

**Cumberland Township Board of Supervisors
1370 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325
November 03, 2022 –7:00 P.M. Budget Workshop**

Budget Workshop Minutes

At 7:00 P.M. the budget workshop was called to order by Chairman Toddes. Present were Supervisors: Toddes, Phiel, Ramsburg, Biggins, and Brauning. Also, present Township Manager Ben Thomas, Jr. (via phone), Treasurer/Finance Director Camie Stouck-Phiel, Sgt. Joshua Rosenberger and Maintenance Superintendent Christopher Walter.

Public Comment: None

Mrs. Stouck-Phiel reported the budget was authored holding the real estate tax at 1.9 mills. All other ancillary taxes are by statute. The preliminary budget in its present state has a deficit of around \$500,000. The greatest revenue loss is the police school resource officer revenues, the former SRO was absorbed into the patrol side of the police department. The township is also no longer issuing building permits so that revenue is reduced, however, an employee is no longer paid to review building permits, perform building code duties, zoning officer duties, and code enforcement responsibilities as that is a contracted service. Total revenues are currently projected at \$3,737,162. This may see additional adjustments prior to the Supervisor's regular meeting on November 22, 2022 when the preliminary budget must be approved with final approval at the December 22, 2022 Supervisor's regular meeting.

Mrs. Stouck-Phiel also reported that the expenditure categories include employee wage increases based on collective bargaining agreements. Two office employees and a future manager are not members of the collective bargaining unit. Tax collection expenditure accounts are set by Township legislative action for collection and commissions. If there is a tax increase, these numbers would increase based on collection commission. Law professional service is even, however, that is subject to events and Supervisors direction during the year. The secretary and treasurer expenditures will have a moderate increase based on the newly repositioned pension contribution line item. Stouck-Phiel mentioned that the general government administration and computer services include inflationary increases. Likewise, building maintenance increases by 4% for inflationary utilities costs and aging infrastructure requiring more maintenance. The township is pro-active for preventative maintenance with internal infrastructure. The police department is authored with the projected 2023 insurance figures and CBA wages. Sgt. Joshua Rosenberger was available to assist with any board questions. Stouck-Phiel stated that the planning and zoning expenditures were very difficult to project for 2023 due to the lack of history using a third-party vendor.

The road department expenditures were reviewed by Maintenance Superintendent Chris Walter. In 2022 a much-needed employee was added to the maintenance department, this increases wages and benefits. Fuel costs will continue to rise due to inflation and a concern for supply chain issues, especially, for diesel fuel. Due to inflationary costs rising for blacktop, stone, and stormwater piping these figures have been significantly increased so as not to realize a deterioration of approximately \$12 million of road and stormwater infrastructure.

Stouck-Phiel continued the expenditures with the \$30,000 reserved for land preservation. She also stated that at the end of 2022 the maintenance building debt will total \$131,393. The principal amount is now down to \$865,602.27 at an interest rate of 1.28%.

The current preliminary budget is currently authored suggesting a transfer to the Capital Reserve Fund during the year of \$130,000 to fund depreciation. These funds are reviewed two times per year.

In conclusion, Stouck-Phiel stated that the expenditures total \$4,223,115.61, therefore \$485,953.61 is needed to balance the GF budget.

Mrs. Stouck-Phiel went over the budgets for the American Rescue Plan Act Fund, Capital Reserve Fund, Fire Tax Fund, Park and Recreation Fund, and State Fund.

Mr. Phiel, on behalf of the Finance Committee, made a statement thanking the staff for the time and effort put into developing the draft budgets.

The Board of Supervisors reviewed a proposal for the 2023 Green Light Go grant. **Mrs. Biggins made a motion to accept the McMahon Traffic Engineering proposal in the amount of \$15,500 for the grant logistics. The motion was seconded by Mr. Phiel and carried.**

There being no further business, the workshop was adjourned at 9:18 P.M.

Camie Stouck-Phiel, Treasurer

_____)
_____)
_____) Supervisors
_____)
_____)