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**TOWNSHIP OF WEST MILFORD, COUNTY OF PASSAIC, NEW JERSEY**

Minutes of: Township Council Special Meeting  
Date of Meeting: February 27, 2016  
Time of Meeting: 9:03 A.M.  
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Mayor Bettina Bieri called the Special Meeting of the West Milford Township Council to order.

**Adequate Notice Statement**

Mayor Bieri read the following statement:

Please note that in accordance with Chapter 231, Public Laws of 1975 of New Jersey, adequate advance notice of this special meeting was advertised in the Herald News in its issue of February 24, 2016; copies were provided to the Suburban Trends, the Record and Star Ledger and posted continuously on the bulletin board in the main corridor of the Town Hall and on file in the Office of the Township Clerk.

Please also make note of all fire and emergency exits - located to the left, right, front and rear of this room - for use in case of an emergency. Thank you.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Bieri led all in attendance in a salute to the flag.

Agenda No. I

**Roll Call**

Present: Councilmembers Ada Erik, Mike Hensley, Tim Wagner, Michele Dale,  
Luciano Signorino, Marilyn Lichtenberg, Mayor Bettina Bieri.  
Absent: None.  
Also Present: Township Administrator/Township Clerk Antoinette Battaglia,

Agenda No. II

**Purpose**

Review of the proposed 2016 Municipal Budget.

Agenda No. III

**Review of 2016 Municipal Budget**

Capital Overview – Bob Casey - Budget consultant, Mr. Robert Casey addressed the Council. He said the purpose of the meeting is to spend some time discussing the various budget sheets that have been distributed. Mr. Casey explained that the goal is to prioritize the capital requests and determine how to move forward.

Engineering and DPW Capital Budgets – Eric Miller from the Engineering Department addressed the council. He said that the first item being discussed is the dam at Bubbling Springs. He noted that it was partially funded last year and that there is a pump in the lower pond that has been identified by dam safety as inadequate. It was also determined during the survey that a portion of the dam is on private property and they are trying to negotiate with the property owner to obtain the necessary easements. The homeowners have a lot of very nice landscaping on the hill which is actually on the dam and according to DEP it is not allowed. He said that the landscaping has to come down along with some trees. Mr. Miller stated that the attorney has drafted up an easement agreement and they are going to meet with the homeowners to sign it. He explained that dam safety has been very understanding as far as the progress. The goal is to get the easement, get it out to bid, and start construction the day after Labor Day and have it finished before the winter.

Sediment Control Retrofit Program – Mr. Miller said that the Sediment Control Retrofit Program is going to be advertised this week for last year's installment which will be the third installment of the settlement agreement. The final two priority A outfalls as identified by Upper Greenwood Lake will be completed. He explained that this is the third of the seven-year obligation. He said that the council has been funding \$50,000 each year and the construction estimate is about \$60,000. The Township is accepting bids on March 24<sup>th</sup> and hopefully they will come in under that price. He said that we have been sticking to our end of the agreement so far and it has been a successful program. He is seeking a \$50,000 appropriation again this year.

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Road Resurfacing – Mr. Miller explained that it was another good year last year and the Township ended up resurfacing six miles of roads. He said that the goal is to do at least 5 miles a year which is a 30 year cycle. The roads are rated every three years and Mr. Miller reviewed the historical ratings. Last year, in 2015, the rating was 64.1/100. He said that we did really good last year regardless because AC, the basic ingredient in asphalt, plummeted and we were able to get it for about \$120,000 less than what we anticipated. He explained that the last couple of jobs and the Westbrook job were \$60,000 dollars under the awarded contract because of the asphalt dropping in price. He is asking for \$1 million for this budget which should do five miles comfortably.

Mr. Miller explained about reconstruction vs. resurfacing. He said that you can pay now or you can pay later. When the roads get to a point where they can't be resurfaced anymore, they have to be reconstructed and that costs more money. In the end, it is all about cost savings. Councilman Wagner asked how we incorporate bike lanes on the roads. Mr. Miller said that he put them in wherever they can go and tries to make them as wide as possible. He said that bikeways just help everyone, from bikers to people with strollers to people walking. Mr. Miller said that last year we exceeded what we thought we could do and we still have some funds available for cushion if we needed it.

