

**MINUTES
BUDGET MEETING
BOROUGH OF SEA BRIGHT**

March 7, 2023 (Tuesday)

SEA BRIGHT, NEW JERSEY

TO ATTEND THIS MEETING REMOTELY PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING:

<https://meet.goto.com/321899829>

OR DIAL: [+1 \(646\) 749-3122](tel:+16467493122)

Access Code: 321-899-829

Mayor Kelly called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and requested those present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

48 Hour Notice Requirement:

Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen, this meeting is now called to order. In line with the Borough of Sea Bright's longstanding policy of open government, and in compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act", I wish to advise you that the 48-hour notice requirement for this meeting has been met. A copy of the agenda was sent to the Asbury Park Press and other local newspapers on February 17, 2023 and posted on the bulletin board in the Borough office. This meeting is open to the public.

PRESENT: Mayor Brian P. Kelly
Councilmember's Erwin Bieber, Jefferey M. Booker, Sr.,
Heather Gorman, William J. Keeler

ABSENT: Councilmember's Samuel A. Catalano, John M. Lamia, Jr.

OTHERS: CFO Michael J. Bascom, Administrator Joseph L. Verruni,
Attorney Richard Shaklee, Clerk Christine Pfeiffer

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE (limited to 3 minutes)

The Public Comment portion of this meeting allows members of the audience to bring their concerns or comments to the Mayor and Council's attention. Pursuant to Borough Ordinance 3-2011, a member of the public who wishes to speak shall give his/her name and address for the record and may have up to three minutes to state his/her comments to the Mayor and Council as a Body. If additional time or information is requested, an appointment can be made with the Administrator's office during regular business hours.

No one wished to be heard.

BUDGET PRESENTATION:

Chief Financial Officer, Michael Bascom provided an in-depth look and discussion of the Borough's Annual Financial Statement, Annual Debt Statement and proposed 2023 budget in the amount of \$7,455,467 which is about a 6% increase from last year.

Mr. Bascom reported there are some factors that are driving the budget operating costs up – the LEAP grant, along with increases from the JIF, health benefits, parking costs, pensions, capital improvement fund, and overall changes in the economy. Mr. Bascom anticipates some additional revenue to drive down a tax rate increase and does not propose any changes to appropriations at this point.

Mr. Bascom asked Council to send him any questions or concerns as soon as possible as he is planning on having the budget introduced at the March 21st Council meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Councilmember Keeler offered the following resolution and moved its adoption; seconded by Councilmember Booker:

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended by the Borough Attorney and Administrator that the Borough Council go into executive session to discuss matters set forth hereinafter which are permissible for discussion in executive session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Sea Bright, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, that they meet in closed session to discuss the issues as herein set forth:

1. The general nature of the subject matters to be discussed are as follows:
 - A. Contracts

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, minutes will be kept and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then the minutes can be made public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council may come back into Regular Session to conduct additional business.

Roll Call: Bieber, Booker, Catalano, Gorman, Keeler, Lamia
 Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Absent

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Keeler offered a motion to adjourn the budget workshop meeting; second by Councilmember Booker:

Roll Call: Bieber, Booker, Catalano, Gorman, Keeler, Lamia
 Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Absent

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Pfeiffer
Borough Clerk