

March 18, 2008

A Special Meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Bloomingdale was held on the above date in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Steenstra at 7:02 p.m.

SALUTE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

The Salute to the American Flag was held followed by the Borough prayer with a moment of silence for Robin Crum, brother of Mark Crum and prayer for return of health of Mayor Steenstra's mother.

ROLL CALL

<i>In Attendance:</i>	Mayor:	William Steenstra
	Council President:	Jennifer Altfield
	Council Pres. ProTem:	Bernard H. Vroom
	Council Members:	Linda Huntley Henry D. Sloomaker Dean Specchio
	Absent:	Thomas Marinaro (Excused)
<i>Professionals Present:</i>	Municipal Clerk:	Jane McCarthy, RMC
	Borough Attorney:	Joseph V. "Joe" MacMahon, Esq.
	Chief Financial Officer:	Donna Mollineaux
	Borough Auditor:	Andrew Pascale

PUBLIC NOTICE STATEMENT

Mayor Steenstra stated that adequate notice of this meeting was posted in the Bloomingdale Municipal Building and provided to The Suburban Trends; The North Jersey Herald & News; and all other local news media on March 3, 2008.

EARLY PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilman Vroom moved that the meeting be opened to Early Public Comment; seconded by Councilman Sloomaker with all Council Members present voting YES. ABSENT: Councilman Marinaro (Excused)

Since there was no one who wished to speak under Public comment, Councilwoman Huntley moved that it be closed; seconded by Councilman Sloomaker and carried on voice vote with all Council Members present voting YES. ABSENT: Councilman Marinaro (Excused)

SPECIAL BUSINESS:

Introduction of Ordinance #6-2008: Authorizing Borough to Exceed Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a CAP Bank.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BLOOMINGDALE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14) was introduced by title by Councilwoman Altfield who moved that second and final reading and public hearing be held on April 22, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.

Councilwoman Huntley seconded the motion, and it carried as per the following roll call:
council Members: Altfield; Vroom; Huntley; Sloodmaker and Specchio all YES. ABSENT:
Councilman Marinaro (Excused)

Adoption of Resolution #2008-3.2: Authorizing Extraordinary Aid Application

Councilman Specchio offered the following Resolution and moved for its adoption:

WHEREAS, the Governing Body further finds and declares that said Budget provides for a 9 cents increase in the municipal tax rate, which has resulted from the fact that insufficient revenues have been generated by the Borough from its existing ratable base to offset municipal appropriations required by state mandates, contractual obligations and public safety demands; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body further finds and declares that it is in the best interests of the fiscal health and welfare of the taxpayers of the Borough to authorize the submission to the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, of an application for Extraordinary Aid in the amount of \$350,000, which amount represents an approximate 8 cents in the municipal tax rate so as to achieve a more affordable FY2008 municipal tax rate for Borough taxpayers;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any and all appropriate municipal officials be and are hereby authorize to submit to the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, an application for Extraordinary Aid in the amount of \$350,000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that final adoption of the FY2008 Municipal Budget shall abide by a determination by the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, upon the Borough's application for Extraordinary Aid in the amount of \$350,000.

Councilman Vroom seconded the motion, and it carried as per the following roll call: Council Members: Vroom; Huntley; Sloodmaker; Specchio and Altfield all YES. ABSENT: Councilman Marinaro (Excused)

Adoption of Resolution #2008.-3.3 Introduction of FY2008 Municipal Budget

Councilman Specchio offered the following Resolution and moved for its adoption; seconded by Councilman Sloodmaker.

Borough Attorney noted that this Resolution incorporates both the Authorization to submit an extraordinary aid application and the introduction of the FY2008 Municipal Budget.

Councilman Specchio moved to rescind this motion; seconded by councilman Vroom and carried on voice vote with all Council Members present voting YES. ABSENT: Councilman Marinaro (Excused)

Discussion followed as to Resolution #2008 3.2 which will be reintroduced and will incorporate the authorization of an Extraordinary Aid Application and the Introduction of the FY2008 Municipal Budget

Adoption of Reintroduced Resolution #2008-3.2: Authorizing Extraordinary Aid Application and Introduction of FY2008 Municipal Budget

Councilman Specchio offered the following Resolution and moved for its adoption:

**RESOLUTION #2008-3.2
OF THE GOVERNING BODY
OF THE BOROUGH OF BLOOMINGDALE**

Authorizing Extraordinary Aid Application and

Introduction of FY2008 Municipal Budget

WHEREAS, the Governing Body (“Governing Body”) of the Borough of Bloomingdale (“Borough”) finds and declares that the statements of revenues and appropriations annexed hereto and incorporated herein by reference shall constitute the Municipal Budget (“Budget”) for the year 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body further finds and declares that said Budget will be published in the Herald & News in the issue of March 23, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body further finds and declares that the Public Hearing on this Budget and Tax Resolution shall be held at the Bloomingdale Municipal Building on June 24, 2008 at 7:30 p.m., at which time and place discussions to said Budget and Tax Resolution for the year 2008 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body further finds and declares that said Budget provides for a 9 cents increase in the municipal tax rate, which has resulted from the fact that insufficient revenues have been generated by the Borough from its existing ratable base to offset municipal appropriations required by state mandates, contractual obligations and public safety demands; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body further finds and declares that it is in the best interests of the fiscal health and welfare of the taxpayers of the Borough to authorize the submission to the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, of an application for Extraordinary Aid in the amount of \$350,000, which amount represents an approximate 8 cents in the municipal tax rate so as to achieve a more affordable FY2008 municipal tax rate for Borough taxpayers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Bloomingdale that the statements of revenues and appropriations annexed hereto and incorporated herein by reference shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the year 2008; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Budget be published in the Herald & News in the issue of March 23, 2008; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Hearing on this Budget and Tax Resolution shall be held at the Bloomingdale Municipal Building on June 24, 2008, at 7:30 p.m., at which time and place discussions to said Budget and Tax Resolution for the year 2008 may be presented by taxpayers or other interested persons; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any and all appropriate municipal officials be and are hereby authorize to submit to the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, an application for Extraordinary Aid in the amount of \$350,000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that final adoption of the FY2008 Municipal Budget shall abide by a determination by the State of New Jersey, Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, upon the Borough’s application for Extraordinary Aid in the amount of \$350,000.

Councilman Sloodmaker seconded the motion, and it carried as per the following roll call:
Council Members: Huntley, PRESENT; Sloodmaker, YES; Specchio, YES; Altfield, YES and Vroom, YES. ABSENT: Councilman Marinaro (Excused)

At this time, Mayor Steenstra, Council Members: Sloodmaker, Specchio and Altfield thanked the Professionals, Departments and Finance Office for their work on presenting a thorough and fair budget.

LATE PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilman Specchio moved that the meeting be opened to Late Public Comment; seconded by Councilman Sloodmaker and carried on voice vote with all Council Members present voting YES. ABSENT: Councilman Marinaro (Excused)

Susan Smith, 110 Van Dam Avenue, spoke in regard to fact that had it not been for the state aid of \$261,000 being taken away, the budget would have been flat this year and no increase on the municipal level.

Michael Mascitello, 43 Bailey Avenue, spoke in regard to the Avalon Bay zoning ordinance and asked if a condition could be put in the ordinance that it not be sold if the developer changes.

Borough Attorney stated that the answer is NO; we would not be able to impose a restriction of that sort.

Since there was no one else who wished to speak under public comment, Councilman Specchio moved that it be closed; seconded by Councilman Sloodmaker and carried on voice vote with all Council Members present voting YES. ABSENT: Councilman Marinaro (Excused)

Adoption of Resolution #2008-3.3: Authorization for Executive Session

Councilman Specchio offered the following Resolution and moved for its adoption:

**RESOLUTION #2008-3.3
OF THE GOVERNING BODY
OF THE BOROUGH OF BLOOMINGDALE**

Authorizing the Convening of an Executive Session

WHEREAS, the Governing Body (“Governing Body”) of the Borough of Bloomingdale (“Borough”) finds and declares that Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Borough of Bloomingdale, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of, and action upon, the hereinafter specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
3. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:
 - A. Attorney/Client Communications – two matters
4. Minutes will be taken.
5. It is anticipated at this time that minutes of the above-referenced subject matter will be made public when it is in order to do so.
6. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Councilman Sloodmaker seconded the motion and it carried on voice vote with all Council Members present voting YES. ABSENT: Councilman Marinaro (Excused)

(At this time, the Mayor and Council went into Late Executive Session)

RECONVENED:

Mayor Steenstra Reconvened the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Because there was no further public business to be conducted, Councilwoman Alfield moved to ADJOURN the meeting; seconded by Councilman Specchio and carried on voice vote with all Council Members present voting YES. ABSENT: Councilman Marinaro (Excused)

Jane McCarthy, RMC
Municipal Clerk