Road Assessment Program – Mr. Miller said that there was a discussion with the council about moving forward and revitalizing the road assessment program to the degree of a down payment for \$200,000 last year. He said he has done almost 40 miles of dirt roads and turned them into paved roads in his time with the town and there are still quite a few left. He has been working with the DPW supervisor and asked them to provide a list of the top 10 worst roads in their district. He explained that the problem is that you can't have one dirt road that is joined with another dirt road and not do that one as well. Mr. Miller said that it was narrowed down to 3 good looking projects in the \$300,000 to \$600,000 range where the maximum sustainable assessments will pay for a good part of the construction. Mr. Miller said that he is looking for \$350,000 to start the projects. The first project is which is the most expensive is estimated at \$548,000 and the cheapest one is about \$344,000. He is asking for another \$350,000 to cover the most expensive project and the one with the most density. Mayor Bieri said that we should fund this because if we don't, we will spend more money on DPW efforts, manpower, and materials and then get the money back with higher tax assessments. The council asked for a breakdown of the cost to maintain the dirt road and how much cost savings it would be. Mr. Miller said it would be better for everyone because if someone bought a house on a dirt road and it was changed to a nice new paved road, the house value will go up.

Ridge Road Bikeway – Mr. Miller said that so far, \$3 million dollars has been spent and half of that is grant money to get a bikeway from Town Hall to the high school. He said that several sections have been completed over the years and the last bikeway grant received was from the Westbrook section. This year there was funding collected and he asked for \$450,000 and we received \$250,000. The goal is to finish the final mile and he would like to see it done from Alpine Ridge to Vreeland. Mr. Miller said that when the project started in 2002, it was known that the section from Town Hall up was going to be a multiyear project so it was just resurfaced. It needs to be fixed now because of the heave or it will not be able to be a part of the bikeway. Mr. Miller said he is looking for \$160,000. Mr. Casey said if the project isn't done this year, the grant will not be able to be used. Mr. Miller said that he would like to start the design, have this go out to bid, and start construction this year.

Salt Shed - Mr. Miller addressed the council about the County salt shed and said it was just re-advertised again for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time this year. He explained that there have been ridiculously high bids one after the other. He noted that he talked to the manufacturer of the building and we got his price the cost of the project and said it just seems like no one wants the job. Mr. Miller said that several different design concepts have been talked about. One is a tension fabric building, which a concrete wall with the fabric stretched over the top. The problem is that the fabric is only guaranteed for 5 years and they have been proven to rip. He said that it was estimated to be pretty expensive and the county engineer did not like it. The county is willing to contribute \$800,000 for the timber structure. The current structure is timber and it has stood for 26 years with zero maintenance. Mr. Miller suggested that the structure should be moved away from the embankment and new footings installed. The estimate for the timber structure is \$978,000. Mr. Casey explained that the problem is that they are doing a design build and that can shy away normal contractors because you need a design specialist for the build. Mr. Miller said that he is not a fan of a design build and he would like to look at a unit price contract to make it easier. Mr. Miller said since the county said that they will contribute \$800,000, he is asking the council for \$128,000. He said that this needs to be done.

Edward Steines and Kirk Bakker from the Department of Public Works addressed the council for the DPW budget items.

Air Compressor - Mr. Bakker explained that they have one air compressor and it is from 1989. He said it is on its last leg so they are asking for a new air compressor. The idea is to keep the old air compressor

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as a backup and get the new one so they are functioning efficiently. Councilman Signorino asked if the \$25,000 is just for the new air compressor or if that includes the repairs for the old compressor. Mr. Bakker explained that the amount budgeted is just for the new compressor and he would have to find out how much the repair would be for the old one. He stated that DPW really needs two air compressors, one for the resurfacing crew and one for whatever other needs they may have.

Salt Shed Replacement - Mr. Bakker explained that the roof on the salt shed at the West Milford depot blew off in a recent storm. He asked for \$85,000 for a timber structure. The salt shed at the Newfoundland depot is also in need of replacement. The council discussed temporary structures which have benefits including cost savings. The council directed the DPW staff to proceed with temporary structures.

