

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING – May 11, 2009**

Mayor Allen *calls the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.* announcing that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

PRESENT: Mayor J. Allen, Mr. T. Auriemma, Mr. F. Gatti, Mr. G. Shamey

ALSO PRESENT: Administrator Mekovetz

ABSENT: Mrs. B. Muir

Mayor Allen led those present in the *Salute to the Flag*.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Allen stated that the representatives of the Township Committee and the School Board of Education have completed the process of reducing the school budget and have done so through an amicable resolution that has not negatively impacted the Readington students.

Mr. Gatti stated that suggestions were made to the school board as to where the recommended cuts should be made, and through negotiation with the School Board the school budget has been reduced by approximately one million dollars.

Mr. Shamey thanked Dr. Schiff, members of the board and finance committee for the productive negotiations and also for responding to the voices of taxpayers.

1. Readington Township School Defeated Budget – resolution

The following resolution was offered for consideration:

#R-2009-55

**TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Readington Township School District presented to the voters, at the annual school election held on April 21, 2009, a question concerning the tax levy requirements for the said Board of Education for Current Expenses and Capital Outlay, designated as the General Fund, in the amount of \$28,038,539; and

WHEREAS, the voters of the Readington Township School District rejected the General Fund question and

WHEREAS, a joint meeting of the designated elected officials of the municipality and a Committee of the Board of Education was held on April 30 and May 7, 2009, to discuss the General Fund Budget; and

WHEREAS, careful consideration has been given to the information received from the Board of Education with a view toward providing a thorough and efficient system of education in the school system of the Board of Education.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Readington, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

- (1) The General fund (base budget) Tax Levy is to be reduced by the total sum of \$1,000,000 as delineated below.

Resolution #R-2009-55 cont'd:

**READINGTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
 BUDGET CUTS 2009-2010**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>2009-10 Budget</u>	<u>Reduction</u>	<u>2009-10 Revised Budget</u>
11-000-100	TUITION	\$ 329,320	\$ 64,373	\$ 264,947
11-000-213	HEALTH SERVICES	\$ 279,004	\$ 1,096	\$ 277,908
11-000-216	RELATED SERVICES	\$ 649,335	\$ 37,071	\$ 612,264
11-000-217	EXTRAORDINARY SERVICES	\$ 183,127	\$ 162	\$ 182,965
11-000-218	REGULAR STUDENT SUPPORT	\$ 554,061	\$ 8,108	\$ 545,953
11-000-219	SPECIAL STUDENT SUPPORT	\$ 921,053	\$ 4,185	\$ 916,868
11-000-221	IMPROVEMENT OF INSTRUCTION	\$ 312,315	\$ 2,051	\$ 310,264
11-000-222	MEDIA/LIBRARY	\$ 661,903	\$ 21,519	\$ 640,384
11-000-223	STAFF TRAINING	\$ 313,232	\$ 45,205	\$ 268,027
11-000-230	GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	\$ 706,467	\$ 29,942	\$ 676,525
11-000-240	SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION	\$ 1,220,957	\$ 28,337	\$ 1,192,620
11-000-251	SUPPORT ADMINISTRATION	\$ 474,210	\$ 7,360	\$ 466,850
11-000-252	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	\$ 195,921	\$ 1,000	\$ 194,921
11-000-26X	FACILITIES	\$ 2,982,867	\$ 36,860	\$ 2,946,007
11-000-270	STUDENT TRANSPORTATION	\$ 2,199,798	\$ 25,246	\$ 2,174,552
11-000-291	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ 4,850,644	\$ 140,246	\$ 4,710,398
11-1XX-XXX	REGULAR INSTRUCTION	\$ 10,114,985	\$ 431,346	\$ 9,683,639
11-2XX-XXX	SPECIAL ED. INSTRUCTION	\$ 2,789,712	\$ 85,088	\$ 2,704,624
11-230-100	BASIC SKILLS	\$ 748,923	\$ 247	\$ 748,676
11-240-100	BILINGUAL INSTRUCTION	\$ 61,936	\$ 129	\$ 61,807
11-4XX-XXX	COCURRICULAR & ATHLETICS	\$ 262,646	\$ 15,406	\$ 247,240
12-XXX-73X	EQUIPMENT	\$ 210,600	\$ 15,000	\$ 195,600
12-000-400-933	TRANSFER TO REPAY DEBT	\$ 1,448,911	\$ -	\$ 1,448,911
<u>13-XXX-XXX</u>	<u>SUMMER INSTRUCTION</u>	<u>\$ 5,400</u>	<u>\$ 23</u>	<u>\$ 5,377</u>
	<u>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>\$ 32,477,327</u>	<u>\$ 1,000,000</u>	<u>\$ 31,477,327</u>

- (2) The Township Committee of the Township of Readington hereby certifies the tax levy for the General Fund of the 2009-2010 Readington Township School District Budget in the amount of \$27,038,539.
- (3) The Township Committee of the Township of Readington hereby certifies that the revised budget is sufficient to provide a thorough and efficient education.
- (4) The Clerk of the Township of Readington is directed to provide a certified copy of this resolution by no later than May 19, 2009 to the Hunterdon County Superintendent of Schools, the Readington Township School District Board of Education and to such other parties as required by law to receive copies.

A **MOTION** was made by Mr. Shamey to adopt this resolution seconded by Mr. Auriemma and on Roll Call vote the following was recorded:

Mr. Auriemma - Aye
 Mr. Gatti - Aye
 Mr. Shamey - Aye
 Mayor Allen - Aye

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Debbie Labbadia, president of the school board, stated that she was very appreciative of the negotiated agreement and invited everyone to come and see what the schools are doing.

Rick Finn, of the school board, commented on the future of regionalization to make K-12 districts and stated the need to work together to make sure there is an education of the taxpayer in Readington to understand how this will impact everyone.

COMMENTS FROM THE GOVERNING BODY

There were none.

As there was no further business, ***A MOTION*** was made by Mr. Shamey at 7:12 p.m. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Gatti with a vote of all ayes, nays none recorded.

Respectfully Submitted:

Vita Mekovetz, RMC/MMC/RPPO
Administrator/Municipal Clerk