

Budget Workshop Meeting
November 12, 2019

The Franklin Township Supervisors met on the above date at the Franklin Township Administration Office. Present were Supervisors Jason Frey, Barbara Beltz, and Robin Cressley; and Secretary-Treasurer Brenda Neeb. A list of others in attendance is attached to the Minute Book. The purpose of the meeting was to hold a Budget Workshop Meeting to prepare the year 2020 Township budgets, and other business brought to the board. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Jason Frey and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

New Business

Robin Cressley made a motion to table the approval for Agreement 2019-02 between the Township of Franklin and the Fraternal Order of Police representing the Franklin Township Police Department for the time period of January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2024. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Barbara Beltz made a motion to ratify Agreement 2019-03 between the Township of Franklin and the Teamsters Local 773 representing the Franklin Township's Road & Garbage Crew for the time period of January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2024. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the St. Luke's Land Development Improvements Agreement. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Barbara Beltz made a motion to approve the St. Luke's Stormwater Facilities Maintenance Agreement and Covenant. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to approve the Deed of Dedication regarding St. Luke's (Conveyance to a Public Entity for a Public use as a Roadway (Reber Street) and is therefore exempt from Pennsylvania Realty Transfer Taxes). Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Cressley made a motion to sign the Sewage Facilities Planning Module Application Mailer for the sewage exemption regarding the proposed Dialysis Center located on State Road, pending the mailer is completed with the number of EDUs requested. Barbara Beltz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business Cont'd

Franklin Township's Chief of Police Jason Doll was present to discuss his department's budget for 2020. He presented the Supervisors with a packet which included budgets showing the costs to have four, five, or six full-time officers. He feels that big changes will be coming when the Hospital is up and running and the need for additional full-time officers is evident. He also stated the Carbon IU is now located in the Township and currently half of the building is Pre-K children and in the near future the other half will be occupied by older kids, which will bring challenging incidents because of dealing with juveniles. He feels having additional officers will also lessen the need for part-time police officers. He also mentioned he would like the Franklin Township Police Department to participate again in the Sobriety Checkpoint and Drug Task Force programs and asked the Board of Supervisors if they would decide to honor his request. Chief Doll also asked to purchase Taser guns and AR Rifles with the unused monies left over from the part-time police officers. The Supervisors said they could not commit to anything until they reviewed the entire budget.

The Supervisors reviewed the garbage collection revenue and expenditures. The Secretary reported that garbage collection rates have not been raised since 2009. Garbage collection costs have continually increased over the past ten years due to increases in the cost of insurances, landfill rates, diesel fuel, and wages. It was decided that in order to cover the additional \$20,000 needed to fund garbage collection, there will have to be a \$10.00 per household increase in collection fees for 2020.

The Supervisors reviewed and discussed the General Fund, State Fund, and Sewer Fund budget worksheets, as well as budgets for all minor funds including Recreation Fund; Fire Hydrant Fund; Capital Reserve Building Fund; Capital Reserve Employee Benefits Fund; and the following Capital Project Funds: Garbage Collection Equipment Fund, Road Machinery Fund, and Police Vehicle & Equipment Fund.

The majority of time was spent reviewing the General Fund worksheets. It was noted that even though expenditures will increase for fiscal year 2020, the General Fund budget was able to be balanced without the need for a tax increase due to an estimated balance of \$182,000.00 brought forward from year 2019. The \$182,000.00 balance remaining at the end of 2019 was due primarily to the following revenues: A one-time only donation from St. Luke's of \$100,000 for road improvements and \$75,000 for the Police Department.

No citizens were present and there were no questions from the press.

Barbara Beltz made a motion to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. Robin Cressley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully,

Brenda Neeb, Secretary