Dump Trucks - Mr. Bakker said that they are looking for four single action dump trucks. He thanked the council for what the department has received in the previous years. Mr. Casey noted that the DPW was supplied two dump trucks in 2014 and two in 2015. Mr. Bakker explained that they are asking for four because they have four staging areas for snow removal. Mayor Bieri asked if they have enough people to man all of these vehicles at the same time. Mr. Casey said that yes and with snow removal it is not uncommon to blow a hydraulic line or something and need another truck. Hydraulic lines break all of the time and usually it is not a quick fix to get the repaired. Mr. Bakker agreed and said that many of the trucks are in poor condition and they are not an easy fix when broken. Councilman Hensley asked if there is still an issue with storing the vehicles. He said that he doesn't want to buy new vehicles and have an issue with storing them out in the elements. Mayor Bieri brought up the issue about the washing system and having the new vehicles rot out in the elements and salt. Mr. Hensley said that we need to protect our investment. Mr. Miller from Engineering suggested that there is a structure that can be added on the timber salt shed that they can use for storing the vehicles. He said they can keep the vehicles out of the weather and store them in the off season as well. Mr. Steines said that they have been making sure that the crews clean the vehicles within 24 hours after the storm and has been investigating the wash system. Mr. Casey said that there is an exception to the Highlands Act that they are allowed to wash and clean the trucks between 24 hours after the storm. He said in order to do a full wash of the vehicle including the engine, it would have to be taken to a separate facility. Councilman Hensley said that he would like to find a wash plant to take the trucks to at the end of the season so the trucks are put away properly and can hopefully get the lean to for storing the vehicles. Mr. Steines said that they are touching base with other facilities that have wash systems. Mayor Bieri asked for the analysis on the cost to use a facility and for our workers to bring the trucks there.

Mr. Bakker said that DPW has two tandem dump trucks, four mason dump trucks and ten single axle dump trucks. They are utilized year round; in the winter as the salt trucks and in the summer they are being used as transportation vehicles. Mr. Bakker said that they have also spent \$36,000 on renting trucks while waiting for the newly ordered trucks to come in last year. Mayor Bieri suggested contracting out the snow removal to save money on truck costs, maintenance costs, and storing issues. Mr. Steines said that in the summer, the trucks are used for blacktop and drainage work so they are being utilized all year round. Council President Dale said that she would like to see the annual repair costs for each vehicle by year and how much we have invested in the vehicle to keep it on the road. She said that we need to know where we spend the money and suggested that a portion of our investment should be set aside and have a replacement schedule annually so the money is available when needed. She said that there would be a significant decrease in maintenance costs which can be utilized to fund it and if we don't, we are going to have a reoccurring issue. Mayor Bieri said that it is the same as with the road resurfacing projects, money is set aside every year for that purpose. Councilman Signorino said that he wants to know the offset of the vehicles and he would like to see the maintenance costs on the vehicles bought in 2014 and 2015. He explained that getting new vehicles was justified because they wouldn't cost much to maintain and if it doesn't offset cost, then we need to rethink getting new vehicles. Council President Dale said that the data is needed to make an educated decision.

Wheel Loader – Mr. Bakker said that they are looking to replacement of a 1997 loader. He said that they have done the best they can to keep these things moving and they have had to replace the cabs on some of them. At this point, he would like to get them so they are safe, functioning, and reliable vehicles. Mr. Casey asked how many front loaders they have. Mr. Bakker said that they have five at the moment but would end up cycling one out so they have one at each depot. Mr. Casey explained that for the DPW, you need to multiply everything by four because they have four depot stations and they need enough to function and utilize all of them.

Compact Excavator – Mr. Bakker said that the compact excavator will be utilized for the outlets of all of the drainage systems. One of the big problems is that the drainage systems get clogged and the DPW has had to rent equipment for certain areas because they can't get the large excavator in there. Mr. Bakker explained that there are many good uses for the mini excavator and especially improving the services to residents. Councilman Signorino asked how much it is to rent an excavator and where we rent

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it from. He said that there is a lot of time wasted going to get the rentals. Council President Dale said that there are cost savings when you have the proper equipment and you don't have to return again and use more man power.

Storage Containers – Mr. Bakker said that these can be used for storage to keep the equipment out of the weather. These can also be used as storage for our sanders because right now, our sanders are being stacked on a line of telephone poles. Township Administrator/Clerk Battaglia said that this was a request by the governing body last year because it was a safety concern. Mr. Bakker said that we can use these storage containers for many other purposes other than the sanders.

Highway Mower – Mr. Bakker said that DPW needs another tractor for brush cutting. Right now they have three and two of which are broken down. One tractor is at the dealer right now that is in need of substantial repairs. Councilman Hensley said that there was also the issue about the reach mower attachment arm that can be used to go past the guide rails. Mr. Steines said that three operating mowers is our goal and they currently have an operator for each one.

