

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING OCTOBER 19, 2017**

The Special Meeting of the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Ruth O'Leary at 5:30 p.m. Other Commissioners in attendance were Vice President Edward L. Gottschall, Sheri Hoover, and Lorri K. Swan. Tony J. Sacco was absent. Also attending were Chief of Police Madison Winchester, Superintendent of Public Works Robert McNichols, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Michael L. Yost, Fire Chief James A. Beane, Business/Personnel Administrator Peggy A. Carpenter, Secretary Latoya Procopio, and Manager Jeanne E. Johnston.

PUBLIC

Attendance: William Miller of 40 Muirfield Drive.

No members of the public indicated a desire to speak.

2018 BUDGET

Sewer Fund

Ms. Johnston informed the Board that a draft sewer fund budget had been reviewed by the Municipal Authority on 10/12/2017. The Authority recommended that \$500,000.00 be transferred from the 803 fund to the 809 capital fund. The Board concurred with this recommendation.

The Authority recommended to continue with a 5-year replacement plan, although the exact list of projects would have to be revised. Ms. Johnston informed the Board that the Department of Environmental Protection permit approval period would delay the work on Reed Street. The road project list would be adjusted accordingly.

The Authority also recommended deferring the long range sewer rate plan for a year, keeping the rate the same for 2018, in light of the fact that the City of Reading has not yet recalculated the debt service for the improvements on Fritz Island. The Authority still recommended a partial transfer of \$500,000 to the Fritz Island escrow. The Board indicated that the sewer rate would not be increased for 2018.

Mrs. Carpenter informed the Board that several line items were being re-numbered, to be compliant with the state chart of accounts. The sick leave reimbursement amounts would be adjusted in November, to account for any time used by employees prior to the budget advertisement.

Refuse Fund

Ms. Johnston informed the Board that although the Township raised the refuse rate for 2017, the rate change did not significantly change the deficit in the fund. Mrs. Swan questioned refuse rates for other municipalities. Ms. Johnston recommended gathering information and having additional discussion on this issue at a future budget meeting.

General Fund – Buildings and Grounds

Mr. McNichols provided information to the Board on proposed capital purchases in 2018.

- The Board had previously directed staff to look into replacing the sound system in the meeting room. One quote had been received for approximately \$16,000. Additional quotes would be sought.
- The carpeting in the office building, which was original to its construction, was deteriorating in various locations, creating a safety hazard in some areas. Quotes had been obtained. The Board agreed to budget \$24,000 for carpet replacement on the upper level on state contract for the lowest quote.
- The line item 4090-385 was increased by \$10,000.00 for rerouting the water system line from the recreation building.

General Fund – Highway

Mr. McNichols proposed to replace one of the 3 highway department positions that had been cut during the recession.

The liaisons recommended to rent a bucket truck for repairing streetlights, rather than purchase one.

Mr. McNichols provided information to the Board on proposed capital purchases in 2018.

1) Truck #77 replacement

Truck 77 is a 2001 model year Freightliner, 10 ton dump truck, with 46,500 miles. The truck has been used for winter maintenance, hauling, paving, leaf collection, and yard waste transport. The previous dump truck took 8 months to arrive after ordering, so it would be requested to order the next one as soon as possible after adoption of the budget.

2) Vehicle #50 replacement

Mr. McNichols recommended to transfer the public works Jeep back to the administration department as the vehicle that is currently assigned to administration is having mechanical issues. It was proposed to purchase a Jeep identical to the one Mr. McNichols is currently driving. The Jeep purchase would be split between four departments: sewer, refuse, highway, and buildings and grounds.

3) Trimble Unit

Mr. McNichols proposed the purchase of a Trimble Unit, a portable GPS that has the ability to track and put coordinates on the GIS system. The township would be able to do inventory of all street signs and manhole locations. The initial purchase and yearly fee for a maintenance contract has been budgeted.

Fire Fund

Chief Beane proposed to designate the career positions in the fire department as class 1 positions since they are in command if Chief Beane is not present.

- Line item 4110-540 is to be adjusted to more accurately reflect the number of volunteers.
- Line item 4110-750 should reflect \$6,000. Vented storage is needed in the command vehicles to meet NFPA standards. Chief Beane's vehicle should be completed by the end of 2017 and the other Tahoe should be completed by the end of 2018.

- For the deck gun addition to the rescue engine, \$8,000 was added to \$10,000 set aside in 2017.

• Chief Beane requested that Board authorize the Township staff to negotiate with the architect to hire for specifications for the fire station. The Board concurred.

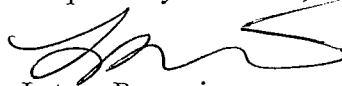
CORRESPONDENCE

A) Meeting Advertised in the Reading Eagle on 9/27/2017.

ADJOURNMENT

**ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. HOOVER, A UNANIMOUS
VOTE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:35 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,



Latoya Procopio
Secretary