

**BOROUGH OF MIDLAND PARK
280 GODWIN AVENUE
MIDLAND PARK NJ 07432**

**January 28, 2021
Open Public Meeting Minutes
7:00 P.M. Budget Session**

On January 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., the Mayor and Council of Midland Park will conducted an Electronic Public Meeting in lieu of its in-person of the Public Meeting previously advertised. Members of the public had access the meeting by dialing this Toll-Free Dial in number (United States): [1 866 899 4679](tel:18668994679) Access Code: 423-114-701

Agenda items for the meeting were listed on the Borough website. The foregoing Electronic Public Meeting is recommended due to the current situation involving the COVID-19 Virus and directives of State and County governments.

Mayor Shortway called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M., noting the date as January 28, 2021, 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.

Roll Call:	Mayor Shortway	Present
	Councilman Damiano	Absent
	Councilman Kruis	Present
	Councilman Sansone	Present
	Councilwoman DeLuca	Present
	Councilwoman Peet	Present
	Council President Iannone	Present

ALSO PRESENT: Borough Administrator Seemon, Borough Clerk Martin and CFO O'Hanlon

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.

There were no members of the public present at this time

BUDGET DISCUSSION :

1. Budget Updates- Discussion

Administrator Seemon advised the Governing Body at our last budget meeting we left off at 6.4% increase, after meeting with the CFO, Borough Clerk and DPW Superintendent and discussing the projects, as well as the anticipation of Bonding for a couple of projects and lumping in the Note from the previous year we were able to get the percent down to 3.6% which equates to \$109.05 per average assessed home of \$398,429.00. We took away some Capital items.

Councilman Iannone stated this is a far cry from the 6.4% that was previously being discussed. Great job by everyone.

Councilman Sansone stated this is an amazing effort on all parties involved.

Councilwoman Peet inquired what was the final decision on the % increase for salaries? **Administrator Seemon** stated 3% was included if we go with 2% there would be a reduction of \$20,000.00.

CFO O’Hanlon advised the Governing Body that we are using old Capital to continue with the new awning at Midland Park sign at Borough Hall, including tulips.

Councilman Sansone asked Administrator Seemon now that you will be moving on, what are the plans for the folks at Borough Hall. Space is very limited at Borough Hall and my office will become vacant. Mayor Shortway stated he would like that office. **Councilman Sansone** feels the CFO needs the office, and stated the Mayor has an office at the old Ambulance Building, it’s not sold yet. **Councilwoman DeLuca** agreed the CFO should move upstairs, if the Borough Clerk maintains the position of Administrator she will need to hire a Deputy and they will need a space out in the office this would be the CFO’s old desk when she goes upstairs. **Mayor Shortway** disagreed and reiterated that he wants the office upstairs. The Council members continued to have a lengthy discussion on this topic. The Administrator stated his can be determined at a later date, there are other options, such as the Tax Assessor office.

The full Governing Body each took the time to complimented and thank Administrator Seemon for his time and wished him the best in his future endeavors.

Administrator Seemon thanked the Governing Body for their gift and stated it has been an honor working with all of you. He is happy with what he was able to accomplish in the short time he has been here.

Councilwoman Peet stated Borough Clerk Martin is going to step up to the challenge with all your training and guidance over the last two years.

Borough Clerk Martin also thanked the Administrator for his guidance and training over the past two years and plans to put it into action and do her best.

There being no further business to address, at 7:20 P.M., on a Motion by **Councilman Sansone**, Seconded by **Council President Iannone** and carried, **Mayor Shortway** adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Martin, R.M.C.
Borough Clerk