He said that they have not been able to cut the entire town at once so he would like to get three mowers and cut the whole town and then come back and address any additional areas. Councilman Signorino asked if we can fix the other mowers that are broken, get rid of them or salvage them. Mr. Steines said that the broken one we can get fixed and utilize it. Councilman Wagner asked what the cost is to get it repaired. Mr. Bakker said that it would be around \$5,000 or \$6,000 and it would last for 5 to 10 years so it would be worth getting repaired. Councilman Wagner asked about the staffing in the DPW and asked if having another mechanic would be helpful to get everything back in service. Council President Dale said that another mechanic was just hired and that makes two. Mr. Bakker said that we have a lot of equipment that we have to maintain in the garage from police vehicles, to fire trucks, to our fleet in DPW. All of those become priority number one. Mr. Bakker said that they are asking for one additional mechanic at the point to make it a comfortable staffing level.

Snow Blower – Mr. Bakker said that he is asking for an attachment for the trackless mowers. The snow blower attachment can be put on the new mower to do the sidewalks and around Town Hall. He said with the current equipment, we can't handle that load of work and it is normally contracted out. The equipment would then become all season equipment and it can be used for other buildings and properties. Mayor Bieri asked how much it costs to contract it out. Mr. Bakker said that the rate is normally hourly and he believes it is \$120 an hour or around \$1,000.

Roller – Mr. Bakker said that they need a roller in order to have one per district and they are down to three rollers currently. One of which is in need for repairs and they need another one to have four at every depot to repair potholes. Councilman Signorino asked the condition of the other rollers. Mr. Bakker said that they are in fair condition and get used all the time. Mayor Bieri asked if we have enough for four crews to be out at the same time doing potholes; if not, we will roll it to another depot. Council President Dale asked for Mr. Bakker to prioritize whether they would rather have the loader or the highway mower. Mr. Bakker said they need both but to make a priority they would rather have the highway mower.

West Milford First Aid Capital and Operating Budgets - Mr. Casey advised that the first aid squad has requested two capital items, repair of the ambulance chassis and new radios.

Ken Cuneo from West Milford First Aid addressed the council. Mr. Cuneo explained that rig number 48 is getting old. It is only a 2009 and has 110,000 miles on it already. They have put about 60,000 miles on a year and by the time it gets a new chaise on it, it will have 140,000 miles. The vehicle would be able to be re-chassed twice and the body is in good shape. He said that there will also be an upgrade on the electronics in the vehicle as well. Mr. Cuneo said that his estimate is about \$125,000 and this is the oldest of the four rigs. He said that as the rigs get older more is spent on repairs and last year there was \$39,000 spent on repair for all four.

Mr. Casey said that they have requested 40 radios and it will be a cost of \$10,000. He said that this is in the operating budget. Mr. Cuneo said that they currently have 12 radios and they want to be able to have all members have radios so they can correspond with each other and with headquarters when they get a call. He noted that the radios being looked at are smaller than the ones that the police have and they are simple and cheaper.

Mr. Casey asked if these radios are only for active members. Mr. Cuneo said yes. Mayor Bieri asked if every member would have a radio. Mr. Cuneo said that there are about 60 members and sometimes they go directly to the call. He explained that when members go on scene, it's easier to communicate similar to the fire department. Mayor Bieri said that you don't have 60 members going to one scene. Councilman Hensley said that this is something that should go on the wish list and they should use fundraising to purchase them. Councilwoman Erik said that this is a very big town and there are members in other towns

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and different areas. She noted that every other squad throughout the state has them as well as the fire department and said that it's about time that they get this done. Councilman Signorino said that if we fund this, everyone else is going to want new radios.

Upper Greenwood Lake Ambulance Capital and Operating Budgets - Mr. Casey said that the main item requested is the power loading stretchers.

Ted Hajek from the Upper Greenwood Lake Ambulance addressed the council. He said a few years ago they bought the power stretchers but they don't lift themselves and it has caused problems. He explained that if you go to a different rig, it's dangerous because people don't expect to have to lift it and it can harm everyone involved. Mr. Hajek said that they are asking for the attachment that takes the stretcher and puts them on the rig. Mr. Casey said that West Milford First Aid already has them so it would be providing the same equipment. Council President Dale asked if this was for two pieces. Mr. Hajek said yes. Councilwoman Erik said that when they get a new rig eventually, they will take this piece of equipment and put it in the new one so it only has to be bought once. Councilwoman Lichtenberg agreed and said that they should have the same as the other West Milford First Aid Squad for everyone's safety.

