

HANOVER TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

October 21, 2013  
4:00 P.M.

Present: Councilmen Atkinson, Kovacs, Paulus, Woolley; Sandra A. Pudliner;  
Frederick W. Hay, P.E., Vicky Roth

Absent: Chairman Dreisbach; J. Jackson Eaton, III, Esquire

Attendance: 1

Courtesy of the Floor: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

1. Public Hearing – Proposed 2014 Operating, Capital Reserve, Liquid Fuels, Water & Sewer Budgets (Review and Discussion)

Vice Chairman Atkinson opened the Public Hearing relative to the proposed 2014 Budgets. Vice Chairman Atkinson noted that the Township Engineer was in attendance at the meeting this evening and that the Board would review the Water and Sewer Budgets first and then move forward with the Liquid Fuels Budget and time permitting continue from that point to the General Fund Budget.

With respect to the proposed 2014 Water Budget, the Township Engineer reviewed the proposed Budget with the Board and the Board determined to make no changes to same as presented. Vice Chairman Atkinson questioned whether or not there are any rate changes involved in either the sewer rates or water rates and the Township Engineer indicated that he does not anticipate any rate increases. This is with the understanding that the City of Bethlehem will be raising their rates but it does not appear to be a substantial increase.

At this point in the meeting, the Board reviewed with the Township Engineer the proposed 2014 Sewer Budget. The Township Engineer advised that in the budgeting process he neglected to indicate a revenue figure for interest and in that regard for 2014 the interest figure should be \$350. Accordingly, the Budget was revised to reflect same changing the total for revenues, as well as the monies for an ending operating reserve.

At this point in the meeting, the Board reviewed with the Township Manager the proposed 2014 Liquid Fuels Budget. Mrs. Pudliner advised that as the Board is aware, over the years the Township has been paying street lighting bills from the Liquid Fuels Account. However, we have now utilized the excess funds that were available and currently the Liquid Fuels allocation

cannot cover in the year 2014 the entire cost to the Township for street lighting. In that regard, the Township Manager noted that she is showing an expenditure from the Liquid Fuels Account of \$50,000 toward the street lighting expenditure. The balance of the monies needed to cover the street lighting expenditure will be paid from the General Fund Account. The Township Manager also indicated that she has left an ending balance in the Liquid Fuels Account of \$5,806. The Board made no changes to this Budget at this time.

Since the Township's Public Works Maintenance Supervisor, Jeff Mouer, was in attendance at the meeting, the Board determined that they would review the proposed 2014 Highway Budget at this time. In that regard, it should be noted that the line item for gasoline and oil was reduced from \$14,000 to \$13,000. The line item for Engineering Fees was reduced from \$25,000 to \$20,000. The line item for Traffic Signal Maintenance appeared out of sync since to date the 2013 Expenditures only totaled approximately \$5,200. Accordingly, the Township Manager was directed to look into this matter to determine if the proposed \$20,000 expenditure for the year 2014 needs to be reduced. There was discussion with the Township's Maintenance Supervisor regarding a proposed purchase of a small 4 Ton Truck with Plow. The current 2001 truck has low mileage but has corrosive issues with respect to the body of same. Mr. Mouer indicated that he would recommend the purchase of a truck with an aluminum body, dual automatic, and an electric plow. Mr. Mouer felt that resale of the old truck could generate some monies. He advised the Board that the anticipated cost of a new truck was approximately \$80,000. The Township Manager noted that in preparing the Budget she had removed the truck from the Highway Budget due to the unavailability of funds. Vice Chairman Atkinson indicated that after we go through the Budget process, possibly the revisions to same will make the insertion of the truck into this Budget more feasible rather than having to lower other Capital Program items to accommodate the purchase.

The Board also reviewed with the Township's Maintenance Supervisor the Recreation Budget. There was discussion with respect to Expenditures for the year 2014 that would be very costly to include the resurfacing of the tennis courts at Sherwood Park. Councilman Kovacs indicated that the usage of the tennis courts is minimal and a further discussion involved the possibility of removing the tennis courts and placing a soccer field in its place. Mr. Mouer noted that there would be a very bad parking issue in that area since that park cannot accommodate both a baseball field and a soccer field in terms of parking. In conclusion of the discussions, Councilman Kovacs requested that the Township provide him with a copy of the survey of Sherwood Park. Additionally, no revisions were made to the Recreation Department Budget at this time.

Courtesy of the Floor: None.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra A. Pudliner  
Township Manager