

PUBLIC MEETING OF MOOSIC BOROUGH COUNCIL 10-03-2016
715 Main St. Moosic, PA 18507 @7:00 p.m.

The Public Meeting of Moosic Borough Council was called to order by J. Dente. Roll call showed the following to be present: J. Mercatili, B. Besecker, J. Segilia, S. Kania and H. Lindsay. Absent was M. Nawrocki. Also present were Mayor J. Segilia.

The purpose of the public hearing was a draft presentation and discussion on the 2017 budget. J. Dente stated he is happy to deliver a no tax increase for 2017.

J. Mercatili expressed interest in the sewer user fee account, requesting that Council consider for recommendation eliminating the sewer user fee.

J. Segilia asked if Council had received a letter from the Greenwood Hose company regarding an increase in yearly allocation. J. Dente explained it will be discussed during the overview and presentation of the budget.

J. Sterling read the highlights of the a balance draft budget of 2017

Council Input:

J. Dente asked if any members of Council have any questions or comment at this time.

H. Lindsay question sewer user fee collection asking why it is going down. This is projection that Berkheimer sends over to the borough. The collection process is slow due to a 2nd quarter lag with billing the commercial users.

J. Dente explained that the debt proceeds figure are indicative to our major purchases for the year 2017 (new packer, Salina St. stormwater collection system). J. Mercatili suggested that we attempt to seek additional money from the county for the grant.

J. Mercatili proposed that we pay cash instead of a loan.

J. Dente mention that our health insurance will increase significantly stating there is a lot contributor facts to the price increase.

J. Dente explained we are utilizing a portion of liquid fuels funds and apply to payment for backhoe.

S. Kania stated that the police station is in bad shape if something major would happen where we would get the money. J. Dente explained it would be at the expense of something else.

J. Segilia asked about the fire at the police station. J. Dente stated that it turned out to be far less of a fire than a malfunction of the air conditioner. J. Segilia stated that we should budget for a new station it is a mess down there.

Mayor Segilia stated he is having a very hard time getting police officers due to the hourly wage.

J. Dente highlighted some budget items:

- * 700-800 Church St., 800 School St., Orange St. and 800 Grace St.
- * As we stood past so long with police salary we are raising the rate of part-time police officers to \$11.00 hour. Hoping this will impact overtime.
- * We are also funding a server for the police department.
- * We will increase the fire company donation from the current 40000.00 plus insurance to 45,000.00 plus insurance.

J. Segila asked with all the taxes we get from the mountain and business why can't we afford to give the hose company more money.

J. Mercatili asked when we are going to address the sewer user fee. J. Dente stated that we still have an unknown project so we are not going to address that until we get information from the engineers on the proposed Birney Ave. project.

H. Lindsay stated that we will also be buying equipment for sewers out of the sewer accounts. Also on the debt principal can we reduce that after we receive the rates from the bank. Once we get ammonization this is only a projection. This is what we use for budgetary purposes.

J. Segila stated that we are going to have to get money somewhere. We will be needing a police vehicle, he asked if we can consider lease.

J. Dente asked if any members of council have any comment on the 2017 budget.

Audience:

J. Dente asked if any members of the audience have any comment on the 2017 budget.

C. Molinaro asked council for consideration in raising the Greenwood Hose Company yearly allotment to \$50000.00. Explaining they are using a 20 year old truck that they are spending good money to repair, they need to replace this truck. Due to regulation a truck will come with a high cost. This will help us pay a 2% low interest note without taking away other parts of the daily expense of the fire department. J. Dente offered to revisit this matter at a later date and also keep a dialog open for other revenue services.

E. Prusinski asked if the borough has looked into any new source's of revenue such as a for profit day care center that operates out of the Lackawanna County visitors center that property tax can be applied, also PNC Stadium which is a for property entity in a non-profit building for real estate tax revenue, also the use of our amusement tax. Also the concert venues parks cars all over town do we get any money for that. J. Dente stated that this would be done only thru ligations which is costly.

J. Dente stated that sometime in 2017 the city of Scranton will be coming after the Local Service Tax that the borough has been collecting, it is there contingency that Cigna building is not in the Borough of Moosic.

Since no other members of the audience has any comment a **MOTION** is in order to adjourn. **MOTION** was made by B. Besecker, seconded by H. Lindsay. Roll call all voted **YES**.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane Sterling". The signature is written in black ink and is centered on the page.

Jane Sterling
Borough Secretary/Adm.