Mr. Casey said that the only thing different in the operating budget is the additional pagers. Mr. Hajek said that they are looking for 10 because they still have the old original pagers from years ago. Council President Dale asked if they are using the e-dispatch. Mr. Hajek explained that is actually 2 minutes or more behind from the actual pagers. He said depending on the phone carrier and service, it can be up to 7 minutes and it is not used as a primary source. Mayor Bieri asked for clarification for the difference between the pagers, e-dispatch, and the radios. Mr. Hajek clarified the differences.

Fire and OEM Capital Budgets - Mr. Casey addressed the council about the Fire Department. He explained that the capital side has a several items. The first is normal equipment replacements then issue of turnout gear, pumper trucks and air packs.

Pumper Truck - Mr. Steines said that he has asked for a replacement pumper for the Apshawa fire company. At this time, the engine is in service however \$23,000 was just spent on it to replace the transmission. He said that they truck is getting old.

Mr. Steines said that he has also asked for 150 sets of turnout gear. He said that they did apply for a grant and they were denied. He explained that there are a number of sets of turnout gear that have reached their life span and they need to start being replaced. Mr. Casey said that the budget every year has money in there for turnout gear of about \$20,000. Mr. Steines said that they are supposed to be doing inspections on turnout gear. If they do the inspections at this point, there are going to be a number of sets that are not compliant and it will leave ourselves wide open for problems. Mr. Steines suggested starting with interior fire fighters only and because their turnout gear is breaking down faster because of the heat. Mayor Bieri asked if we are replacing all of the sets. Mr. Steines said yes we need to replace all of them because they have reached their 15 year life span. Mr. Casey said that the question for the council is if they should be replacing all this year or do we replace them over three year span.

Mr. Steines said that if we fund half of the sets to have a commitment and keep that line item funded, then we can move forward with getting the rest. Mayor Bieri suggested that if we funded this now in the capital and have an allotment every year in the operating and rotate it, then there can be an amount replaced every year. Mr. Casey said it would be \$20,000 in operating. Council President Dale said that safety is number one and if we need to make the investment, we should plan so there can be funding in future years. Township Administrator/Clerk Battaglia suggested that if it was funded by the governing body and phased in over a couple of years, a lesser amount can be funded in the reserve then the reserve will build up. She said that it wouldn't have to be funded every year in the operating budget and the annual appropriations would be able to be cut down. Councilman Signorino asked what they need to have funded this year. Mr. Steines said that he can cut this down to 75 sets that can be split up between the 6 companies and it won't jeopardize safety. Township Administrator Battaglia said that we can expect to fund the other half next year. Mr. Steines said that if they give the new sets to the interior firefighters and can hand down their equipment down to the exterior guys if needed. Councilman Hensley said that turnout gear does not get cheaper and the same turnout gear could cost more next year.

Air Packs - Mr. Steines said that it would have costed \$1.9 million to replace 96 air packs so the number has been cut down to \$500,000. He said they did apply for a grant for \$500,000 and \$50,000 would need to be funded. Mr. Casey asked if this is the same issue as the life span of the existing equipment. Mr. Steines said yes, but it's like anything else the air pack may last longer than 15 years. He said that he wouldn't want to say to keep using it and have something happen.

Fire Truck - Mr. Casey addressed the council about the fire trucks that are being requested. Council President Dale asked how many of the pumpers they have between the companies. Mr. Steines said that

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there are six, one for each company. Council President Dale asked how important that piece of equipment is in firefighting. Mr. Steines explained that due to the size of the town and the needs of each fire company, the equipment is necessary. Mayor Bieri explained that all six fire companies act as one and cover the needs of the town. If there is an actual fire, the three closest fire companies get dispatched. She noted if there is a pumper needed the company that has the pumper will bring it so each company doesn't need a pumper. Councilwoman Erik explained that with this town, there is a problem getting water to where the fire is. She gave an example of a fire that needed 8 pumpers to get the water where it needed to go. Mr. Steines explained that in recent years we have cut back the amount of vehicles we have and every fire company used to have extras. He explained that this is one of the essential and priority pieces of equipment needed.

