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SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA - November 13, 2025 3:00PM

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance
- 3. Treasurer's Report Cindy O'Donnell
 - a. 2026 Full Budget Review
- 4. Old Business / New Business
- 5. Public Comment
- 6. Adjournment

Next Meeting Monday November 17, 2025 @ 7:00pm

The Special Meeting of the Douglass Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 3:12P.M. Attending were Supervisor Don Bergstresser, Vice Chair Sara Carpenter, Chairman Joshua Stouch, Manager Andrew Duncan, Assistant Manager David Thompson, Chief Robert Evans, Treasurer Cynthia O'Donnell, Mike Heydt, and McKenna Powanda. No public attended this meeting.

Ms. Carpenter led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Duncan announced that this Special Meeting for a 2026 full budget review was advertised in the Pottstown Mercury on November 7th, 2025 as well as social media and website.

Ms. O'Donnell went over the 2026 Full Budget Review – Ms. O'Donnell stated that developments are slowing down which will decrease growth in 2026 and Healthcare is increasing by \$200,000 alone. Ms. O'Donnell stated that after meeting with department heads the current 2026 budget deficit is \$759,288.94. Identified additional income for 2026 of \$52,500. Also identified expense items to be removed as follows: \$147,335 road construction/maintenance, new park trailer \$4,944.85, scanning software for Admin \$21,062.50, police smart board \$2,159.00, police station improvements \$62,438.00, police water fountain upgrade \$1,455.00, new phone & internet provider for police \$3,858.00, and potential personnel changes \$148,000.00 bringing the 2026 budget deficit to \$304,656.59. Some of the expenses to be removed may be paid from the capital reserve fund.

Further changes this evening included the addition of new police hire in the amount of \$108,000 due to delayed start date, Ms. O'Donnell said it would be a savings of \$45,000 but adding \$108,000 to the budget. Chief Evans cut the MVR video system for \$5500 from the budget. Chief Evans had safety concerns as far as the lobby area in the police department and reached out for an estimate of \$62,500 but felt that the cost may be able to be reduced by \$10,000 - \$15,000. It was discussed that this could be taken from the capital reserve fund. Also, Ms. O'Donnell & Mr. Duncan felt that the Township could cut the Solvency Fee of \$4,000, and the fire company vehicle insurance could be paid out of the fire tax saving \$10,880. If the multimodal grant for the County Line Road Bridge is awarded it would help reduce the deficit. As it stands now there is a deficit of \$438,000. The options are to raise taxes, raise taxes and pay down deficit from capital reserve fund, or use capital reserve fund to reduce entire deficit. Mr. Stouch stated that he was not comfortable making that decision without any public input. It was agreed that this will be on the agenda for the November 17th, 2025 Board of Supervisors meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Carpenter, seconded by Mr. Stouch to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Bergstresser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

Old Business/New Business

Ms. Carpenter announced that an Executive Session was held on November 5th, 2025 from approximately 7:19 to 7:54pm involving personnel matters and an Executive Session was held on November 12th, 2025 from approximately 11am to 12noon involving potential criminal/civil charges involving the Grosser Road open space. Mr. Stouch stated that residents are concerned about their wells going dry because of a proposed Aqua Water well system being placed on the 749 Congo Road development.

Public Comment

Mr. Duncan stated that the Liquid Fuels disbursement keeps decreasing every year and the maintenance & repairs to these roads will catch up to us, so he & Mr. Thompson are working on a color-coded paving map that will show which roads need to be repaired. Ms. O'Donnell commented that the Township could have switched to High Mark insurance at a 1% increase however High Mark doesn't offer a police retiree plan, we could have the retirees get their own insurance plan and reimburse them the cost. It could be a potential \$240,000 savings between the two policies for next year. Mr. Stouch stated that we could reach out to the retirees to discuss this further. No public attended the meeting.

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A motion was made by Ms. Carpenter, seconded by Mr. Stouch to adjourn the meeting at 4:25pm. Bergstresser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

The next Board of Supervisor's Meeting will be Monday November 17th, 2025 @ 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted by, Marcy Meitzler