

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 28, 2014**

The budget meeting of the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Tony J. Sacco at 6:15 p.m. Other Commissioners in attendance were Vice President Edward L. Gottschall, Treasurer Ruth O'Leary, Sheri Hoover, and Lorri K. Swan. Also attending were Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police Jed Habecker, Fire Chief Scott R. Brady, Superintendent of Public Works Robert McNichols, Jr., Business/Personnel Administrator Peggy A. Carpenter, and Manager/Secretary Jeanne E. Johnston.

Pledge to the Flag.

2015 BUDGET

Sewer Fund

The Board reviewed the sewer department budget. The Board concurred with the recommendation of the Municipal Authority to continue with the 2012 long term plan for increasing the sewer rate gradually every year, in order to save funds for the Fritz Island debt service obligation. The Board authorized administration to create a separate fund for that purpose and transfer all encumbered funds. The amount to be encumbered during 2015 would reflect the cumulative amount in the 2012 long term plan. Mr. Sacco asked Ms. Johnston to request an updated debt service fee schedule from the City of Reading. The sewer rates, rounded, would be \$110.00/EDU for metered accounts and \$153.00/EDU for unmetered well accounts. These rates reflect an increase of 8.1%.

In 2014, \$75,000.00 was budgeted for purchase of a sewer camera. That purchase will not be made in 2014 due to time constraints associated with finishing the FHPS generator project. In addition, Mr. McNichols has identified a lower cost camera for approximately \$50,000.00, available on Co-Stars.

Vehicle 61, the 1998 Jeep driven by the Public Works Superintendent, has required significant repair in 2014 costing \$5,091.65 (including floor rusted out, rear end replacement, and head gasket). It is proposed to replace vehicle 61 at a cost of \$24,000.00 and divide the cost equally between the sewer, refuse, and capital projects funds (\$8,000 each). The Board directed that a better 4 wheel drive vehicle be purchased.

Truck 92, a 1999 truck which transports the camera previously mentioned, is showing significant rusting on the bottom, similar to that experienced with the Jeep. It is proposed to replace truck 92 at a cost of \$60,000.00.

Buildings and Grounds – General Fund

The Board reviewed the buildings and grounds budget. Ms. Johnston noted that a new fire and security alarm for the office building was proposed, but not funded, in 2014. During the year, over \$7,000 was spent to maintain the system. The Board agreed to fund the fire and security alarm system in 2015. Ms. Johnston proposed a budgeted amount of \$40,000, but informed the Board that the actual expenditure could be higher since it is a project requiring bids.

Ms. Johnston proposed upgrading the permitted water system in the recreation building to chlorine tanks. The purpose of the request was to use a system preferred by the PaDEP, although the current system is permitted. The technology of the current system, a UV light, also has a history of periodic maintenance issues requiring staff time to address.

Mr. McNichols presented an estimate on a 3 sided shelter for police parking.

Ms. Johnston requested that the Board consider paving the parking lot on the east side of Welsh Rd. for the 2016 budget.

ADJOURNMENT

**ON MOTION OF MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS
VOTE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:29 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanne E. Johnston
Manager/Secretary