

KINGWOOD TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

May 4, 2011

Special Meeting Agenda 5:00 PM

Call to Order

Roll Call

Pledge of Allegiance

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act by publication of the notice in the Hunterdon Democrat and Courier News on April 28, 2011 and by telefaxing copies of the notice to the Express Times on April 25, 2011. Copies of the notice were also posted in the Kingwood Township Municipal Building and Baptistown Post Office on April 25, 2011.

In order to ensure full public participation in this meeting, all members of this Committee or Board, and also members of the public are requested to speak only when recognized by the Chair so that there is no simultaneous discussion or over-talk, and further, all persons are requested to utilize the microphones which are provided for your use by the Township. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Kingwood Township School Budget – Resolution No. 2011 - 64

Public Comment – Privilege of the Floor

Adjournment

2011 – 162

May 4, 2011
Township Committee
Special Meeting Minutes

A Special Meeting of the Kingwood Township Committee was called to order at 5:00 P.M. with Mayor Lubitz.

Also present at the meeting were Committeewoman Niemann, Clerk MacConnell, Committeeman James Burke was absent. Following the salute to the Flag, Mayor Lubitz read aloud the following:

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Kingwood Township School Budget – Resolution No. 2011 – 64

Present from the Kingwood Township School was the Chief School Administrator, Rick Falkenstein, and Business Administrator/Secretary Bobbie Beriont.

Mayor Lubitz noted that this is a very difficult decision to make, and to have to balance the needs of the children vs. the senior citizens of the Township. He noted that taking money from either is not very pleasant to do, especially since the school has worked very hard. Mayor Lubitz asked Bobbie Beriont what the figure would be to cut from the school budget to make no increase to the taxpayers. Bobbie Beriont responded by stating that the amount to be cut to make no increase is \$30,655.00. Mayor Lubitz pointed out that the seniors have had no increase in two years. He feels confident the school can handle this reduction, and stated that they've done such a good job with the budget. Deputy Mayor Niemann agreed with cutting the amount of \$30,655.00 for no tax increase. Bobbie Beriont commented that the average tax increase has been well below a cap before there was a cap. She feels that they will be able to manage with the \$30,655, but thinks it will catch up with them later. They feel that they are putting out a really good education for the students. Rick Falkenstein feels that they have all worked together closely.

He stated that he feels that they are still able to manage with the \$33,655.00 being cut, but also hopes that when times get tough in the future that they will still be able to work together. He noted that only 15.62% of the voters turned out to vote. Deputy Mayor Niemann commented on the great job they did on their budget, and appreciates their honesty. Mayor Lubitz commented that the Township is in a similar position, with the 2% budget cap. He noted that hopefully tomorrow night they will adopt a budget with no increases to the taxpayers. He also wanted to commend the school for making due with less than other districts.

RESOLUTION

The following Resolution was introduced:

RESOLUTION NO. 2011 – 64

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF
THE TOWNSHIP OF KINGWOOD, IN THE COUNTY OF
HUNTERDON AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN REGARD
TO CERTIFICATION OF THE LOCAL TAX LEVY FOR THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE KINGWOOD TOWNSHIP
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Kingwood Township School District presented to voters at the annual school election held on Wednesday, April 27, 2011 a question concerning the tax levy requirements for the said Board of Education for the General Fund for the ensuing school year (2011/2012) in the amount of \$5,204,122 ; and

WHEREAS, the voters of the Township of Kingwood defeated the General Fund question by the following votes:

Ayes - 155 Noes - 259

WHEREAS, the said Board of Education transmitted the Budget for the 2011/2012 school year to the Township Committee of the Township of Kingwood on April 28, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Kingwood thoroughly reviewed the Budget and related information as presented by the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, a joint meeting of the representatives of the Kingwood Township Committee and said Board of Education was held on May 4, 2011 to discuss the Budget as submitted by the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, careful consideration has been given by the Township to the information received from said Board of Education and the discussion which ensued, with a view toward providing a thorough and efficient system of education in the school system of said Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Kingwood, in the County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey and Board of Education have agreed to the following reductions in the tax levy totaling \$30,655 ; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Clerk is directed to certify by May 19, 2011 to the Hunterdon County Board of Taxation, the Hunterdon County Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Kingwood Township School District, the Kingwood Township Tax Assessor and to any other parties required by law to receive such certification, that the amount of \$5,173,467 is necessary to be raised by taxation for the General Fund, for the ensuing school year 2011/2012:

11-000-291-270	\$30,655	Health Benefits
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded by the Township Clerk to the persons and/or departments herein named, for certification purposes.

It was moved by Mrs. Niemann, Mayor Lubitz stepped down from the Chair, seconded the motion and carried to adopt the foregoing Resolution.

Roll Call Vote:	Aye	-	Niemann, Lubitz
	Nay	-	None
	Abstain	-	None
	Absent	-	Burke

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Niemann, Mayor Lubitz stepped down from the Chair, seconded the motion and carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:14P.M. **All voted Aye on Roll Call Vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

**Cynthia L. Keller, RMC
Deputy Clerk**