Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors
November 18, 2021

Attending: Heidi Fiedler, David Franke, Claude Beaver, Diane Hollenbach – Manager
Guests: Donna Culp and Joseph Farley

Claude Beaver called the November 18, 2021 special meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order at 7 p.m. in the Maidencreek Township Building, 1 Quarry Road, Blandon.

A motion was made by Heidi Fiedler to approve the agenda. David Franke seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

There was no public comment.

The following was reviewed in the 2022 budget, which was a no tax increase budget:

- General Government
    - All employees are getting 3% raises. CPI increased from October 2020 to October 2021 by 6.2%.
    - The budget includes one computer replacement.
    - Township roof replacement is needed. Joseph Farley questioned the cost. It is not a reshingling. The entire roof must be torn off and replaced.
    - The Board discussed a fuel tank card system. David Franke and Claude Beaver wanted to keep the fuel cards with the vehicle and Heidi Fiedler wanted to issue fuel cards to each employee. All agreed to include the item in the budget.
    - Changes to heating and air conditioning system were put on hold for better estimates.
    - Veteran's memorial on 324 Main Street was discussed. Heidi Fiedler suggested that the Boy Scouts and a Veterans organization provide input. Joe Farley commented that he had spoken to Dean Shuman who lives next door. Mr. Shuman will be cooperative with the project but wants fifteen feet of the land the Township is purchasing.

- Public Safety and Fire Tax
    - Police contribution is largest increase to the budget. The Township is now paying 52% of the costs.
    - All other items in this category are status quo.

- Highways and State Liquid Fuels
    - The Board felt that it made sense to continue renting a road mowing tractor instead of replacing the 1996 JD tractor. Joe Farley suggested checking with Penske for the rental.
    - The Board agreed to increase the road crew staff with a year-round part-time employee
    - Road Work will be Berk, Hecktown, Troxel, Ridge, Kemmerer Roads and W Shore Drive. David Franke commented that with the dedication of the Schaeffer

Road Bridge to the Township, Penn DOT should increase the road miles on the state liquid fuels map.
    - Drain work will be in Ontelaunee Hts in preparation for 2023 paving.

- Recreation
    - The Board kept the library donation at $1.25 per capita.
    - Due to the uncertain cost estimate, the pickleball court was not included in the budget. Joe Farley stated that the game can be dangerous and a lot of senior citizens have gotten hurt playing the game.
- Debt and Intergovernmental Expenses
    - Health and dental insurance increased 9%.
- ARPA Funds
    - The Board agreed to move $571,795 of Lost Revenue to the General Fund and used for any general government purpose.
        - The Board wanted a better cost for the Fire Company generator. Heidi Fiedler asked what percentage of fire calls were in Alsace Township. Diane Hollenbach stated that information would be in the monthly report the fire company gives to the Supervisors.
    - The Board discussed the West Walnut Tree Willow Creek project. Claude Beaver was not in favor of working on private property and only wished to correct the issues at the bridge on West Walnut Tree Drive. Heidi Fiedler stated that the Township worked on private property at the Lutz property and at the Villages at Maidencreek. Diane Hollenbach stated that the work at the Villages was in the road right of way and in East Wesner Road. Joe Farley asked why the homes were allowed to be built in the floodplain and stated that the stream in the Community Park was moved illegally to the benefit of certain people and the houses built lower than the stream. Heidi Fiedler reviewed the past costs of the Willow Creek project between Schaeffer and Rt 73 and came up with a cost of $200,000 for the West Walnut Tree Willow Creek Project.
    - The W Wesner Road trench drain qualifies for use of ARPA funds as a sewer project.
    - The Board wanted an amount from Northern Berks EMS for increase to salaries and asked what percentage of calls come from Maidencreek Township.
    - No funds, were earmarked for the Authority projects.

Heidi Fiedler asked to go through the entire budget and pointed out the following corrections:

1. On page 9, there is a “.” instead of a “,” under the amount at Federal Entitlements.
2. On page 31, Proposed Budget says 2021 instead of 2022.

3. On page 47, the total revenue does not include the cash on hand under the Proposed Budget but does include cash on hand under the 2021 Revenue Jan 1 to Sept 15.

Comments

Joe Farley asked about including traffic lights at Park Road and East Wesner, Park Road and Sofia Blvd and Rt 222 and Pleasant Hill Road. Claude Beaver stated that there was a round about being planned for Rt 222 and Pleasant Hill Road. Heidi Fiedler stated that the intersections would need to meet Penn DOT's warrants. Claude Beaver added that Penn DOT considers round abouts before traffic signals and the intersection of Rt 73 and Park Road was on the list for a future round about.

A motion was made by Heidi Fiedler, seconded by David Franke, to adjourn the November 18, 2021 special meeting of the Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted "Aye". Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

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Diane Hollenbach, Township Manager/Secretary/Treasurer