

**INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting held at the Municipal Building, 286 Route 46, Great Meadows, NJ,**  
**January 28, 2017 9:00AM**

The Budget Meeting of the Township Committee of Independence Township, Warren County, New Jersey was called to order by Deputy Mayor Cogle at 9:00am. Deputy Mayor Cogle made the following announcement: "Adequate notice of this meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by providing a schedule of regular meetings to the Star Gazette and The Express –Times, posting a copy thereof on the Township bulletin board and filing a copy thereof in the office of the Municipal Clerk." The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Deputy Mayor Cogle.

**Roll Call:**

The following members of the Committee were in attendance: Deputy Mayor Glenn Cogle, Mr. Feula, Mrs. Kelsey and Mr. Pennington  
Also present Deborah Hrebenak and Kevin Lifer, CFO.

Due to an illness Mayor Giordano was not in attendance

**Budget:**

CFO, Kevin Lifer presented the preliminary budget, the cap remains at 2%., another tight year with budget no new ratable for the Township.

**Departments :**

**Chief Riley** went over his budget request's, he also informed the Mayor and Township Committee of his retirement as of July 1, 2017, Sgt. Aber retirement date is February 1, 2017, discussion on the hiring of two (2) new officers as replacements.

Motion made by Mr. Feula seconded by Mrs. Kelsey to authorize contacting Civil Service to place a interlocal governmental transfer for the positions, if there is no action on the transfer then start the process to hire from the new promotional list sending the candidates to the police academy.

Ayes: Mr. Feula, Mrs. Kelsey, Mr. Cogle, Mr. Pennington

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

Motion carries with four (4) affirmative votes.

Chief Riley requested Kim Carvino, Township Police Matron to become a P/T Hourly employee instead of the voucher system, all agreed.

**Alan Shimchook, DPW Supervisor**, presented his budget requests, discussion on the requested capital items

All other departments reviewed with the committee their requested budgets

**Public Comment:**

No Public Comment

**Adjournment:**

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Cogle seconded by Mr. Feula the meeting adjourned at 2:00p.m. no further business before them.

Ayes: Mr. Feula, Mrs. Kelsey, Deputy Mayor Cogle, Michael Penning

Nays: None recorded

Abstain: None recorded

Motion carries with four (4) affirmative votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah M. Hrebenak, RMC  
Clerk/Administrator