

PRINCETON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
January 8, 2007

A special meeting of Township Committee was held on this date at 12:00 p.m. in Meeting Room A of the Princeton Township Municipal Complex, 400 Witherspoon Street to discuss proposed New Jersey State property tax reform legislation.

NOTICE OF MEETING

The Clerk read the following statement.

The following is an accurate statement concerning the providing of notice of this meeting and said statement shall be entered in the minutes of this meeting.

Notice of this meeting as required by Sections 4a, 3d, 13 and 14 of the Open Public Meetings Act has been provided to the public in the form of a written notice. On January 5, 2007 at 12:50 p.m., said schedule was posted on the official bulletin board in the Municipal Building, transmitted to the Princeton Packet, the Trenton Times, and the Town Topics, filed with the Township Clerk and mailed to those persons who as of that time had requested and paid for same.

ROLL CALL

The Township Clerk then called the roll.

Present: Mayor Marchand and Mrs. Bergman and Messrs. Goerner, Liverman and Miller.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Mrs. Monzo, and Mr. Pascale.

Proposed New Jersey State Property Tax Reform

Mayor Marchand opened the meeting by saying that Mr. Pascale, the Township Administrator has been working diligently on a resolution to send to our state representatives outlining the Township Committee's views on the proposed New Jersey State property tax reform legislation.

Mrs. Bergman asked if this is what we really wanted to do, as she was not sure of the impact, and that there were no suggestions of what should be done in the resolution. She said that she would like to see more focus put on the distribution of taxes.

Mr. Pascale said that he agreed, noting that time was of the essence and that the focus should be on expenditures and the balancing of three main types of taxes.

Mayor Marchand said that residents regardless of what they earn should be eligible for a rebate.

Mr. Goerner and Mr. Miller both felt that it was important that Township Committee responds and goes on record.

Mr. Goerner also said that he had heard that the legislation regarding the comptroller was coming up at today's session. Mayor Marchand said that she did not have enough information about that legislation.

Mr. Pascale said that New Jersey has the strictest financial controls and that the proposed legislation is over reaching and overbearing.

Mrs. Bergman said that the Office of the Comptroller sounds redundant because controls are already in place.

Township Committee said that they supported real, sustainable property tax reform and said that the proposed State legislation fails to do this. They said that sustainable property tax reform can only be met by balancing the three main types of State taxes – income, sales and property and by sacrifices shared among State, County, school and municipal agencies.

The governing body then went through the proposed resolution point by point to articulate their positions.

Mr. Goerner offered a motion to support the proposed resolution as amended. Mr. Miller seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

(Resolution appended to this set of minutes)

Mr. Liverman then offered a motion to enter into closed session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Bergman and carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION
(Open Public Meetings Act Sec.3)

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Princeton:

1. This body will now convene into a closed session that will be limited only to consideration of an item or items with respect to which the public may be excluded pursuant to section 7B of the Open Public Meetings Act.
2. The general nature of the subject or subjects to be discussed in said session is as follows:

Negotiations/Litigation

3. Stated as precisely as presently possible, the following are the time when and the circumstances under which the discussion conducted at said session can be disclosed to the public:

Within 90 days or upon settlement of litigation, if applicable

Toto Litigation

Mr. Pascale gave Township Committee a status report on the Toto litigation.

Library Parking

The governing body discussed the issue of the Library and the parking garage.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Linda S. McDermott
Township Clerk