



**City of Lambertville**  
**Special Session**  
**Tuesday, February 10, 2015, 7 p.m.**  
**Phillip L. Pittore Justice Center**  
**25 South Union Street, Lambertville**  
**Minutes**

**STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE.**

Mayor DelVecchio called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and read a statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. The Clerk provided the required notice on Friday, February 6, 2015 to the Beacon, the Democrat, the Times, posted the agenda to the bulletin board at city hall, the website at [www.lambertvillenj.org](http://www.lambertvillenj.org), and noticed various people on the list serve, inclusive of department heads, city attorney and city engineer.

**ROLL CALL.**

Mrs. Ege called the roll as follows:

*Present:* Councilwoman Asaro, Councilman Sanders, Council President Stegman, Mayor DelVecchio.

*Absent:* Councilwoman Warner.

**RESOLUTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS  
CONTRACTS, PERSONNEL, ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY, AND  
POTENTIAL LAW SUITS.**

Mayor and Council members did not go into closed session.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

Alexander DelVecchio led the public in the pledge of allegiance.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE.**

Mrs. Ege led the public in a moment of silence in honor of those serving in the United States Armed Forces.

**ORDINANCES – INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING.**

Ordinance Number 02-2015: A CAP Bank Ordinance.

Mayor DelVecchio read the ordinance into the record by title. He informed the members of the public present that a CAP Bank Ordinance allows you to bank the funds under the 3.5% CAP that were not used in the 2015 budget year for future use.

**City of Lambertville**  
**ORDINANCE NUMBER 02-2015**

*An Ordinance to Establish A CAP Bank, NJSA 40A:4-45.14*

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, NJSA 40A:4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said final budget appropriation to 1.50% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 2.5% over the previous year's final appropriations; and

WHEREAS, a municipality may, by ordinance, bank the difference between its final budget appropriations and the 3.5% increase authorized by this ordinance when said difference is not appropriated as part of the final budget; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Lambertville, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey hereby determines that this difference in the amount of \$68,249.36 that is not appropriated as part of the

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final budget shall be retained as an exception to the final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, that any amount authorized herein above that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that a certified of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

INTRODUCED: February 10, 2015

Mayor DelVecchio asked if there were any questions from the public. He asked the City Clerk to obtain the total amount in the CAP Bank for the public hearing on the budget. There being no questions, he asked for a motion to introduce Ordinance Number 02-2015. Council President Stegman made a motion to introduce Ordinance Number 02-2015, establishing a CAP Bank. Councilman Sanders seconded the motion. An affirmative roll call vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor DelVecchio informed the members of the public present that the public hearing will be held on March 16, 2015.

## **RESOLUTIONS.**

Resolution Number 45-2015: A Resolution to Introduce the 2015 Budget.

Mayor DelVecchio went through the 2015 budget with the members of the public. He noted the following:

**MUNICIPAL TAXES:** In 2015 total municipal taxes for the average property valued at \$353,768 will be \$1,117.91. In 2014 total municipal taxes for the average property was \$1,119.29. The tax rate in 2015 will be .319 and in 2014 was .316.

**SPENDING:** In 2015, the total budget is \$4,946,967, \$333,997 more than in 2014. Benefits and debt increased 1.776 million dollars due to health benefits, pensions (PERS & PFRS), and SSI contributions. This is 36% of the budget. There is a one-time payment from reserve for sick pay in the amount of \$64,598 for the police officers that retired. We also had an overage in the 2014 budget which needs to be paid for in the 2015 budget in the amount of \$36,907.

Health benefits are up \$55,000. Reserve for sick pay is up \$46,000 but is a one-time increase due to the retirement of those who were under the old contract. Pensions increased. PERS is up \$11,000 and PFRS is up \$8,900. Debt payment is \$285,000. This represents a total increase of \$408,061.

**SAVINGS:** Solid waste and recycling is down \$15,000. This is due to the increase in recycling. In 2014, the City went over the 1,000 ton mark in recycling. Health benefits waivers are down from \$24,000 to \$15,000. Salary & Wage is down \$20,840 due to the retirement of police officers.

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REVENUES: In 2014, the city used \$210,000 in surplus. This year the city will use \$340,295 of surplus. At the end of 2014, the city had \$1,040,000 (estimate) in surplus. We will start 2015 with \$700,000 in surplus. We anticipate an increase in: licenses from \$17,000 to \$25,000; fees and permits from \$77,500 to \$110,000; Court fees from \$165,000 to \$180,000; meter fees \$310,000 which is \$52,704 less than realized in 2014; construction to increase from \$137,500 to \$170,000 (\$32,500 less than realized in 2014); hotel taxes from \$90,500 to \$104,946 (\$14,446 less than realized in 2014).

NEW CATEGORY: We have a new category for 2015 and that is for payment of debt service. The balance due is \$800,000 and we will be paying \$150,000, leaving a balance of \$650,000.

GENERAL FUND BALANCE: Mayor DelVecchio informed the members of the public present that he is weaning the city off the general fund balance because eventually this will go away. In 2014, the city budgeted \$87,300. In 2015 the budget figure is \$37,500.

Taxes for 2015 are at \$2,261,758 which is a \$40 increase over 2014 (\$2,261,718). The tax bill will go down by \$1.38 while the tax increases by \$40. This assumes the state aid number will remain the same as in 2014. The payment for debt service is a big number. The levy for all of Lambertville's residents is \$40 more in 2015. Our surplus balance at the beginning of 2015 is \$700,000.

