

MINUTES - BUDGET SESSION**January 6, 1995**

The Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Warren met in special session at its office in the Administration Building, Belvidere, NJ on Friday, January 6, 1994 at 6:35 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Director Dickey and upon roll call the following members were present: Mrs. Dickey, Mr. Miller and Mrs. Stone.

Director Dickey read the following statement: "ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT BY FORWARDING A SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO THE WARREN COUNTY CLERK, THE STAR/GAZETTE, BLAIRSTOWN PRESS, THE NEWS, STAR-LEDGER AND THE EXPRESS-TIMES AND BY POSTING A COPY THEREOF ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS. FORMAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN BY THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS AT THIS MEETING. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IS ENCOURAGED".

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

- Sheriff - The sheriff's budget was only presented to the freeholders. The CFO and the administrator did not receive a copy. The administrator stated that since the sheriff had not submitted a budget request on time (or at all), the proposed O & E is 2% less in 1995 than was in 1994. Sheriff asked for an increase in the uniform line item. Requested an increase in overtime as well. Freeholder decisions:

1. \$50,000 for overtime.
2. Add \$9,000 to the uniform line item.

- County Clerk - Budget accepted.

- Surrogate - Al Ruh asked for the \$500 stipend to be increased to \$600. Freeholders approved the increase.

- Prosecutor - Wants copy machine rental, pager, extradition line items increased. Freeholders decided to increase the copy machine line item to \$13,000. Asked for approximately \$25,000 in the telephone line item to pay for monthly phone charges. Prosecutor stated he would pay for the system to integrate the four buildings occupied by staff. Asked for two positions - receptionist and prosecutor's agent (Director of Administrative Services).

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

- Cultural and Heritage - Through the administrator, the commission asked for an increase of \$2,000 for the water rent line item. Request approved. An emphasis on the need for clerical help was given.

- Elections - Was concerned about the new Motor Voter Law; no way to know what the new charges will be. Office increases are totally unknown. The freeholders agreed to add

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a total of \$5,860, split between four line items. Asked again for salary increases for the chair and member of the board. Freeholders said they would take it under consideration. Will withdraw the personnel request.

- Taxation - Budget accepted.

- Mosquito Commission - Commission asked for a considerable increase due to the increased activity of a very wet year and the use of surplus funds from 1993. The freeholders agreed to increase the total funding to \$289,007.

- Shade Tree - No one attended. This budget has been transferred to the Buildings and Grounds Division.

- Soil Conservation - Budget is acceptable. Discussion about farmland preservation. There is a maximum number of farms which are eligible but no limit on the number of acres. The Agriculture Board does not usually know until April which of how many of the farms have been determined to be eligible. There is currently \$1.2 million left in county funds waiting to be used. There is \$879,400 in the 1994 project and \$284,120 in the 1993 project. Board accepted the \$1,153,261 requested, since the seven farms were already selected, but wanted 25% of the 2% open space tax to be dedicated to this \$1.2 million project.

- Women's Commission - Budget accepted.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Page 4 - move project priorities #7 and 8 one year ahead and delete from recommended column.

Page 6 - move project priorities #9, 10 and 11 to 1996. Delete from recommended columns.

Page 9 - Project Priority 13 - remove from recommended column to 1996 column.

Other changes were made on the CIP budget itself.

On motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Stone, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

ATTESTED TO:

Naomi J. Stout, Deputy Clerk