2014 Capital Budget. The Chief was asked about priority of equipment needed and can he provide a list.
- Staffing levels will remain the same.
- Discussed grants that have been applied for, and expectation of what might be received.
- Management training and overtime were discussed. Meal time, staffing and other items were discussed as to what triggers overtime events.
- Spoke about Mutual Aid and collaborative efforts between towns. He would like to see this reflected in the budget. Councilman Skurnick wants a list of what the Fire Department has purchased that is used by other towns.
- Discussed the decrease in the number of fire incidents.
- The Council asked if an increase in the number of housing units in the City will equate to an increase in the need for more manpower and equipment. An increase of 5,000-10,000 would trigger that.
- Emergency preparedness was discussed and does the Fire Department have appropriate back up in the event of a power outage.

Mr. Dacey mentioned that Juneteenth will be held on June 12-15, 2014 and that the dedication of Sylvia Robinson Way will be held on Saturday, June 14, 2014.

#### PUBLIC SESSION:

No one came forward to speak.

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Lauren Vande Vaarst, RMC  
City Clerk

#### **ADJOURN: 9:30 PM**

Motion: Cohen  
All in Favor