

PRINCETON TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
March 13, 2006
Town Meeting

A meeting of Township Committee was held on this date at 6:30 p.m. in the community room of the Princeton Township Municipal Complex, 400 Witherspoon Street.

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 March 1, 2006 at 10:00 a.m., said schedule was posted on the official bulletin board in the Municipal Building, transmitted to the Princeton Packet, the Trenton Times, the Trentonian, the Town Topics, and WHWH, 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 Ms. Bergman and Messrs. Hearon, Liverman and Miller.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Ms. Shaddow, Pascale, and Konin.

Town Meeting

Mayor Marchand opened the meeting by noting that purpose of the meeting was to find out what was on the minds of Township residents.

Rod Montgomery, 95 William Patterson Court, asked what was to happen with Route 206 now, as money has been spent for a study.

Mr. Hearon said that many meetings have been held and that a final report is due in two weeks. Mr. Hearon said that people in the Department of Transportation are talking to each other and that he felt that the study was already paying for itself.

Mr. Montgomery said that he was happy to see that Township Committee provided a forum for people to get information.

Chad Goemer, 196 Bayard Lane, said that he supported this effort by Township Committee and that it was a symbol of open government.

Harold Lowe, 16 Overbrook Drive, said that he was impressed with the concept of the town meeting and was embarrassed that more residents were not present.

Mr. Lowe asked if there would be cuts to the municipal budget either alone or with the Borough of Princeton and will the Township encourage the Princeton Regional Schools to do the same?

Mr. Pascale said that this governing body had no control over the school budget. As far as the municipal budget, 2005 saw the first municipal layoffs of staff. He said that we are not the state of New Jersey and not in the same financial situation.

Mr. Pascale said that in working with Princeton Borough on joint accounts, many of the appropriations would be at the same level as 2005 and some below. He noted that the Library and the Board of Health are big issues.

Ms. Shaddow said that budget discussions are year round.

Mayor Marchand said that the Township Administration asks departments to cut their budgets by a certain percentage each year. Mr. Pascale said that the Township tries to eliminate being arbitrary. He said that Township Committee is accountable and that it would be irresponsible to cut the tax rate and use surplus.

Mr. Liverman offered kudos to the departments for their budget management.

Mr. Liverman said that before the budget gets to the Township Committee, the Finance Committee reviews it line by line.

Mayor Marchand cautioned that the Township needs to have a surplus for emergencies that cannot be predicted.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Linda S. McDermott

Township Clerk

March 13, 2006

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