

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING OCTOBER 30, 2018**

The Regular Meeting of the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Ruth O'Leary at 6:00 p.m. Other Commissioners in attendance were Vice President Edward L. Gottschall, Sheri Hoover, William B Miller and David J. Batdorf. Also attending were Solicitor Michael A. Setley, Superintendent of Public Works Robert McNichols, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Michael L. Yost, Business Personnel/Administrator Peggy A. Carpenter, Manager Jeanne E. Johnston, Secretary Latoya Procopio, and Joseph P. Rogosky of Great Valley Consultants.

Pledge to the Flag.

PUBLIC

No members of the public were present.

2019 BUDGET

Ambulance Fund

Mr. Malcom Cole, Executive Director of Southern Berks Regional EMS (SBREMS), gave a presentation to the Board. He was accompanied by Chief of Operations Tim Musser.

Mr. Cole stated that SBREMS has a \$64,000 loss at present. Using year-to-year averages, SBREMS expects to have a \$8,000 profit at the end of the year. The excessive rains this summer affected revenue because Maple Grove events were canceled. Overtime was the biggest reason for salary expenses over budget. The CPA audit had not been budgeted and added \$10,000 in expenses. Mrs. Hoover expressed concern about the expense for professional fees.

Mrs. O'Leary asked what SBREMS wants for the 2019 budget. Mr. Setley asked what the cash balance will be at the end of 2018. Mr. Cole estimated that there will be \$270,000 in savings to be used for debt payment. Ms. Johnston asked if SBREMS has a capital plan. Mr. Cole responded that SBREMS has a wish list and would like to replace one vehicle per year. Mrs. Hoover asked about the age of the fleet. Chief Musser stated the oldest unit is 2004 and they last about 10 years. Litters need to be upgraded and cost \$17,000. A cardiac monitor costs \$39,000. Mr. Cole informed the Board that SBREMS is applying for a \$90,000 grant for a Lucas device, but a 20% match must be funded. The cost would be \$16,940 and SBREMS is the only EMS service in the County that does not have a Lucas device.

Mr. Setley asked Mr. Cole, "What is the bottom line?"

Mrs. Hoover stated, "I would like to increase the Township's contribution by \$30,000 more."

Ms. Johnston presented 4 options. First, the Township could maintain the current rate of .22 mills, providing \$150,000 cash and paying for the radios and dispatching. Second, if the CPI since 2010, the first year of the ambulance tax, is considered, the millage would increase to .23 and \$18,000 in additional revenue would be available. Third, if a calculation based on additional dwelling units since 2010, at \$30/unit (the original formula for the ambulance tax), is used, less than \$10,000 in additional revenue would be achieved. Fourth, if \$1/person/month is considered, over \$31,000 in additional revenue would be generated; the millage would be .25. For less than the price of a cup of coffee per month, Township residents are provided with ambulance service that does not send a bill for the balance of what insurance will not pay.

ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. HOOVER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO INCREASE THE AMBULANCE FUND MILLAGE TO .25 MILS FOR THE 2019 BUDGET.

The Board discussed paying the amount in thirds, April, July, and October.

Debt Service Fund

Ms. Johnston presented the debt service fund budget to the Board. No changes were proposed for this fund.

SMP Fund

Ms. Johnston explained to the Board how the SMP Fund currently operates. Ms. Johnston stated 2020 will be when enforcement for delinquencies will need to take place for District 1. Ms. Johnston informed the Board that a revision of the Act 537 plan must be submitted in 2019 and there will be SMP fund expenses associated with that project. The Board agreed to stay the course with the current fees and reevaluate the fee schedule in the 2020 budget.

Administration – legal fees

ON MOTION MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MR. MILLER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING THE FIXED MONTHLY RATE FOR TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR SERVICES WITH MICHAEL A. SETLEY, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,000.00 A MONTH WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SPECIAL CASES.

Ms. Johnston will look at the average amounts in the legal line items for the past several years to determine an expense distribution for the 2019 budget.

DEPARTMENTS

Public Works

A) Sale of Surplus Property Resolution

Veh #	YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	VIN	DESCRIPTION
4	2008	FORD	CROWN VICTORIA	2FAFP71V38X174673	Police Car

ON MOTION OF MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MR. MILLER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE ADOPTING A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP STAFF TO ADD A 2008 CROWN VICTORIA TO THE SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY.

B) Poplar Neck Bridge Repair – pay app 3

ON MOTION OF MR. MILLER, SECOND OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING APPLICATION FOR PAYMENT NO. 3 FOR POPLAR NECK BRIDGE REPAIR, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$325,427.83.

ON MOTION OF MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MR. MILLER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP TO ENGAGE IN LITIGATION WITH DESSCO AGAINST NORFOLK SOUTHERN BEFORE THE PUC.

Mrs. O'Leary asked when the Township would apply for a PIB loan for road work. Ms. Johnston responded that the intent was to apply in 2019 for reconstruction of Oregon Rd. in 2020, then apply in 2020 for reconstruction of Hunters Rd. in 2021. The long country roads are extremely expensive to reconstruct, but they are important connector roads.

Ms. Johnston informed the Board that, if a PIB loan is spent on roads, liquid fuels funds can be used for the loan payment and there is no match. If a PIB loan is spent on equipment, there is a 50% match. The Board concurred that the Township should apply for a PIB loan in 2019 for 2020 road work.

With respect to equipment, Ms. Johnston provided additional information. The mechanics are of the opinion that truck 73 needs to be replaced as soon as possible due to salt corrosion. Either truck 71 or 72 also should also be replaced as they are not far behind in the level of corrosion and the small dump trucks are used heavily. The third truck should be replaced in 2020. Public works is recommending replacing trucks 71 and 73 in 2019.

CORRESPONDENCE

- A) Meeting advertised in the Reading Eagle

COMMISSIONERS

- A) Executive session

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:06 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Latoya Procopio
Secretary