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MINUTES OF BUDGET MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2017

Present: Mr. Baker, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Kenworthy, Mr. Dougherty
Mr. Much and Mr. Knapp were absent. Mr. Baker stated we have budget presentations.

NPAA – Ron Anderson went through the NPAA submission noting they were asking for a modest increase from \$13,500 to \$14,000. There were questions on why there was no fundraising by wrestling and basketball and what the \$60K under administration fees was for as well as expenses related to travel teams and participation by non-residents. Mr. Anderson stated he thought there is a cap on non-residents and field rental expenses was for school district fields and maybe Chester Park. He stated the baseball field at Urban fields could use grooming and possibly a net along the third base line to limit balls going into the woods. Mr. Dougherty noted a need for warm up batting cages for safety.

Garden City Fire Company – Lou DiDomenico (President) was present as well as Patrick O'Rourke (Chief). Mr. DiDomenico noted the \$15k in grant funds were used to purchase evacuation fans as well as venting saws. He noted they are not asking for an increase in the annual contribution amount from the Township. He also noted the \$15K for gear can be paid from relief funds. The Board discussed the proposed replacement of the 1999 pumper truck in 2018. Mr. Baker noted there was a meeting on the new truck acquisition and although it is to be specked out and authorized in 2018, funding would not come due until 2019. Mr. DiDomenico noted some equipment on the truck can be purchased with relief funds and noted the Fire Company has budgeted out their expected relief funds for 10 years. Mr. Dougherty requested a list of vehicles for both fire companies. It was noted the NFPA standard life for keeping a pumper is 15 to 20 years but it was noted this vehicle responds to all calls. Mr. Kenworthy stated the 2018 budget should note the funding of the truck in 2019. Mr. Dougherty asked their thoughts on the fundraising incentive. Mr. DiDomenico stated they would prefer to have a set contribution amount and noted fundraising took a hit when the 5K race for first responders stopped. He noted they are applying for a \$15k grant to retrofit all truck lighting with LED lighting to reduce maintenance and Mr. O'Rourke stated they were in a group of companies seeking a grant for air packs. Mr. Dougherty asked what they thought of giving one pot of money to both fire companies and for them to distribute based on need. Mr. DiDomenico stated they could but it would be difficult and stated that is the reason for the fire committee (to review budgets). Mr. Sullivan stated he thought the DCED report found the Township was appropriately equipped. He stated it would be difficult to combine budgets and you would need a very strong fire committee to do that. It was felt the Board should look into this in the future.

South Media Fire Company – Max Hopkins was present and stated it was a hard year relative to truck maintenance with them spending \$29K for repairs (new leaf springs and brakes for squad truck and steering box and hydrostatic testing for the pumper truck). He noted they received a \$15k state grant which was used to purchase high-angle

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rescue equipment and a \$16k federal grant to purchase new hose. He noted the high radio communications expense was due to a lightning strike on their antenna and he noted to on-going roof repair expense. Mr. Cummings stated he thought the lightning strike damage was reimbursed by insurance except the deductible amount. Mr. Baker asked why the preventative maintenance expense was so low (\$90.53) while noting the large repair expenses. He suggested breaking out the vehicle maintenance item into categories. Mr. Dougherty asked if their roof replacement could be accelerated. Mr. Sullivan noted there are 3 fire vehicles to be replaced in the next 3 years (GCFC 1999 Pumper; SMFC 2000 Squad; SMFC 2005 Rescue). Mr. Baker asked how important is it to keep the Rescue and asked if a hybrid truck could replace both the pumper and rescue. Mr. Hopkins stated there are some vehicles which can perform both functions but noted the squad vehicle is important as it hooks up first to the hydrant to pump water to the pumper. He noted that ISO (Insurance Services Office) takes into account the total pumping capacity when performing their review. These details are to be discussed at an upcoming Fire Committee meeting.

Parks Committee – Gary Silver (Chairman) was present and noted the Commission never had a budget but they are asking for \$4,000 for park signs (\$500 each for 2 signs per park for 4 parks). He stated he would also like an extra \$2,000 so he need not come to ask for additional items. He stated the signs will have a consistent design throughout the Township. Mr. Silver stated the Commission has great active members and great volunteers. He pointed out that a reason the Township was noted in Money magazine as a best place to live was the Township's park system. It was noted the Parks Capital fund could pay for the signs. (Currently \$5k is budgeted to be transferred to Parks capital)

Shade Tree Committee – The Board discusses the request to fund Heritage Tree brochures. The Board wanted to have additional information noting there is an ordinance placing restrictions on heritage trees.

PWD Truck Bed – The Board reviewed bids to replace the truck bed on Truck No. 2. After discussion, Mr. Kenworthy moved to authorize to replace the bed based on the low bid of \$5,530 but to delay its replacement for 2 years. Mr. Dougherty seconded the motion which carried 5 to 0.

2017 YTD Budget – Mr. Kenworthy handed out the YTD budget. There was an extensive discussion on the payment of comp time to the police versus overtime. The Chief will be asked to explain this and if Office Smith can substitute when other officers are off.

It was noted the Capital budget and the proposed 2018 budget will be discussed next week.

