

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING                      NOVEMBER 8, 2018**

The special budget meeting of the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Ruth O’Leary at 5:30 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, and Secretary Latoya Procopio.

Pledge to the Flag.

**COMMISSIONERS**

A) Executive session

5:30 p.m. – The Board of Commissioners went into executive session to discuss 1 personnel matter, and 1 pending litigation matter.

5:55 p.m. – The meeting reconvened. Mr. Setley stated that the Board of Commissioners had discussed 1 personnel matter and 1 pending litigation matter.

Commissioner David Batdorf arrived at the budget meeting at 5:55 p.m.

**PUBLIC**

**2019 BUDGET**

Refuse Fund

A) 2019 Refuse and Recycling Contract – award bid

BIDDERS	BASE REFUSE BID	OPTION YEAR 1 2022	OPTION YEAR 2 2023
EAGLE		\$379,439.00	\$394,616.00
2019	\$340,587.00		
2020	\$352,507.00		
2021	\$364,845.00		
JP MASCARO		\$483,012.00	\$499,920.00
2019	\$445,428.00		
2020	\$455,172.00		
2021	\$467,808.00		
REPUBLIC		\$590,843.81	\$614,477.56
2019	\$525,258.00		
2020	\$546,268.32		
2021	\$568,119.05		

**ON MOTION OF MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO AWARD THE 2019 -2021 REFUSE CONTRACT TO EAGLE DISPOSAL.**

Ms. Johnston presented the Refuse Fund to the Board of Commissioners, giving different options for the refuse rate. The Board of Commissioners stated that the format of the rate should continue to be 1 adult/2+adults and the amount of any increase should be the same for 1 adult or 2+ adults. Ms. Johnston informed the Board that, due to the 2018 fund deficit and increased hauling expenses for 2019, the refuse fund rate needs to be raised in 2019. She also stated that less recycling grant money is expected over the next few years as the effects of the reduction in the Chinese recycling market are felt.

**ON MOTION OF MR. MILLER, SECOND OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO INCREASE THE REFUSE RATE TO \$185 FOR 1 ADULT AND \$205 FOR 2 OR MORE ADULTS.**

#### Fire Fund

Chief Beane informed the Board that duty shifts are not being covered due to the reduction in volunteers. The solution is to bring on more full time firefighters. Mrs. O'Leary questioned if more staff would allow for an overnight shift. Chief Beane stated the Township is not equipped to run an overnight shift as there is no place to sleep or shower for an overnight shift. He stated that the critical hours for coverage are 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**ON MOTION OF MR. BATDORF, SECOND OF MR. MILLER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP STAFF TO BUDGET THE HIRING OF 2 FIREFIGHTERS AT A CLASS 2 RATE.**

The Board of Commissioners established the 2019 fire fund millage to be 1.23 mills in order to save additional funds for fire station design and construction.

Chief Beane described the need to replace tanker 42-1 due to structural deficiencies; it will likely not pass inspection in April of 2019. The lead time for a tanker is 18 to 24 months. However, he has become aware of a Pierce tanker that is currently in production and not reserved for another department. He presented several options for potentially purchasing the Pierce tanker.

**ON MOTION OF MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MR. MILLER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF TO MOVE FORWARD WITH OPTION 2 TO REPLACE TANKER 42-1, NOT TO EXCEED \$326,900.00**

#### 2019 General Fund Budget Cuts

Ms. Johnston presented various general fund budget cuts in order to project a 2019-2020 carry over of \$4.5 million, as directed by the Board on 10/30/2018. With respect to recreation, the Board of Commissioners suggested the Township Staff put \$5,000.00 back into the yearly capital transfer. With respect to the highway department, Mrs. Hoover requested how often is a bucket truck rented for and how much it cost to rent the truck. Mr. McNichols stated the bucket truck is rented twice a year and it cost \$790 a week.

When the truck is rented it is normally kept for a week at a time. Mr. McNichols stated there is a long wait time when renting a truck; one recent streetlight repair project required a wait of 2 months before a bucket truck became available. Mr. Yost informed the Board that there are 203

former PPL streetlights now owned by the Township and 111 Med Ed streetlights where the poles are owned by the Township.

Mrs. Hoover suggested purchasing a used bucket truck. Mr. McNichols stated buying a used bucket truck can be done, but a used, refurbished truck costs almost as much as a new one. The Township has also had problems with used equipment. Mr. Miller stated the liaisons have already considered the option of buying a used bucket truck and recommend buying a new one. Mr. Gottschall agreed. Mr. Miller noted that the liaisons considered 3 options and are recommending the middle-of-the-road option.

Mrs. Hoover expressed concern about the amount of money the public works requests for equipment. Mr. McNichols stated that the staff would adjust to whatever spending is approved by the Board, but recommends equipment necessary to maintain the level of service required by the Board.

Mrs. O'Leary stated she would like the Township to start escrowing money for future roadwork, such as Hunters Road. The Board of Commissioners agreed that, of the general fund portion of the 2019 Benecon refund, 70% should go to 2020 roadwork and the other 30% should towards a 2020 police car.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

A) Meeting advertised in the Reading Eagle

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**ON MOTION OF MR. BATDORF, SECOND OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, A UNANIMOUS  
VOTE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:30 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,



Latoya Procopio  
Secretary