

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING**

OCTOBER 21, 2021

The Special Meeting of the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President William B. Miller at 3:30 p.m. Other Commissioners in attendance were Vice President Ruth A. O'Leary, David J. Batdorf, Scott Brady, and Sam Kalbach. Also attending were Solicitor Michael A. Setley, Chief of Police Madison Winchester, Fire Chief James A. Beane, Superintendent of Public Works Robert McNichols, Jr., Business/Personnel Administrator Peggy A. Carpenter, Manager/Secretary Jeanne E. Johnston, and Special Projects/Asst. Secretary Patricia Wylezik-Pfeiffer.

This meeting is being recorded for the purpose of assisting in the preparation of meeting minutes. The audio file of the meeting will be destroyed after official meeting minutes for this meeting have been adopted.

Pledge to the Flag.

PUBLIC

Attendance: Lisha Rowe

2022 BUDGET

Sewer Fund

Ms. Johnston reviewed the proposed budget for the Sewer Fund. There is no planned rate increase at this time. A letter and a spreadsheet detailing the treatment and transportation rates were included from the City of Reading. Possible 2022 sewer projects include: Ardmore, Cedar Top (near Pennwyn), Ridge Ave. and Summit Ave. The sewer rate might need to be increased in 2023 for capital improvement.

SMP (Sewer Management Program for on-lot systems) Fund

Ms. Johnston reviewed the proposed budget for the SMP Fund. The Board determined that the fee of \$65 will remain the same in 2022 for the 3rd year of the three-year cycle.

Liquid Fuels Fund

Ms. Johnston presented the proposed budget for the Liquid Fuels Fund. She confirmed that patching under Expenses is for maintenance and not new construction. There was discussion about which township roads should be fixed in 2022. The Board favors finishing Oregon Rd. The liaisons will work with Public Works and create a list of other roads to be considered.

General Fund - Police Department

Chief Winchester stated that the department is currently one supervisor short. He requested to promote the next eligible person to Sergeant.

**ON MOTION OF MR. KALBACH, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS
VOTE APPROVING THE PROMOTION OF OFFICER WITTIG TO THE RANK OF
SERGEANT.**

Ms. Johnston explained the increase to the budget line for Analyst. There is a need to hire a part-time analyst. This would be a System Analyst 2 position under the supervision of Krista Kring, System Analyst 1. This new hire would need all the same certifications as Ms. Kring. This proposal was reviewed and endorsed by the Police Liaisons. The hiring team will be Chief Winchester and Ms. Kring. Chief Winchester will start the process through networking and hopefully the position will be filled in 2022. The Board is in favor.

Mrs. Carpenter explained that Heart and Lung is factored into the wages line item.

Ms. Johnston explained the proposed increases for training, uniforms, and hiring expenses based on hiring new employees and promotions. There is an increase to the Pistol Range line item for a replacement shed. She stated that the rates for the Animal Rescue League at \$1 per capita and the 911 Radio Service will remain the same for 2022.

In the Capital Fund, 2 new fleet vehicles are proposed for \$48,000 each and 1 used vehicle is proposed for approximately \$35,000. This was endorsed by the liaisons.

Chief Winchester proposed that the BOC consider adding a therapy dog and a specially equipped canine vehicle to the Police Department. He presented two proposed budgets, 1 including the therapy dog and 1 without. Chief Winchester emphasized that this would not be an attack or aggression dog. This therapy dog would be selected based on temperament and not a specific breed. This dog would help work with trauma victims and promote goodwill in the community. There was a discussion about the specifics pertaining to officer training, responsibilities, and compensation. There was also discussion about possible community sponsorship for the dog and vehicle expenses. The Board was in favor of acquiring a therapy dog and pursuing possible community sponsorship.

COMMISSIONERS

A) Reminders:

1) Board of Commissioners meetings for fall 2021:

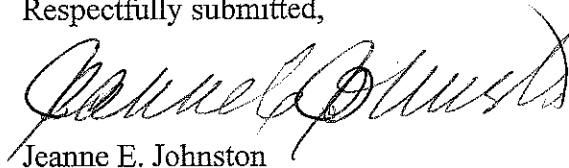
- 10/28/2021 at 3:30 p.m. – budget meeting
- 11/16/2021 at 7:00 p.m. – regular meeting
- 11/30/2021 at 7:00 p.m. – 5th Tuesday meeting

Note: Deadline for 2022 budget advertisement is 12/1/2021, for adoption on 12/21/2021.

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION OF MR. MILLER, SECOND OF MR. KALBACH, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanne E. Johnston
Secretary/Manager