

Board of Commissioners Special Meeting

October 26, 2009

On Monday, October 26, 2009, the Board of Commissioners held a special meeting to discuss the proposed 2010 Township Budget and any other business that came before the Board. The meeting was held at the Upper Pottsgrove Township Administrative Office, 1409 Farmington Avenue, with Commissioners, Dolan, Miller, Noll, Spaide and Taylor in attendance. Also present were Township Manager Jack P. Layne, Township Secretary Cynthia Saylor and Financial Consultant Matthew Dallas. Commissioner Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. There were 15 people and a Mercury Reporter present in the audience.

MOMENT OF SILENCE - Commissioner Taylor requested a moment of silence in honor of the men and women who have served and are currently serving our country in the armed forces.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Those in attendance pledged allegiance to the flag.

NEW BUSINESS:

PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE PROPOSED 2010 BUDGET - Financial Consultant Matthew Dallas, Dallas Data, provided an overview of the proposed 2010 budget and noted a shortfall of \$23,888 during the first initial presentation. Mr. Dallas reported anticipated revenues of \$2,568,777 and \$2,592,666 in expenses during the 2010 calendar year. The members of the Board discussed a decrease in real estate transfer taxes due to the “slow market” and also a conservative increase in earned income taxes due to an increase in population. To date the Township has brought in approximately \$64,000 in building permit revenue. There was a brief discussion regarding the police budget which reflects a 4% increase in salaries; however, there is little change in expenses for the upcoming year due to Officer Hummer’s deployment to Kuwait.

Mr. Dallas referenced the Sewer Fund and noted that state financing reimburses the Township for the major costs involved with the Regal Oaks Sewer Project as well as the Farmington Avenue West Sewer extension. Mr. Dallas reported the Sewer Fund is expecting a surplus of approximately \$102,000 according to the preliminary budget discussion.

Commissioner Dolan expressed his appreciation to Mr. Dallas for his time and effort in preparing the proposed 2010 budget. Commissioner Taylor expressed his thanks to Mr. Layne and the Township staff for keeping a watchful eye on the spending during the past year.

REG LEISTER - 1693 Farmington Avenue - Stated the members of the Board need to consider increasing the Civil Service budget to \$5,000.

DIANA UPDEGROVE - 1404 Farmington Avenue - Expressed her concern that there may be a decrease in recycling tonnage due to the fact that a lot of residents are taking their paper recycling to the school thinking the Township is benefiting from this when in actuality it is the School District that is benefiting.

JOHN WEST - 1611 Applegate Lane - Questioned whether the Public Works workers are contractual employees. Mr. Layne stated "no." Mr. West further questioned how the Commissioners arrived at a 4% increase in salaries. Mr. Layne stated the 4% increase was based on the police officers increase.

JOHN YOUNG - 1508 Heather Place - Encouraged the members of the Board to do their best in not having to increase taxes.

BUDGET MEETING SCHEDULE - Mr. Layne reported the following meeting schedule: Monday, November 2, 2009, at 5:30 P.M. prior to the Board meeting, Monday, November 9, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. and Monday, November 16, 2009 with the time to be determined at a future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business, a motion by Dolan, seconded by Noll, to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 P.M. All aye votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia H. Saylor,
Township Secretary