Mr. Steines said that Company #2, a 1992 fire truck engine blew a pump. He said it is going to cost \$40,000-\$50,000 to replace it. He doesn't see the need to spend that amount of money on a 1992. He said that if that amount of money is spent on a pump and something else breaks on it, then it will be a waste of money. Mr. Steines said that the reason he asked for 2 is because they fell behind on the delay of the rescue truck replacement for Macopin. Mr. Casey said that the reality is that to fund two fire trucks in one year is unreasonable. He asked Mr. Steines if he was able get one this year with the understanding that in year 2017 or 2018 he will get a second one, will that alleviate any concerns. Mr. Steines said yes. Council President Dale asked which of the fire trucks they are in most need of. Mr. Steines said that the one for Apschawa is the most important because they are a more active.

Fire Prevention – Michael Moscatello addressed the council about Fire Prevention. Mr. Moscatello said this year he asked to replace the inspector vehicle which is a 2007 crown victoria that was formerly a police vehicle. He said it has over 160,000 miles on it and it is constantly in for repairs. In addition, the paint is rusting away and the trunk is down to bare metal. Mr. Moscatello said that he is hoping to get that replaced with an explorer that has 4 wheel drive and asked for \$35,000 that would cover the vehicle, lettering, and radio. Councilman Signorino said that he would want to wait and see what happens with the police vehicles because they could have something for him to use. Mayor Bieri asked if the inspector goes out on fire calls. Mr. Moscatello said that he goes out on scheduled inspections. Mayor Bieri explained that since he doesn't actually go on fire calls, he doesn't need an emergency vehicle. She said he doesn't need to get there quickly with 4 wheel drive for an inspection. She recommends like Councilman Signorino said, to see if anything can be rotated from another department. Mr. Moscatello said he has no objection to that and we need something that it better than what we have currently. Council President Dale said that the plan is to have the police get the reliable 4 wheel drive cars, retire them with lower mileage, and then pass them on to other departments to use.

Emergency Management Boat - Mr. Steines addressed the council about the request for a boat. He said that emergency management had a boat that was used by emergency services like police, fire, and search and rescue. He said that the previous boat was totaled so they are looking for a replacement. The council asked what happened to the boat. Mr. Steines said that the cause of the sinking was from it going for repairs. After the repairs were done the plugs were never put back in and it sank. He said that it was on its way out anyway and it was used by multiple departments for years. Mayor Bieri said that if we got any insurance payment for the boat, where that money went. Mr. Steines said that it went back into general fund and the insurance payment was for \$4,800.

Mr. Steines said that they are looking to get a connector boat to replace the old one. He said it is a flat aluminum boat and can be used with a dive platform that flips out. In addition to using this boat on the lakes, it can be used in flooded areas to evacuate homes. Councilman Wagner asked what it has been used for previously in different departments. Mr. Steines said that it has been used for search and rescue, Wallisch Estates, and evacuations, recoveries and drownings. Councilman Signorino said that with all of the lakes we have, we should have a boat. Mr. Moscatello said that we have had a couple of incidents this past summer and we had to utilize civilian boats. He said that we also have the island homes that are only accessible by boat and if there is a medical emergency, we need a boat. He explained that with the lakes, this boat is made for low water and it won't get stuck in the growth. Councilman Signorino asked who would be operating the boat and if there was any additional training that would be needed. Mr. Steines said that we have the people already to operate the boats and you would need a boat license to drive it.

Community Services and Recreation Capital Budget – Mr. Casey addressed the council and provided a handout. He said that the first topic is open space and next is recreation. Mr. Casey noted that the first two items on the handout are matching grants for the park and one for the elevator. Last year, \$95,000 was taken out for matching the old grants. Township Administrator/Clerk Battaglia said that there was a resolution adopted by the governing body recently to fund the entire project for Nosenzo Pond. Mr. Casey said that this will be funded by the trust fund and it will be taking the entire 2016 availability of \$195,000. Ms. Battaglia said that amount is just for Nosenzo and not the elevator.

