

HANOVER TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

August 5, 2013  
5:00 P.M.

Present: Councilmen Atkinson, Dreisbach, Kovacs, Paulus, Woolley; Sandra A. Pudliner; Vicky Roth

Absent: J. Jackson Eaton, III, Esquire and Frederick W. Hay, P.E.

Attendance: 1

Courtesy of the Floor:

Mr. Robin Yoder, Township Fire Chief, appeared at the hearing on behalf of the Han-Le-Co Volunteer Fire Company No. 1. Mr. Yoder advised that he reviewed the proposed Five Year Capital Program and requested that the Board consider increasing the 2014 allocation from \$200,000 to \$300,000. Mr. Yoder noted that if the Township was to secure revenues for the sale of the old ladder truck, he was of the opinion it should be bid in the near future. He estimated that due to its age, the value at sale would be somewhere between \$100,000 and \$150,000. East Allen Township sold a truck which was almost identical to the Township's truck but it was one year newer. The Township truck also has certain equipment on the truck that East Allen did not have. When East Allen sold their equipment, they secured funds in the area of \$150,000. Mr. Yoder also advised the Board that this year the Township has been responding to Catasauqua since they are refurbishing some of their equipment and by way of mutual aid, the Township is providing services. Mr. Yoder indicated that the Township should earmark the monies secured from the sale of the ladder truck to be added to the funds already appropriated and purchase a new ladder truck in the near future. He indicated that NFPA says that anything over 20 years old should no longer be a front line piece of equipment. The Township's current ladder truck is 23 years old. The Fire Chief advised that the Fire Company is working with Pierce. He indicated that representatives of the Fire Company had been to their plant last week. He advised that Pierce is number one in safety. The cost for the new ladder truck which the Fire Company is seeking Mr. Yoder advised is in the area of \$850,000 to \$900,000.

Council discussed how to handle this scenario. Council determined that the Five Year Capital Program should be amended to show the sale of equipment as part of the Fire Apparatus Program in the amount of \$100,000. In the event, however, that for some reason the sale does not occur, the Program for Fire Apparatus could borrow the \$100,000 from the Capital Program and repay same at a later date. There was also discussion with respect to utilizing Costars as an alternative with respect to bidding the equipment.

New Business:

1. Public Hearing – Five Year Capital Program 2014-2018 (Review and Discussion)

Chairman Dreisbach opened the Public Hearing relative to the proposed Five Year Capital Program for the years 2014-2018. The Township Manager initiated a review of each program at this time.

With respect to the Program for Sinkhole/Miscellaneous Storm water Projects, the Township Manager advised that there is an appropriation set forth in the proposed Program of \$150,000 each year for a five year period. Council found this acceptable to them.

With respect to the Program for Traffic Congestion Improvements, the Township Manager noted that she is trying to take into consideration the fact that the Township will need additional funds for the traffic engineer from Keystone Consulting Engineers who will conduct a study on behalf of the Township as same relates to the proposed Rockefeller Group Development. Accordingly, in the year 2014, the Program shows an appropriation of \$50,000 and for the years thereafter an appropriation each year of \$25,000. Council found this acceptable to them.

With respect to the Program for Future Road Construction Projects, the Township Manager advised that the Program shows a \$400,000 appropriation in the year 2014 with a \$500,000 appropriation each year thereafter. Council found this acceptable to them.

With respect to the Program titled Catastrophe Fund, the Township Manager advised that the Program shows a \$25,000 appropriation for the five year period. Council found this program acceptable to them.

With respect to the Program previously known as Canal Park, the Township Manager advised that per Council's direction, the Program has been renamed Township Parks. The Township Manager noted that the Program shows a \$125,000 appropriation in the year 2014 with a \$25,000 appropriation each year thereafter. The Township Manager advised that the work which needs to be accomplished could be very costly. For example, the overlay of the tennis courts in Sherwood Park is extremely costly. Accordingly, the Township Manager suggested that this Program be revised to provide for a \$150,000 appropriation in the year 2014 and that the Township look at this further prior to the end of the year when the Township has a better feel for the revenues anticipated in 2014. Council agreed that the program should be revised and that the 2014 appropriation be changed from \$125,000 to \$150,000.

With respect to the Program for Pump Station Upgrades and Sewer Line Upgrades, the Township Manager noted that the Program shows a \$250,000 appropriation each year for the five year period. Council found this acceptable to them.

With respect to the Program for Allentown Water System Improvements, the Township Manager advised that this Program shows a \$150,000 appropriation each year for the five year period. Council found this acceptable to them.

With respect to the Municipal Building Construction/Renovation Project, no further appropriations are necessary since the construction project has been completed and, accordingly, the Program shows zero appropriations during the five year period.

With respect to the Program titled Fire Apparatus as previously discussed, a line item will be placed with this Program indicating sale of equipment in the amount of \$100,000 to be used toward the 2014 appropriation making the total appropriation for 2014 \$300,000.

Chairman Dreisbach closed the Public Hearing at this time. It was noted that no further hearings would be held on the Program and the Township would proceed to prepare the necessary Resolution for adoption of the Five Year Capital Program for passage at a future Council Meeting.

Courtesy of the Floor:

Robin Yoder, Township Fire Chief, advised Council that the Township has had more fires in the Township in the last two months than in the last five years. There was some discussion with respect to the house adjacent to the Township's garage at Canal Park which had burned down recently. Council questioned whether or not the Airport had any restrictions on the property in terms of rebuilding same. The Township Manager was directed to check on same. There was also some discussion with respect to the Rockefeller Group proposed development. Mr. Yoder noted that perhaps the Township might consider asking them for a contribution toward the Township's new fire rescue truck which will need to be purchased in upcoming years. Since that is the vehicle the Township uses on Route 22 for accident response and, since the Rockefeller Group will be placing heavy traffic on Route 22, perhaps the Township could secure a contribution from them for the new truck.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra A. Pudliner  
Township Manager