

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING**

November 10, 2015

**CALL TO ORDER.**

President of the Board, Kenneth E. Kroberger, called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM and announced that this Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was being convened to discuss unresolved budget decisions from the first Public Budget Meeting that was held on October 27, 2015. He further noted that this meeting was properly advertised on November 6, 2015, in The Reporter as required under the First Class Township Code. Notice of this meeting was also posted on the Township website and at the Township Building front door.

The following individuals were in attendance:

|                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Kenneth E. Kroberger | President                  |
| M. Clare Edelmayer   | Vice President             |
| James A. Santi       | Commissioner               |
| Eugene Ziemba        | Commissioner               |
| Thomas Duffy         | Commissioner               |
| Leonard T. Perrone   | Township Manager           |
| David Brill          | Finance Director           |
| Michael J. Lapinski  | Assistant Township Manager |

Finance Director David Brill presented the **attached** summary sheet that lists the unresolved issues from the prior meeting. These issues are listed by department as follows:

- **Parks and Recreation Department** – No Issues
- **Police Department**
  - A discussion ensued regarding the department’s request to add an additional police officer. After discussion regarding the time spent on police community relation functions it was determined that by allocating community relations functions to additional officers that the need for a new patrol hire would not be needed. This decision removes the \$45,000.00 request from the police budget
  - The budget for the carport was adjusted downward by \$13,000.00 per the recommendation by Kistler Pole Structures who assisted in designing the facility
- **Fire Company**
  - There were no outstanding issues. There was however, a clarification received from the Fire Company President Mark Methlie that the preliminary budget for fuel oil merged the Fire Station and adjacent Fire Company owned housing fuel oil needs. This clarification addressed the fuel oil request that seemed unusually high.

- **Fire Marshall & EMC**
  - There was a discussion about the Fire Marshall's request for a multi-function gas meter and aerial drone. The Board discussed the justifications for these requests and determined that purchasing this equipment was unnecessary at this time. The deletion of these two requests reduced the budget by \$14,200.00
- **Wastewater Treatment Plant – No issues**
- **Upper Collection System and Treatment – No issues**
- **Public Works**
  - Assistant Township Manager Mike Lapinski reported that he had a discussion with Township Engineer Russ Benner about the scope of Engineering Services completed in 2015 that were related to Dickerson Road and Pennbrook Middle School stormwater management project. It was determined that some of the services related to this project proposed for 2016 would duplicate work completed in 2015. Therefore \$70,400.00 can be removed from budget
  - There was a discussion regarding the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) grant work proposed for 2016. It was determined that the 2016 request could be spread out over 2016 and 2017. This reduced the 2016 budget by \$152,800.00
  - Upon Township Engineer recommendation it was agreed that the Township could reduce the NFWF stormwater management project design costs by \$7,000.00
  - A decision was made to allocate \$50,000.00 to the Public Works budget to cover costs of incomplete work at the Providence Reserve subdivision
- **Codes and Zoning**
  - Staff recommended that the original consideration to update the Comprehensive Plan should be contingent on a fact-gathering period that will inform whether a full update is necessary. This reduced the budget by \$17,500.00
- **Administration**
  - The Board agreed that the Township should remain active in the Montgomery County Association of Township Officials (MCATO). It was agreed to add \$1,000.00 to the budget to cover the dues
  - There was a discussion regarding increasing the Township's annual contribution to the North Wales Regional Library (NWRL) from \$15,000.00 to \$25,000.00. A consensus was reached to fund the NWRL to the \$25,000.00 level, increasing the budget by \$10,000.00. Township Manager Len Perrone was asked to check with head librarian Jane Blackledge as to when the library was expecting to receive the additional PA Library funding. This funding was associated with this past year's designation of the NWRL as the Township's official library.
  - The Nor-Gwyn Baseball funding request was adjusted to include option #1 less the amount for field lighting changes and the 1<sup>st</sup> base dugout project on the Hostelly Field. This adjustment results in an \$11,000.00 reduction.

- It was decided that there would be no increase or decrease to the current real estate tax millage levy for 2016
- **Salaries**
  - There was a discussion on the current cost of living index. In light of the current cost of living index for the Philadelphia region it was determined that a reduction from 3% to 2% increase in salaries was appropriate. An additional \$2,000.00 was allocated to the Police Department salary budget

The above is a summary representation of the discussions held at this meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leonard T. Perrone  
Township Manager/Secretary

**Approved November 23, 2015**