

EAST PENNSBORO TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
NOVEMBER 13, 2019

Regular Meeting

6:30 p.m.

A Regular Meeting of the East Pennsboro Township Board of Commissioners was held on Wednesday, November 13, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. at the Community and Municipal Center, 98 S. Enola Drive, Enola, Pennsylvania.

Those present were: Commissioners - John Kuntzelman, President; George Tyson, Vice President; Kristy Magaro, Charley Gelb and Raymond "Skip" Magaro; John Pietropaoli, Township Manager; Lisa M. Coyne, Esquire, Township Solicitor; John B. Owen, Assistant Township Manager; Jared Hockenberry, Township Engineer; Dearan Quigley, Housing & Community Development; Chief Mark Green, Police Department; and Erik Owen, Fire Marshal.

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Kuntzelman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. A moment of silent meditation was observed in memory of Dottie Hall, wife of former Commissioner Charley Hall, who passed away recently, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

II. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

There was no business from the floor.

III. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL

MOTION for clarification regarding the November 6, 2019, approval of Ordinance no. 211-2019, numbered incorrectly and renumbered as Ordinance no. 811-2019, was made by Ms. Magaro, seconded by Mr. Tyson, and was carried by a unanimous aye vote.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

The Commissioners selected Wednesday, November 20, at 6:30 p.m., to meet with Fire Chief Erik Owen.

V. NEW BUSINESS

General Fund budget presentations.

Mr. Jared Hockenberry reviewed the highway aid budget. He noted liquid fuels revenue comes annually from the State based on distance and width of liquid fuel acceptable roadways, of which 20 percent can be used to purchase major equipment. The township usually builds that up for a couple of years and then uses it to purchase major equipment. In 2021, the board will have the potential to buy another piece of liquid fuels acceptable equipment purchase, which could be a plow truck, a sweeper, or a loader. The guidelines are particular that the equipment be used for highway work.

There were questions about the \$27,250.00 ambulance allocation. Commissioner Tyson suggested the allocation be used instead to cover the roof project for their building.

Mr. Pietropaoli noted the proposed budget with current allocations is \$300,000.00 over budget. He noted without a tax increase, the board will have to consider where cuts may be made to make up the overage in order to approve a balanced budget, as required by law. He suggested the board may want to hold off on all highway projects until a bond is floated, and he does not believe there will be room to fund an extra police officer in 2020.

The 2020 savings allocation for the radio fund, which will be needed in four years, will not be able to be included in the Fire budget, the Police budget, or the Administration budget. Additionally, next year is a 27-pay period year, with a 6.5-percent increase in health care insurance premiums. 75 to 80 percent of township employees are in negotiated contracts. Next year the township will have police negotiations, and the following year Teamsters negotiations.

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Mr. Skip Magaro noted the infrastructure is bad, there are a lot of roads that have problems, but if the township has to put a hold on infrastructure work for one year, it could consider prepping the roads that need to be piped. Additionally, there are over 60 drain boxes with old galvanized pipe in most of them that are rotting. Mr. Tyson noted that is MS4 related and will be covered under MS4 fees.

Mr. Pietropaoli noted the township tax rate is at 1.1 mills right now, which per \$100,000.00 in valuation amounts to \$110 in taxes. If it were raised .2 mills, that would give an additional \$20 per \$100,000.00. The proposed budget is in arrears of \$300,000.00. Currently, 1.1 mills is netting \$1,973,000.00. A quarter of a mill (.25) would raise an additional \$450,000.00, and .2 mills would break even with current needs.

Mr. Tyson noted the average house is \$150,000.00 to \$175,000.00, and .2 mills would be an increase of \$30 to \$35 a year. The MS4 fee will likely be between \$90 and \$100 per year. Mr. Tyson further noted the board should consider the cost of an engineer on staff. Calculating everything the township uses the engineer for his input, it might far exceed the contract cost with a third party.

Mr. Gelb asked in looking at the proposed stormwater fee and a possible millage increase, if anyone has considered an added fire tax. Mr. Tyson noted at the Fire Board meeting on Monday, they went through budgets in extensive detail at zero increase.

Mr. Pietropaoli will prepare for the board's review two versions of the budget, one with a small .2 millage increase, and one without an increase.

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m., was made by Mr. Tyson, seconded by Ms. Magaro, and was carried by a unanimous aye vote.