

**RYE TOWNSHIP
SUPERVISORS' BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING
October 18, 2018**

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PRESENT: Chairman Ken Quigley, Vice Chairman Jim Sabo, Supervisor John Stahl, and Daisy Lightner, Secretary/ Treasurer.

The meeting was held at the municipal building and called to order at 6:35 PM. Chairman Quigley convened the meeting.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: No citizens were in attendance to offer citizen participation.

OTHER BUSINESS: The Secretary/Treasurer noted that the Township did not receive any State Aid for its non-uniform pension this year. The Auditor General said the report they received from PMRS said our plan had no expenses, which is incorrect. A call was made to Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Systems, (PMRS) to question what happened. Apparently, even if a mistake was inadvertently made, we are will not receive a reimbursement this year since the funds allocated for pensions were already distributed.

Discussion ensued on mowing of Oak Grove Cemetery. The Township is under court order to maintain this cemetery. Upon further consideration, rather than purchase new mowers this year, the consensus of the Board was that the individual mowing the cemetery will continue one additional year at the same rate of \$120 per mowing for a total of 12 mowings.

The Board discussed the current Employee Agreement and payments made to full time employees enrolled in Health Savings Accounts, HSA. The Secretary/Treasurer explained that this is a HSA and not an HRA or Health Reimbursement Account and is different. Payments were made as stipulated in the Employee Agreement. The Board directed the Secretary contact Pennsylvania Chamber Insurance, (PCI) to provide a written explanation for HSA regulations.

Vice-Chairman Sabo requested a revision to the Budget Worksheet to provide an additional column to show projected spending to the end of the fiscal year.

There are approximately 325 outstanding per capita tax bills for 2018. The Board directed that Tax Collector, Rebecca Schulze, send out delinquent 2018 per capita tax bills. The Secretary will notify the tax collector of their decision. Any bills delinquent after December 31, 2018 are sent for collection to J.P. Harris Associates.

BUDGET WORKSHOP:

The Secretary/Treasurer provided the Board with an updated, balanced budget worksheet and a Salary Schedule Resolution for their review and discussion.

The Board reviewed the proposed General Fund and Solid Waste Budgets and the following items were noted and discussed:

1. Upon review of YTD 2018 budget figures the Board recommended the purchase of some of the pipe and stone for the stockpile for Mountain Road in this year. Brad Sloop provided a pipe inventory and the amount of pipe needed to complete the replacements proposed for 2019.
2. The Board reviewed and discussed the engineering expense account 01.408.310 and the amount proposed at \$12,000. Chairman Quigley offered that this includes fees to complete a stream permit to DEP for a culvert replacement on Deans Gap Road. Chairman Quigley discussed possibly beginning the permitting procedure this fall to assure the permits are acquired by June/July of 2019.

3. The Board reviewed the proposed Recreation Board account 01.457.540, which remains the same as last year's budget.
4. The Board reviewed a draft of the proposed 2018 Salary Resolution and directed the Secretary/Treasurer to add it to the October 22, 2018 meeting agenda for discussion and tentative approval.
5. The Secretary/Treasurer noted a slight decrease in the unemployment compensation rate paid by the Township from 2% to 1.8% for 2019.
6. The following increases are proposed for quarterly trash collection fees in 2019:

Residential regular rate	\$ 52.00 to \$54.00	\$2.00 increase
Senior rate	\$ 40.00 to \$43.00	\$3.00 increase
Low Income rate	\$ 27.00 to \$30.00	\$3.00 increase
Low rate commercial	\$125.00 to \$135.00	\$10.00 increase
Medium rate commercial	\$175.00 to \$190.00	\$15.00 increase
Highest rate commercial	\$230.00 to \$250.00	\$20.00 increase

Increases were deemed necessary due to an increase of \$4,800 annually in the contract fee for weekly collection of refuse, expenses to add an additional bulk clean-up for the fall of 2019, the costs to conduct cardboard recycling, along with increases in labor, insurance and billing collection fees. This also allows for a percentage of bills that will not be paid, which adds to the overall costs of the Fund to pursue additional delinquent collection.

The Board directed the Secretary/Treasurer to confirm with Keystone Collections, which properties have liens on them for unpaid trash fees.

7. The Secretary/Treasurer explained the 2019 General Fund Budget is balanced and provides for \$20,000 to be transferred to Capital Reserve: \$10,000 to the Bridge Fund, since this fund was depleted when Pine Hill Road Bridge project was completed in 2015 and \$10,000 towards future Storm Water management expenses.
9. Chairman Quigley reviewed the proposed Liquid Fuels budget. Anticipated revenues are \$133,205.00. Anticipated expenses are \$130,000.00 with the General Fund providing additional monies estimated at approximately \$35,000 to complete the overall project. Roads under consideration for repaving in 2019 are:
 1. Remainder of Cove Hill Road to the intersection of SR 850.
 2. Remainder of the Portion of Mountain Road; involves pipe replacement
 3. Remainder of Pine Hill Road to the intersection of SR 850
 4. Portion of Lambs Gap Road; involves pipe replacement and base repair

It was the consensus of the Board to tentatively approve the proposed 2019 Budget and authorize advertisement for public review at the upcoming October 22nd meeting. No tax increases are proposed. The Secretary/Treasurer indicated she would add this item to the Board agenda and prepare an advertisement for publication for the twenty (20) day review period.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING: Chairman Quigley adjourned the budget meeting at approximately 9:17 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Daisy Lightner, Secretary/Treasurer