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Mr. Casey said that we are now just talking about the elevator match for the teen center. Tim Roetman from Community Services & Recreation said that they have received \$50,000 from Passaic County for the community development block grant. The original estimate came in at \$120,000 from Otis Elevator and he has put \$70,000 in as a request. Mr. Roetman met with an architect this week and thinks it can be completed for \$120,000 but is asking for an additional \$10,000 to make the total \$80,000. Councilman Signorino asked if that is just for the architectural costs. Mr. Roetman said that it is for the entire project. He explained it would be \$4,000-\$5,000 for architectural cost and the extra funds are for the construction phase which was recommended to build a new shaft onto the exterior of the building. Mr. Roetman said that the purpose of this project is to be ADA compliant and with more community groups using this building, it will be more accessible. The only way to get to the second floor currently is the stairs and they are difficult. Councilwoman Erik said that we use this for in house purposes but we also rent this out. Mr. Roetman stated that we have gotten more and more rentals year after year and many local sports teams have been using it. He said that we would not want to deny anyone access. Mayor Bieri said that it would be disappointing if we lost the grant money as well. Councilman Signorino said that this was started years ago and he would certainly like to see this completed. Mr. Roetman said that the rental doesn't generate a lot of revenue and we generally charge a park permit fee of \$50 for use. It's about \$2,000 a year and it will probably go up a little bit this year. Councilman Signorino said that the fees are mostly to cover our costs and not to make money on it. He also noted that people may shy away because of the limited access and it defeats the purpose that we are trying to accomplish.

Mr. Roetman said that in the future, he would like to build in more programming for children and adults with special needs. He said that the building would be a prime location. Mayor Bieri said she thinks it's great that we are utilizing it. Councilman Signorino suggested putting an advertisement in the paper to tell people we have this place and to inform the general public. Mr. Roetman said that we do send out a press release every month to update the hours to the AIM paper, Messenger and WM77channel. Township Administrator/Clerk Battaglia said that Mr. Roetman has plans to start marketing this year through social media and that will reach a broader audience.

Farrell Field – Mr. Roetman said that in 2014, the township was awarded a \$54,000 dollars a grant to renovate Farrell field. The purpose was to regrade and relevel soccer field #2 because the fields were built on a former landfill. Every couple of years it needs to be stripped, regraded and then reseeded to maintain a level playing surface and safe conditions. The last time this was done was in 2007 and it is a significant cost. Mr. Roetman said that the engineer assessment has come in at \$144,000. There is \$54,000 in the grant and there is about \$8,000 in old ordinances. They are asking for \$82,000 to match the request. Mr. Roetman said that the only way to get this cost down is to do more of the project in house as opposed to getting a contractor. To get a contractor to do this it will be about \$144,000 and if it is done in house it will be about \$90,000. He stated that the issue with doing this in house is time and manpower; we would need to talk to Ed Steines about the DPW operations. Township Administrator/Clerk Battaglia asked if the governing body couldn't fund this, what can be accomplished with the grant money. Mr. Roetman said if there was a commitment from DPW, we could probably try and get some renovation work done.

Mayor Bieri suggested asking the county if they would be willing to roll the grant for another year and have all 4 fields repaired at once. She said that this is the only place where the township has a field complex consisting of 4 fields. Mayor Bieri said that we will take the \$50,000 from last year, take another \$50,000 from this year, add our funds to it, and take from next year's open space money. Mr. Roetman said that he is glad that it was mentioned and he thinks it's a better way to do it and it will bring down the overall total costs. Township Administrator/Clerk Battaglia said that with a large scale project like this, we would get a life of about 10 years and that would be great. If this is done piece by piece, there will be the same problem every year. Mr. Casey said that because it's on a landfill, no matter what you are going to have to come back in a number of years as it settles. Township Administrator/Clerk Battaglia said that in the past, the governing body has appropriated annual funding. If this project was done in its entirety and there was a reserve set up, there will be funding to maintain it. Mayor Bieri said that this would be her recommendation and have Nosenzo for this year and make Farrell field next year's project. Mr. Roetman said that he would be happy to go that route. Councilman Hensley said that it would give our DPW an opportunity to plan out how we can do it in house as well. Township Administrator/Clerk Battaglia said that if we are doing all of the fields, it should be contracted out because they specialize in this type of work. Mayor Bieri agreed and said that it will be much more efficient if we contract it out.

Dump Truck – Mr. Roetman said that they are looking to replace a dump truck. It's a 1995 and it's been off the road for over a year. He said that the fuel lines are rotted out and the mechanic advised that it's going to cost too much money to replace. The parks department has been using this truck for many years to dump soil and clay on the fields. Right now they are operating with three trucks and there are four guys and it is slowing down the productivity. Mr. Roetman said that the second thing beneficial with this truck is that it was also used as a sander for the roads in the winter. Mayor Bieri said that the DPW has asked for large dump trucks and asked if there is anything in DPW that can be transferred to recreation if we are

