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The meeting of the Douglass Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 6:16 P.M. Attending were Chairman Fred Ziegler, Supervisor Tim Turner, Supervisor John Stasik, Solicitor Charles Markofski, Cynthia O'Donnell, Pete Hiryak, Mike Heydt, Chief Templin, 1 resident, and a newspaper reporter from the Boyertown Times.

Mr. Ziegler led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

There was an insurance meeting, with the Townships insurance agent Chris Meagher, tonight at 5:00pm prior to the Budget meeting involving renewal rates and cost reducing options available to the current insurance plan.

Ms. O'Donnell went over the final review of the 2012 Budget reflecting the changes that were discussed at the November 7th, 2011 meeting. With the proposed healthcare cost changes for the police to go from PP01 to Direct POS, the same plan that the non-uniform currently holds there would be a savings of approximately \$86,000.00 if the police bargaining unit agrees to this change in their contract negotiations. This reduction would wipe out the \$77,000.00 deficit that we are facing in 2012. The Treasurer also discussed other proposals from the insurance agent that would cut the cost by increasing co-pays for primary care and increasing the drug plan to \$10 for generic, \$40 brand name, and \$70 non-formulary. Mr. Heydt had concerns of the non-uniform employees taking the brunt of the hit again because non-uniform changed insurance plans last year; his feelings are that they should keep uniform and non-uniform employees on the same insurance plan and not differentiate between them. We used to be on the same policy (PC5) until a previous Board changed it in 2004. The manager stated that the Board requested staff provide them with cost saving options and this is what we are providing for the Board. The Treasurer stated that we still have the unfunded OPEB for the Police, the cost would be reduced if the police moved to Direct POS, the estimate 2011 cost is \$493,435.00 the obligation is \$1,183,000.00. Mr. Markofski stated that he has a paralegal re-evaluating the revised contract so that the Board can see the changes in the proposed contract.

The Chief stated that he can cut the new police vehicle (\$36,412.87) from the budget and reduce the fleet to 7 cars in 2013. The new car was the only fluff in my budget. The cars are running well at this point, Officer Perretta went over them and we will need new tires in 2012. In 2013 we would have to replace a vehicle. Mr. Markofski asked if the fulltime officers are included in the budget, the Chief replied that new fulltime officers are included in the budget. Mr. Ziegler asked about fuel, Chief Templin replied the 2011 average was \$24,000 and that will be bumped up for 2012. Mr. Ziegler asked what CMERT costs, the Chief replied that CMERT is \$3,000 per year. Training fee, training is twice a month and in 2012 the only officer in CMERT training will be Clemko. There is a 3-day training event once a year. Mr. Ziegler asked that if the police bargaining unit go with the change in insurance will you still want the new car, the Chief replied that he would like to get rid of 91-6 (SUV) to pay down the cost of a new car. Mr. Ziegler asked the Chief what his thoughts were on them accepting the insurance change; the Chief replied if it was me I would take it, someone should talk to bargaining unit. Mr. Turner commented that he doesn't think the Chief should get rid of the 91-6 (SUV) because the ground clearance is needed with accumulating snow, it would be the only vehicle to get through deep snow. Mr. Ziegler asked about the Impala, the Chief replied that they can't get much money for it because it was a law enforcement vehicle. Mr. Theil commented that he believes that the police bargaining unit will agree to the health care change. The Treasurer stated that we must vote on the budget at the meeting on November 21st, 2011. The solicitor recommended an Executive Session to be held at 6:00pm for the Board and a representative from the police bargaining unit to be present for an Executive Session at 6:30pm. Mr. Ziegler instructed Chief Templin to have Corporal Steffie contact him.

The road master commented that he can cut the cost of a proposed building to store snow equipment from \$15,000 to \$9,000 reducing his budget by \$6,000. Truck repairs and road repairs would again come out of the Liquid Fuels fund. A lot of equipment will be out in the harsh winter since the old salt bins were demolished; Mr. Heydt wants to build a shell and roof on the existing sides to shelter the equipment this winter. The Board wanted this on the back burner until we see where the police department is going.

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Mr. Duncan stated that he has cut \$10,000 out of the parks budget, and on a suggestion from Supervisor Turner would request advertising from businesses to cover the costs @ \$250/per sign for 26 signs at a total of \$6,500.

In the administrative end the electric sign for the front of the Township building has been cut which will save \$5000 unless it is funded from donations. Repairing the sidewalks will remain in the budget because it is a safety issue. The manager stated that there is a 3% raise in the budget for non-uniform fulltime employees which amounts to \$10,000, part time equals \$2,000. A 3% uniform employee raise would equal \$20,000. The Treasurer stated that we will have a surplus of about 1.2 million in the next coming year. Mr. Stasik asked if non-uniform got a raise last year, the manager replied that two years ago they did not receive an increase however last year there was an increase. Mr. Ziegler asked Mr. Duncan how long ago did part time recycling receive an increase, he replied 2007. The Treasurer replied that part time at \$13.50 an hour is a pretty good rate in these times. Mr. Ziegler asked about longevity for non-uniform, the Treasurer replied that longevity is listed in the budget on page 6 for administration, page 7 for highway, and zoning on page 11.

The Board stated that now the deficit is at \$14,000, we do have reserves? The Treasurer replied we have 1.2 million but we have the unfunded OPEB police liability. Our income has increased this year, residential properties increase our income more than commercial properties do. The Local Services Tax (LST) is presently \$10; the deadline to increase the LST is due to the DCED by December 1st, 2011. The treasurer suggested to leave it stand at \$10 next year and to look at a possible increase for the 2013 Budget.

Mr. Ziegler asked Mr. Heydt to list all his vehicles and the mileage and give a copy to the Board before the next Board of Supervisors meeting. The manager commented that the EOC drill is tomorrow and we will be notified by radio. The Board stated that they would be okay with a \$14,000 deficit. Mr. Theil asked the treasurer if there was a way to refund the LST to the employees, we should take care of our own. The Board disagreed with Mr. Theils suggestion. No other comments were made.

Mr. Ziegler asked for Old Business/New Business, no one replied.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:24pm was made by Mr. Turner, seconded by Mr. Stasik. Ziegler-Aye, Stasik-Aye, Turner-Aye. Motion passed.

The next Board of Supervisor's meeting will be held on Monday, November 21st, 2011 @ 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Marcy Meitzler