

HANOVER TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

November 9, 2015
5:00 P.M.

Present: Councilmen Heimbecker, Lawlor, Paulus, Wegfahrt, Woolley; Sandra A. Pudliner; Vicky Roth

Absent: Al Kortze, P.E.; J. Jackson Eaton, III, Esquire

Attendance: 2

Courtesy of the Floor: None.

Approval of Minutes: November 2, 2015 Budget Hearing

Motion: I move we waive the reading of the Minutes of the November 2, 2015 Budget Hearing Meeting and accept same as presented.

Paulus, Heimbecker: Moved and Seconded
Heimbecker, Lawlor, Wegfahrt, Woolley, Paulus: Aye Unan.

Unfinished Business:

1. Public Hearing – Continuation of Proposed 2016 Operating, Capital, Liquid Fuels, Water and Sewer Budgets (Review and Discussion)

Chairman Paulus opened the Public Hearing relative to the Proposed 2016 Budgets. The Township Manager began the discussion with the Department in the General Fund Budget for Recreation. The Board reviewed the line items contained therein and made no changes at this time. With respect to the Department for Miscellaneous Expenses, there was a discussion with respect to the Catasauqua Library's request for an increase in their yearly allocation of \$6,500. The Board noted that based on the purpose that the monies would be used as a one-time expense for automation, Council had no problem increasing the allocation for 2016 by \$1,000. Accordingly, in that regard, the Board made the following Motion:

Motion: I move we increase the appropriation for Library Contributions by \$1,000 as a one-time increase for the year 2016.

Heimbecker, Wegfahrt: Moved and Seconded
Heimbecker, Lawlor, Wegfahrt, Woolley, Paulus: Aye Unan.

There was a discussion between the Board and the Township Manager regarding the excess revenues which are showing in the Budget over and above what would be necessary to fund a line item for Miscellaneous Contingencies/Donations/Christmas. The Board determined that after the Manager makes all the necessary adjustments to

the Budget, she provide them with her recommendation regarding the appropriation of those additional funds between the various programs in the Township's current Five-Year Capital Program. At the next meeting scheduled for Monday, November 16, 2015 at 5:00 p.m., the Board can then review the revised Budgets and recommendations for the additional revenues as suggested by the Township Manager. By way of minor adjustments, the Township Manager advised the Board that the Township would not be budgeting any interest in the Revenue portion of the General Fund Budget. PNC Bank would utilize the payment of interest to somewhat set off the fees which the bank will not charge to the Township. There was some discussion with respect to bank fees. The Township Manager did note that in the past when interest rates were definitely higher than they are right now, the bank had for all intents and purposes waived the charging of fees. Since interest rates have bottomed, the bank has opted to not charge the fees but also to not pay interest to the Township. Councilman Woolley noted that he was of the opinion that there are banks out there that would not charge the Township any fees for the handling of the Township accounts. Additionally, the Township Manager brought to the Board's attention that the line item in the Code Enforcement Budget for Cell Phones has definitely been changed to the \$250 figure from the budgeted \$800 figure. Research on the cell phone cost has indicated that the \$250 figure is the accurate figure and that adjustment has been made.

At this point in the meeting, Chairman Paulus closed the Public Hearing with respect to the 2016 Budgets. As previously noted, the next hearing would be held on Monday, November 16, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

Courtesy of the Floor:

At this point in the meeting, Lt. Tyler of the Pennsylvania State Police spoke to the Board regarding the apparent mix up with respect to the Township's donation to Camp Cadet. That matter would be resolved and the payment for the contribution made to the Pennsylvania State Police. Lt. Tyler questioned the Board as to what the Township felt the State Police could do to better service the Township's needs. There was discussion about the future handling of Route 22 corridor when the FedEx expansion occurs creating additional traffic on that thoroughfare. Lt. Tyler commented that the State Police in the Fogelsville, Bethlehem, and Belfast barracks would be involved in that matter. There was also discussion regarding issues with speeding and disregarding stop signs in the Troxell and Clarence Street areas. Council noted that a trooper's presence had been noticed in that area but the timing might be off. Councilman Woolley noted that there is a girl that flies down Troxell Street at 7:00 a.m. every morning. There was discussion about issues which occur in the 7:30 to 7:40 a.m. time frame.

There was also some discussion regarding the new equipment in Sherwood Park. Jeff Mouer, Maintenance Supervisor, present at the meeting advised the Board that there is some excavating yet to take place and they need to move the swing set in that area and then stone and mulch and edging would be put down. The goal is to have everything finalized before July 2016.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 P.M. It was noted by the Board that they would be going into Executive Session to discuss Township employee salaries and benefits but would not be coming back to the meeting with any decisions.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra A. Pudliner
Township Manager