

**MINUTES - TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET MEETING
TOWN OF BELVIDERE
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
691 Water Street
MARCH 24, 2016**

Mayor Kennedy opened the budget meeting of the Belvidere Town Council with the Pledge of Allegiance. Teresa Yeisley read the following notice in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act:

In accordance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, notice of this meeting was given by way of notice filed with the Star Gazette and/or the Express-Times, filed in the Municipal Clerk's Office and posted in the Belvidere Town Hall, 691 Water Street, Belvidere NJ.

Roll Call:

Present - Mayor Kennedy, Councilman Fitzgerald, Councilman Makatura, Councilman Miller, Councilwoman Miers, Councilwoman Napolitani, Councilman Tutka

Absent - None

Public Comment:

Eileen Scott - do not cut budget too much. Need to work on infrastructure. Should not consider school when formulating budget.

Linda Stettler - fund balance. Two public comments needed at budget meetings

Budget Discussion:

John Mooney advised that the proposed budget is below both budget caps and in compliance. There is currently a 6.8 cent increase. The budget included a 27th payroll from 2015 which will be charged back to appropriation reserves in the amount of \$43,000. This reduces the increase to 3.3 cents.

Councilman Makatura review the PD salary appropriation and suggested that it be reduced from \$665,000 to \$600,000.

Councilwoman Napolitani advised that the DPW has already reduced their budget and couldn't make any further cuts.

Councilman Miller, Councilwoman Miers, Councilman Fitzgerald and Councilman Tutka had no significant budgets to work with.

Teresa Yeisley recommended cuts to various line items totaling \$9,000.

Mayor Kennedy suggested adding funds to Capital for roads.

John Mooney advised that there is \$343,000 in fund balance.

Discussion ensued.

Public Comment:

Linda Stettler - salaries. Need to begin budget process earlier.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Miers and seconded by Councilman Fitzgerald to prepare the budget for introduction with the reductions discussed and adding 2 cents for road projects.

Roll call:

Ayes - Councilman Fitzgerald, Councilwoman Miers, Councilwoman Napolitani, Mayor Kennedy

Nays - Councilman Makatura, Councilman Miller, Councilman Tutka

A motion was made by Councilwoman Napolitani, seconded by Councilwoman Miers and carried to adjourn the budget meeting of the Belvidere Town Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa A. Yeisley, RMC/CPM
Municipal Clerk/Administrator