

**MAYOR & COUNCIL  
BUDGET MEETING  
FEBRUARY 25, 2012  
9:00 a.m.**

The Budget Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rockaway, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, was held in the Community Center, 21-25 Union Street, Rockaway, N.J. with Mayor Russell Greuter presiding. Mayor Greuter called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Greuter read the following statement: In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Public Laws, 1975, be advised that notice of this meeting was made by posting on the Bulletin Board, Town Hall, and sending to the officially designated newspapers, a list of meeting dates annually, indicating that the meeting would take place at the Community Center at 9:00 a.m. on February 4, 2012. Mayor Greuter announced the location of the fire exits.

Councilmembers Present

Thomas Donofrio  
Joyce Kanigel (arrived at 9:01 a.m.)  
Thomas Mulligan  
Joseph Vicente  
John Willer (arrived at 9:02 a.m.)  
Melissa Burnside - Council President (arrived at 9:03 a.m.)

Councilmembers Absent

Everyone present participated in the salute to the flag.

Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer John J. Doherty was also present.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mayor Greuter opened the meeting to the public.

Mr. Rodney Seifert, Ann St., president-elect of the Rockaway Rotary Club, requested that the Governing Body make a decision on the organization's request to hold its annual 5K race on Saturday, July 7. Discussion ensued regarding the funding of police overtime. Mr. Seifert assured the Governing Body that the Rotary Club would be responsible for any cost of overtime that would not be covered by the Borough.

Upon motion by Councilman Willer, seconded by Councilman Donofrio, and carried via roll call vote to approve the request of the Rockaway Rotary Club to hold a 5K race on Saturday, July 7, 2012 and to forward the information to the Police, Fire, and Public Works Departments.

There being no further public comments, Mayor Greuter closed the meeting to the public.

2012 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Mr. Doherty discussed the reductions made to the appropriations to keep the increase within the 2 percent total tax levy cap.

The Governing Body decided that the funding for the proposed bocce ball court must come out of Recreation Trust Fund, not small capital. Furthermore, the Trust Fund will be used to pay for maintenance of fields, thus reducing Maintenance of Parks by \$10,000.

The Governing Body agreed to remove the acquisition of the touch book computer from the Fire Department's small capital request (\$3,500).

Upon motion by Councilman Mulligan, seconded by Councilman Willer, and carried via voice vote, to provide a 2% raise for non-union full-time employees and 0% for part-time employees (including the Governing Body).

Council President Burnside suggested that the Labor Attorney attend the PBA contract negotiations. The Governing Body agreed to keep Legal Services at the 2011 level to include \$5,000 for this purpose.

The Governing Body agreed to add a \$5,000 stipend for the Emergency Management Coordinator position. Council President Burnside moved that the amount be included in the payroll and pension calculation. There was no second.

The Governing Body agreed that the Police Department could purchase one new vehicle in 2012.

General revenues are anticipated to be \$1,946,870. The budget for appropriations is as follows:

<b>Departments</b>	
Mayor and Council	\$ 1,500
Audit Services	20,700
Workers Compensation	64,000
Vehicle Maintenance	37,000
"Other" Public Works	5,000
Maintenance of Parks	20,000
LOSAP	11,600
DDEF	1,479
Municipal Clerk	45,200
Finance Administration	10,000
Assessment of Taxes	3,500
Collection of Taxes	7,000
Legal Services	75,000
Municipal Court	90,000
Engineer Services	15,000
Buildings and Grounds	53,000
Planning Board	4,000
Board of Adjustment	1,500
Shade Tree Commission	8,700
Liability Insurance	90,000
Employee POL Deductible	20,000
Employee Group Insurance	352,000
Fire Prevention	3,750
Volunteer Fire Department	61,230
Police Department	131,550
Construction Official	1,200
Alarm System	127,850
UCC Enforcement	700
Zoning Enforcement	400
Streets & Roads	117,500
Board of Health	158,500
Public Assistance	500
Recreation Commission	49,244
Senior Citizens	5,000
Emergency Management	2,800
Contingent	500
Clean Communities	9,937
Library	123,000
Sewer (RVRSA)	129,000
Solid Waste	589,000
Social Security	100,000
Pensions	428,412
Celebration of Public Events	9,200
Utilities	266,000
Matching Funds	14,224
Other	65,784
Municipal Alliance	4,000
Defined Pension Contribution	1,200
<b>Subtotal Departments</b>	<b>3,336,660</b>
<b>Small Capital</b>	
Recreation	0
DPW Equipment	5,000
Fire Department	50,000
Buildings and Grounds	2,500
Police Department	50,000
Capital Improvement Fund	10,000
<b>Subtotal Small Capital</b>	<b>117,500</b>
<b>Municipal Debt</b>	
Principal	550,000
Interest	177,510
<b>Subtotal Municipal Debt</b>	<b>727,510</b>
Deferred Charges	2,200
Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	371,737
<b>Grand Total Appropriations</b>	<b>\$4,555,607</b>

The amount to be raised by taxes will be \$5,201,510, or approximately \$113 on the average home.

Mayor Greuter thanked Councilmen Donofrio and Mulligan for handling the items discussed in a letter from the Teamsters regarding the Public Works Department. The overtime issue was handled and the training issues will be addressed with the Teamsters.

Council President Burnside asked if we would move forward with 24/7 outside ambulance coverage. Mayor Greuter reported that he met with St. Clare's representatives regarding the issues that were raised by the Fire Department.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon motion by Councilman Willer, seconded by Council President Burnside, and adopted unanimously upon voice vote, the following resolution was adopted:

**RESOLUTION 57-12: CLOSE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

**WHEREAS**, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the Public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances do exist;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rockaway in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the hereinafter specified subject matters.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows: Personnel.
3. The minutes of the discussion shall be made public as soon as the matters under discussion are no longer of a confidential or sensitive nature.
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

DATE: February 25, 2012

BOROUGH OF ROCKAWAY

ATTEST: Sheila Seifert, Borough Clerk

BY: Russell Greuter, Mayor

Mayor and Council went into closed session at 11:12 a.m. and resumed the public meeting at 11:32 a.m.

Upon motion by Councilman Vicente, seconded by Councilman Willer, and unanimously carried by voice vote to send a letter to the Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer as a follow-up to the invoice received from the auditor for additional work required for preparation of the 2011 Annual Financial Statement.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Approved: As Submitted

Sheila Seifert, Borough Clerk

Date: March 8, 2012