

March 13, 2018

The Budget Workshop Meeting of the Common Council of Egg Harbor City was held on Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 7:00pm in Council Chambers, located at 500 London Avenue with the following Council Members present: Edward Dennis (arrived 7:10PM), Angelo Lello, Carol Kienzle, Albert "Pat" Moran, Stefania Kuehner, Robert Ross, Donna Heist, and Mayor Lisa Jampetti.

Councilwoman Kuehner called the meeting to order and made the following announcement:

1. In compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act" of the State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting of the Egg Harbor City Common Council was provided in the following manner:
 - a. Advance written notice of this meeting was posted on the Egg Harbor City Hall Bulletin Board.
 - b. Advance written notice of this meeting was sent to the Hammonton Gazette, the News, the Press and the Current
2. I direct the City Clerk (Chief Financial Officer filling in) to enter into these minutes this public announcement.

Chief Financial Officer Jodi Kahn took roll call.

Kahn reviewed the budget draft that was provided to all council members present. The current draft has a \$262,000 tax levy increase. Leon Costello, City auditor, explained that the City has been prudent in controlling expenditures, but due to revenue shortfalls and expenditures beyond the City's control, such as pension contributions, the City is facing this increase. He also explained the effect of the tax reassessment. The Utility Fund budget was also discussed and in the prior year there was an operating deficit of \$50,000. The current budget draft has the Current Fund covering that deficit. With the current utility draft budget there is a shortage of \$33,000 that will need to be determined prior to introduction.

Auditor Costello also explained that introducing the budget next week is just a process to get the budget started and that it can be changed and revised prior to adoption.

During public comment, resident Nanette Galloway suggested that a rate increase be done on the utility, so that it is not paid by the taxpayers. She also feels the \$50,000 will never be taken out of future budgets if left in the Current Fund. Council understood this and they directed the CFO to calculate a rate increase that would cover the deficit so that Council can review the options.

The Mayor pointed out to Council that if you are not going to vote for the budget, please review it and see where you would like to suggest making cuts. Trash collection was discussed as a service we provide that could be cut. Resident Amy Kramer, stated she used to live in Galloway and paid \$65 per month for trash pickup and asked that the City please keep trash collection. Another budget meeting was scheduled for March 26, 2018 at 7PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm with motion from Kuehner and second by Ross.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jodi Kahn/CFO