

**BOROUGH OF MIDLAND PARK  
280 GODWIN AVENUE  
MIDLAND PARK NJ 07432  
DECEMBER 14, 2023  
6:00 P.M. BUDGET SESSION MINUTES**

**On December 14, 2023 at 6:00 P.M., the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Midland Park conducted a meeting at Borough Hall located at 280 Godwin Avenue. Agenda items for the meeting were listed on the Borough website.**

**Mayor Shortway** called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M., noting the date as December 14, 2023, and that there will be a 3-minute limit to each individual addressing the Governing Body during the Open Public portion of the meeting.

**SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT:** This meeting is being held in accordance with the Sunshine Law, notice having been published according to law with a copy on file in the Borough Clerk's Office and a copy posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	<b>Mayor Shortway</b>	<b>Present</b>
	<b>Councilman Sansone</b>	<b>Present</b>
	<b>Councilman Braunius</b>	<b>Present</b>
	<b>Councilman DeBlasio</b>	<b>Absent (6:45 P.M. entered meeting)</b>
	<b>Councilman Kruis</b>	<b>Present</b>
	<b>Councilwoman Peet</b>	<b>Present (via GoTo Meeting)</b>
	<b>Council President DeLuca</b>	<b>Present</b>

**ALSO PRESENT: Borough Administrator/Clerk Wendy Martin, Chief Finance Officer Laurie O'Hanlon, and Deputy Clerk Mari J. Margiotta**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:**

**This will be the only Open to the Public portion of the meeting. No further discussions will take place once the Budget portion of the meeting begins. No Public was present.**

**BUDGET DISCUSSIONS:**

**1. Budget Updates**

Fire Chief and Superintendent of Public Works Matthew Tauber reported the budget status and requests for his departments. The Fire Department has gained four (4) new members in 2023 and is requesting an additional \$1,000.00 increase for clothing allowance (O/E). In the Capital Budget portion, the Fire Department is in need of \$10,000.00 for the replacement of gear that has expired occurring to the State of New Jersey, a purchase of two (2) thermal imaging cameras in the amount of \$8,500.00, and replacement of SCOTT Safety bottles at \$1,000.00 apiece. There has been a record annual total number of calls for the year (240).

Mr. Tauber requests for the Department of Public Works are as follows: the O/E budget in the supplies line time has increased \$1,000.00 due to the rise in chemicals and paper products since COVID, HVAC service and supplies, costs of recycling, and yard waste disposal. In the Capital Budget portion, the projects that are scheduled for 2024 are: the 2024 Road Resurfacing Project, the 2024 Drainage Project Reserve including mapping, future building renovations in reserve, the replacement of 2008 GMC Truck since there are no more replacement parts made, replacing the HVAC unit in the Habben Building (mold was found in

permanent records), a purchase of a ride on John Deere mower, the replacement of the Borough's lightening detection rod located at the High School (quote \$10,000.00), Councilman Sansone discussed the selling of Habben Building and the Governing Body expressed different options for housing IT equipment, and a vehicle diagnostic tool (approximately \$5,000.00).

Mr. Tauber recommended to promote Kyle Omelianuk to the position of Foreman. Josh Terpstra will be leaving the Borough in the near future to join the City of Newark's Fire Department. The flagpole located in front of the Borough needs painting or replacement. The quotes for painting were \$11k and \$18k. A new fiberglass flagpole is \$15k. The Governing Body agreed to replace the flagpole and refurbish the base.

Mr. Tauber requested a salary increase for his position as Superintendent of Public Works. No numbers were given at the time. The Mayor and Council will discuss this matter at a later date.

There being no further business to address, at 7:01 P.M., on a Motion by **Councilman Sansone**, Seconded by **Councilman Kruis** and carried, **Mayor Shortway** adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Wendy Martin, RMC  
Borough Administrator/Clerk