

BUDGET MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 16, 2017

Present: Mr. Baker, Mr. Dougherty, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Kenworthy, Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Knapp. Mr. Much was absent. Mr. Cummings, Mr. Grady and Ms. Swan were also present.

Mr. Baker led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Kenworthy presided over the budget meeting.

Sewer Budget – Mr. Kenworthy explained the hand outs and stated he felt the existing \$451 per unit charge to be appropriate. The Board discussed revenues and expenses and asked if the transfer from the sewer fund to the general fund was maximized and whether any sewer equipment could be purchased from the fund. It was believed the transfer to the general fund was maxed out and any equipment is paid for out of sewer capital funds. The Board discussed raising the rate so additional amounts can be contributed to the sewer capital fund to address infrastructure and I & I issues. The Board agreed to raise the unit rate to \$460 and to adopt the resolution establishing this rate in December.

Capital Projects – The Board discussed the Pollution Reduction Plan project proposals and after reviewing Mr. Catania's summary agreed to reduce the budget amount from \$75,000 (\$65,000 shown in the line item budget) to \$30,000. Mr. Catania is to be consulted to make sure future year projects will not be substantially increased by the reduction proposed for 2018. The Shepherds Lane culvert and Henry Lane drain projects were not funded. Mr. Cummings noted that DVIT safety grant funds could be used to purchase the 9 backup cameras for public works vehicles.

The Board discussed the proposed purchase of two RAM trucks for the police and wanted to know if the \$44,000 cost for each truck included outfitting the trucks (lights and cages, etc.). The Board discussed possibly purchasing one Ram truck this upcoming budget year with the second vehicle being a Charger and to get the second RAM truck in 2019 if it was found to be satisfactory to the police. The Board wanted to know if the proposed purchases were to replace supervisor's vehicles. It was noticed that drug forfeiture funds are a separate line item and the Board asked whether the funds could be used to purchase the truck or other vehicles. The Chief was contacted and agreed to purchase one truck and one charger each year. The budget will be adjusted to reflect the change. It was noted the budget could be further reduced up to the time of adoption.

Motor License Fund Budget – The Board discussed street resurfacing noting Copples Lane needs to be done and Aqua has supplied \$43,000 in lieu of final restoration of Copples (it was stated the total cost estimate to resurface Copples is around \$120,000. It was also noted Aqua has agreed to pay \$295,000 for the roads where mains were replaced under the Springlawn project.

Leaf Machines – It was noted leaf machines are usually purchased with 90% grant funds but additional recycling grants have not been re-authorized. The staff is to check to confirm the status of funding.

2018 Recycling Fee – Mr. Kenworthy reviewed the proposed recycling fee budget and noted the fee is proposed to remain the same annual rate of \$53 and this allows us to purchase the needed additional recycling containers.

2018 General Fund Budget – The Board was informed of the slight increase in the Township aggregate real estate assessment which adds \$8,376 to tax revenue. The Board discussed police comp time and a comp time issue would be discussed in executive session. It was noted we are close to settling the IBT contract so the contract negotiation line item is to be reduced from \$1,000 to “0”. The Board discussed inter-fund transfers noting a \$75,000 transfer to highway capital for future truck purchases, \$930,000 for the Moore Road sidewalk and \$142,000 for the Parkridge Drive outfall projects. Grant funding for the Moore Road and Parkridge Drive projects are reflected under the state operating grants revenue item. It was noted there is still a \$200,000 transfer to the fund balance. Mr. Knapp asked about the reduction in the automobile liability cost to \$27,000 and why the public officials coverage cost went up. It was noted the Board must decide on the amounts to contribute to the Funded organizations. After discussion, the Board agreed to keep South Media Fire Company at \$60,400, keep NPAA at \$13,300 and to give the Furness Library \$115,000. It was noted no increases were requested by the other organizations.

The Board adjourned and met in Executive Session.

After executive session and further discussion, the Board agreed to publicize the proposed 2018 budget ordinance with a millage rate of 5.417 or a 4.98% increase. It was noted the budget could be further reduced up until adoption.