

**BOROUGH OF MIDLAND PARK
280 GODWIN AVENUE
MIDLAND PARK, NJ 07432
FEBRUARY 27, 2020**

7:00 P.M. –Work Session Minutes

Mayor Shortway called the Meeting to Order at 7:00 P.M.

The Mayor read the 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 Kamp	Present
	Councilman Iannone	Present
	Councilman Kruis	Absent
	Councilman Sansone	Present
	Councilwoman Peet	Present
	Council President DeLuca	Present

Also Present: Borough Attorney Regan, Borough Administrator Seemon and Borough Clerk Martin

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- 1. Budget Discussion- Administrator Seemon** noted he has handed out the most updated version of the 2020 Budget. **The Administrator** advised the Governing Body after lengthy discussions with the Borough Auditor and CFO the Auditor felt the % increase should be 2.3% however we are prepared to move forward with the 1.6%. The plan is for the Administrator to meet next week with the Councilwoman Peet, Councilman Kamp, the Auditor and CFO to go over the historic use of surplus, lack of revenue and the leveling of Municipal Aid. The **Governing Body** discussed at length the different items impacting the municipal budget this year.
- 2. Sign Ordinance – Administrator Seemon** noted the sandwich board signs are the biggest issue. After further discussions with the Zoning Official it is being suggested to have them eliminated in general via an updated ordinance. We would provide the business owners with advance notice from the Zoning Official. **Councilwoman Peet** would like the sign ordinance updated to require owners to keep to the historic architecture of the community. **Councilwoman Peet** noted she was looking at the Town of Hillsboro’s sign ordinance and it is very clear and informative. Numerous Council members made suggestions for areas throughout the town relative to signs and plantings. **Councilwoman Peet** suggested bringing back the Garden Club. **Councilwoman Peet** would also like to see the Midland Park Chamber of Commerce be more involved, she noted on numerous occasions she has forwarded pictures of what the Montclair Chamber of Commerce has done.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

There being no response from the public, at 7:34 P.M., Attorney Regan read the Closed Session Resolution:

Resolution #049-20 Closed Session 2-27-20

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a Public Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of Midland Park has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and

WHEREAS, the regular meeting of this Governing Body will reconvene;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough Council of Midland Park will go into closed session for the following reason (s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

_____ Any matter which, by express provision of Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from discussion in public (Provision relied upon):

_____ Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the federal government;

_____ Any matter the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy;

_____ Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions of which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of the public body (Specify contract): _____.

_____ Any matter involving the purpose, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of bank rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed;

_____ Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public provided that their disclosure could impair such protection;

_____ Any investigations of violations or possible violations of the law;

Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer (If pending or anticipated litigation, the matter is: **Affordable Housing** _____ contract negotiations the nature of the contract and interested party is _____ in circumstances, if public disclosure of the matter would have a potentially negative impact on the Borough's position in the litigation or negotiation, this information may be withheld until such time that the matter is concluded or the circumstances no longer present a potential impact);

Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting (Subject to the balancing of the public's interest and the employee's privacy rights under South Jersey Publishing, 124 N. J. 478, the employee(s)

nature of discussion is Personnel.

Any deliberation of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act of omission for which the responding party bears responsibility;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Council hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Borough Attorney advises the Borough Council that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the Borough, or any other entity, with respect to said discussion. That time is currently estimated as the time of said matter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Borough Council, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place, and hereby directs the Borough Clerk to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

Introduced by: Councilman Sansone

Seconded by: Council President DeLuca

Roll Call:	Councilman Kamp	Aye
	Councilman Iannone	Aye
	Councilman Kruis	Absent
	Councilman Sansone	Aye
	Councilwoman Peet	Aye
	Council President DeLuca	Aye

There being no further business to discuss, on a Motion made by **Councilman Sansone**, Seconded by **Council President DeLuca**, and carried, the **Mayor** adjourned the Work Session Meeting and Council convened into the Closed Session at 7:34 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Martin, R.M.C.
Borough Clerk