Mayor DelVecchio asked for questions.

Councilwoman Asaro asked if this budget included the expansion of the food waste recycling program. Mayor DelVecchio said it assume the program would remain the same because for planning purposes, we need a full year of data to determine the success of the program. Discussion ensued. It was discussed that it would be best to grow the program to 150 participants and maybe add a restaurant.

Councilwoman Asaro also asked about the inclusion of the "Welcome to Lambertville" signs as you enter Lambertville from the north and south on Route 29. Mayor DelVecchio instructed Councilwoman Asaro to explore the cost and work on the draft of the sign. He instructed the City Clerk to look into ways to fund it.

Councilman Sanders asked about the pilot programs and if they expire. Mayor DelVecchio said they were the senior housing programs and included Hibernia Apartments (Econotech), South Hunterdon Apartments and Heritage Village. Mayor DelVecchio commented that he didn't believe they expired but it would be a good opportunity to take a look at the agreements to determine if they need to be amended.

Mayor DelVecchio asked for a motion to adopt Resolution Number 45-2015, introducing the 2015 budget for the City of Lambertville.

**City of Lambertville**  
**Resolution Number 45-2015**  
*A Resolution to Introduce the 2015 Calendar Year Budget*

WHEREAS, the City of Lambertville held a special session on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 for the purpose of introducing the 2015 CAP Bank Ordinance and the 2015 Calendar Year Budget, and

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WHEREAS, the City Clerk noticed the papers of the special session on Friday, February 6, 2015 and

WHEREAS, the following is a list of Mayor and Council Members with their respective term expiration dates: David M. DelVecchio – Mayor, Term Ends 12-31-2015, Beth Asaro – Councilwoman, Term Ends 12-31-2017, Wardell Sanders – Councilman, Term Ends 12-31-2016, Steven M. Stegman – Council President, Term Ends 12-31-2016, Elaine Warner – Councilwoman, Term Ends 12-31-2017, and

WHEREAS, Cynthia L. Ege, Certificate Number C-1629 is the Registered Municipal Clerk, Christie Ehret, Certificate Number N-0738 is the Chief Financial Officer of the City of Lambertville, Cynthia McBride is the Certified Tax Collector, Certificate Number T1142, and Robert B. Cagnassola is the Registered Municipal Accountant, Certificate Number 50 and Phillip J. Faherty, III is the Municipal Attorney, and

WHEREAS, the publication of the summary of the 2015 Budget will be placed in the legal section of the February 19, 2015 edition of the Beacon, and

WHEREAS, the public hearing on the final adoption of the budget will be held on Monday, March 16, 2015, and

WHEREAS, copies of this resolution along with three certified copies of the 2015 budget and the required attachments will be forwarded to the Director, Division of Local Government Services on Wednesday, February 11, 2015, and

WHEREAS, a full copy of the introduced budget will be posted to the City's website at [www.lambertvillenj.org](http://www.lambertvillenj.org), a copy will be sent to the Free and Public Library, and a copy will be made available for public inspection at City Hall during the hours from 9 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by Mayor and Council of the City of Lambertville, in the County of Hunterdon, in the State of New Jersey, that the 2015 Calendar Year is hereby introduced with a motion made by Councilman Sanders and seconded by Councilwoman Asaro.

Adopted: February 10, 2015

Councilman Sanders made a motion to adopt resolution number 45-2015, introducing the 2015 budget. Councilwoman Asaro seconded the motion. An affirmative roll call vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor DelVecchio informed the members of the public present that the public hearing is scheduled for March 16, 2015.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

HOLIDAYS: All City Offices will be closed on the following dates:

February 12, 2015 for Abraham Lincoln's Birthday. Garbage and Recycling scheduled for Thursday, February 12 will be picked up on Friday, February 13, 2015.

February 16, 2015 for Presidents' Day/George Washington's Birthday.

DOG AND CAT LICENSES are available for purchase starting Friday, January 2, 2015 at City Hall, 18 York Street. The fee for a spayed dog or cat is \$15. Licensing of dogs a requirement of the NJSA 4. A \$25 late fee imposed beginning March 1, 2015.

PARKING PERMITS for those residing on metered streets will be available for purchase starting the week of December 23rd at City Hall. The annual fee is \$45 for a Permanent

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Residential Parking Permit, \$60 for a Transferrable Permit, and \$25 for a Temporary Parking Permit.

LANDLORD REGISTRATION is due by April 1, 2015. All rental units must be registered with the City of Lambertville (Ordinance 2010-23). All rental properties with two (2) or more rental units must also register with the State of New Jersey.

THE LAMBERTVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY will be closed for approximately two weeks for a facelift. Please visit the Library's website at [www.lambertvillelibrary.org](http://www.lambertvillelibrary.org) for an update on the renovations schedule.

**PUBLIC COMMENT.**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m. with a motion made by Council President Stegman and seconded by Councilman Sanders. An affirmative voice vote was taken in favor of the motion by all members present.

Respectfully submitted,



Cynthia L. Ege, CMR, RMC, City Clerk



*The February 10, 2015 special session minutes were approved at the February 17, 2015 regularly scheduled session.*