

HANOVER TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

July 25, 2016
6:00 P.M.

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

Absent: Vice Chairman Heimbecker

Attendance: 2

Courtesy of the Floor: None.

New Business:

1. Public Hearing – Five Year Capital Program 2017-2021 (Review and Discussion)

Chairman Paulus opened the Public Hearing relative to the review of the proposed Five Year Capital Program for the years 2017-2021.

Present at the meeting to review Capital projects was the Township's Maintenance Supervisor, Jeff Mouer. With respect to the first program titled Capital Reserve Sinkholes/Miscellaneous Storm Water Projects, Mr. Mouer gave the Board a heads up with respect to future regulations which will be enforced by the Environmental Protection Agency. Federal regulations will require the state level of EPA to regulate storm water differently than in the past. DEP has been somewhat lax about enforcement but it is now happening. The Township's engineering firm, Keystone Consulting Engineers, had assigned an individual who is an expert on MS4 reporting to do the submissions for the Township to be compliant. Mr. Mouer advised the Board that the reporting period for MS4 runs from March to March and the new regulations will directly affect Public Works requiring the cleaning of catch basins, identification requirements, and community outreach. The Township will be required to notify the residents of general things to do. The Township will also be required to notify businesses of certain requirements. Mr. Mouer also indicated there will be an MS5 and an MS6 starting March, 2017 to March, 2019. When that comes into play, there will be certain mapping requirements enforced on the Township. We will need to submit information to DEP and they will want to know with the mapping exactly where the water goes and we are fortunate we have a GIS system in place. The Township is responsible for outfalls which relates to where the storm water goes when it leaves our Township. He noted that the Township is fortunate to have only one outfall. DEP thinks the Township has two but they are incorrect. Mr. Mouer noted that Catasauqua Lake is the only outfall and that it goes into the Canal and then into the Lehigh River. Under the new regulations which will come into play, the Township's Maintenance Supervisor advised the Board that certain inspections will be required. With the MS5 regulations, the Township will have additional responsibilities and there will be engineering requirements. There will be conditions with respect to people washing cars in their driveways. With respect to the flushing

of hydrants, the Township will be responsible to dechlorinate the water. In other words, Mr. Mouer advised the Board that there are a number of unknown costs. With respect to the unknown costs, that information most likely will not be available until the middle of next year. With respect to the engineering aspect, there will be additional permits and mapping involved. In any event, the Township's Maintenance Supervisor noted to the Board that the current Five Year Capital Program shows a funding appropriation of \$100,000 for Miscellaneous Storm Water Projects in the year 2017. Mr. Mouer requested that the Board consider raising that amount to \$150,000 in 2017. The Board discussed the issue and determined that they would increase the appropriation in 2017 to \$150,000.

The Township's Maintenance Supervisor took this opportunity to also review with the Board the program on the Five Year Capital Program list for Public Works Vehicle Replacement. With respect to same, Mr. Mouer provided pictures of the current 1998 International 10 Ton Dump Truck which as of this time has over 19,000 miles but has been a heavily used vehicle over the years and is currently 18 years old. He noted to the Board that the vehicle has a steel body and is four wheel drive and can hold eight tons based on axle weight. However, Mr. Mouer noted that the vehicle has some maintenance issues and reviewed with the Board the rusting and other issues as shown on the pictures provided to them. He noted that it has always been part of his five year plan to replace the vehicle and that next year would be just about the time to do so. He indicated he is an advocate of stainless steel and has looked at a rough price for the replacement at around \$180,000 which is on the high side. The purchase would include a new spreader and plow. It would be a Mack chassis and the Township would proceed through the Costars Program. The Township's Maintenance Supervisor advised the Board that after this purchase the five year plan should take into consideration the replacement of the current skid steerer and backhoe, the backhoe being the last piece of equipment for replacement. He advised the Board that the other 10 ton truck is fine at the present time. It is an International but only holds six and one-half tons. With a new truck purchase, if the Board should consider doing so at this time, that truck should have the capacity of eight to nine and one-half ton. Looking at the appropriation showing in Public Works Vehicle Replacement for the year 2017, Mr. Mouer noted that if an additional \$50,000 funding would be considered that those funds in addition to those monies in escrow would be sufficient for a purchase of a new Mack Dump Truck. In that regard after discussion, the Board determined to increase Public Works Vehicle Replacement from \$100,000 to \$150,000 in the year 2017.

Mr. Robin Yoder, the Township Fire Chief, approached the Board at this time with respect to the program titled Replacement of Fire Apparatus. Mr. Yoder noted that the current rescue pumper is 22 years old right now and that he would like to replace it in the year 2018. He has a problem getting parts and right now the generator is rigged since parts are unavailable. If the generator would go, that would be a cost of \$25,000, Mr. Yoder noted. Mr. Yoder also indicated that if a new vehicle is purchased in 2018 the Township could sell the old pumper rescue for approximately \$35,000 to \$40,000. But, if the Township takes no action, two years from now he thought the value might decrease to \$10,000 to \$15,000. Mr. Yoder also noted that two years ago he felt the cost for the new vehicle would be approximately \$750,000. In any event, the Township's Fire Chief indicated to the Board that he would like the

Board to consider increasing the appropriation in the year 2017 and the year 2018 from \$150,000 per year to \$250,000 per year for each of those two years and that in addition to the monies in escrow plus sale value of the old equipment should be sufficient for a new pumper rescue to be delivered in the year 2018. After discussion, the Board determined that they would increase the appropriation for Fire Apparatus in the year 2017 and in the year 2018 from \$150,000 each year to \$250,000 each year. There was some discussion with respect to the Fire Company providing to them a listing regarding equipment replacement which would show all the equipment currently in the possession of the Fire Company and indicate the day of purchase and the life expectancy (that being around 25 years). The Township Manager was directed to ask the Township's Fire Company to provide such documentation to the Board.

At this point in the meeting, the Board proceeded to review all the other Programs in the Five Year Capital Program as follows:

With respect to the Program for Traffic Congestion Improvements with an appropriation of \$25,000 per year for the five year span, the Board made no changes to same and found it acceptable.

With respect to the Program for Future Road Construction Projects which shows a funding of \$550,000 across the board for the five year period, the Board found same acceptable.

With respect to the Program titled Catastrophe Fund showing a \$25,000 per year funding for the five year period, the Board made no changes to same.

With respect to the Program titled Township Parks showing a funding of \$75,000 per year for the five year period, Council found the appropriation schedule acceptable.

With respect to the Program titled Pump Station Upgrades and Sewer Line Upgrades showing a \$350,000 appropriation each year for the five year period, the Board found same acceptable.

With respect to the Program titled Allentown Water System Improvements showing an appropriation of \$50,000 each year for the five year period, the Board found same acceptable.

With respect to the Five Year Capital Program as proposed, it was determined that the revisions have all been made and that same can be adopted and accordingly the Township Manager indicated that a Resolution for such adoption would be placed on the next Agenda. The additional hearing which had been scheduled for the review of the Five Year Capital Program would be cancelled.

At this point in time, Chairman Paulus closed the Public Hearing relative to the Five Year Capital Program for the years 2017-2021.

Courtesy of the Floor: None.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra A. Pudliner
Township Manager