

EAST FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP
Budget discussion meeting
July 23, 2013
Approved minutes
5:30 PM

Call to order, moment of silence, and pledge of allegiance.

IN ATTENDANCE: Chris Makely, Chairman; Mark Toth, Vice Chairman; Chris Amentas, Member; Ed Porter, Member; Denise Miller, Township Secretary; Rosemary Moore, Township Treasurer. Member Joe Pomorski was absent.

Mrs. Moore stated that there are no figures in the gray shaded boxes for 2014, because they are dependent on upcoming decisions and the police contract.

Mr. Porter asked Mrs. Moore about the \$700,000.00 decrease, on page two, for revenue coming in. Mrs. Moore replied to disregard that amount because there are many budget numbers undetermined at this point.

Mrs. Moore stated that Chief Porter has an estimate of \$8,150 from CompNet for ten new computers, because our software will no longer be supported as of March 2014. Mrs. Moore also stated that the auditor said to capitalize the purchase on the balance sheet as a fixed asset and depreciate it, which is why it's not on the income statement as an expense. Mr. Makely stated that the Board should make a decision on the computers by the end of this year.

Chief Porter stated they he will be requesting a new vehicle, to replace the 2007 Crown Victoria.

Mr. Makely asked Mrs. Moore for an update on the insurance issue. Mrs. Moore replied that Benecon is willing to set up an appointment to meet with the Board. Mrs. Moore also stated that Delaware Valley Health Insurance Trust "DVIT" stated that their cost will probably increase ten to fifteen percent, PSATS has not presented any information, and Aetna will not schedule a meeting but will talk over the phone to discuss their plan.

Mr. Porter asked Mrs. Moore to explain the fire department workers comp. Mrs. Moore replied that the township is paying the largest share of Modena Borough's workers comp insurance. Mrs. Moore also stated that the "Cancer Presumption Act" was enacted in 2012 which states that cancer of any kind is presumed to be from working as a firefighter. Mr. Makely asked Mrs. Moore to contact Tony Sirna, Assistant Fire Marshal, and see if he has any information on this Act.

Mr. Porter asked Mrs. Moore if the requested raise is "across the board." Mrs. Moore replied that the 2% raise is for the non-uniform employees only. Mr. Porter asked Mrs. Moore for the total of the raises. Mrs. Moore replied that she will have the total at the next meeting.

Mr. Makely asked Mrs. Moore if Liquid Fuels ("LF") has been established for 2014. Mrs. Moore replied that she hasn't received the amount awarded for 2014 yet, so she put the 2013 figure in for 2014.

Mr. Porter asked Mrs. Moore to break down the "other services and charges" and "other" accounts under the police. Mrs. Moore replied that "other" is the new police phone system. Chief Porter replied that "other" is for anything unforeseen and "other services and charges" is for their cell fees. Mr. Porter asked Chief Porter why "materials and supplies" are budgeted for \$5,500.00, more than previous years. Chief Porter replied that he is keeping it the same as last year because he wants to purchase new tasers. Mr. Porter asked Chief Porter if he could use two tasers since there are only two officers on duty at one time. Chief Porter replied that they are working with only two now, and they are about to die. Mr. Makely asked Chief Porter if he knows of any grants for tasers. Chief Porter replied that he is researching that.

Mrs. Moore informed the Board that the auditor said to bill the whole year of road crew hours to "LF" or none at all. Mrs. Moore recommended, to the Board, not using "LF" money for road crew hours because it takes away from fixing the roads. Mr. Makely stated that they will take her recommendation.

Mr. Amentas asked Mrs. Moore to explain account #1389.60. Mrs. Moore replied that these are, in most cases, corrections for duplicate checks issued from back when Mark Espie was employed, but were never cashed.

Mr. Porter asked Mrs. Moore why Comcast and Verizon figures are being increased. Mrs. Moore replied that she is taking the current quarterly checks and projecting that amount.

Mr. Porter and Mr. Toth would like to meet with Benecon on August 12. Mr. Makely stated that he will be an alternate if Mr. Porter or Mr. Toth cannot make the meeting.

Mrs. Moore asked the Board what she should budget for legal services. Mr. Makely replied to use the 2013 amount. Mrs. Moore also asked if the fire subsidiary should be kept at \$62,000.00. Mr. Makely replied "yes."

Buddy Rhoades asked the Board what departments were cut in the last six years, and how much does the police department contribute to their insurance. Mr. Porter replied that the police pay "0%-3%." Mr. Porter asked Rosemary how it can be 0%. Mrs. Moore replied because, per the contract, if someone is single they are covered 100% but pay a percentage if they have dependants. Mrs. Moore also stated that, per the police contract, the police contribution has to remain the same for the life of the contract, even if the cost increases.

Mr. Rhoades also suggested cutting early retirement and using part time employees. Mr. Rhoades also asked the Board if they were aware of the trash bid meeting. Mr. Rhoades also commented on raises and other various items.

Adjournment – Mr. Makely convened the meeting at 6:25 for five minutes before resuming the regularly scheduled 6:30 BOS meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Miller
Township Secretary