

## BUDGET WORKSHOP

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A special meeting of the Fox Township Board of Supervisors was held October 25, 2017 at 4:00 PM for the purpose of discussing the 2018 Budget and any other business that should come before the board, as was advertised. Those present: Mike Keller, Dave Mattiuz and Randy Gradizzi, supervisors, Kathy Dowie, secretary-treasurer, Scott Surra, Rob Singer, Ken Huey and Tom Young.

Chairman Mike Keller called the meeting to order and began by acknowledging the visitors.

Rob Singer spoke for the Rec Board. They had prepared a proposal for the recreation line items for the 2018 budget, as well as several repair projects. The Board reviewed the suggestions for the line items and felt that they were appropriate. Rob presented the projects the Rec Board would like to have done: re-surface the basketball court at the Main Street Park, at a quote of \$22,000, re-surface the tennis courts at a quote of \$15,000 and have the Skate Park equipment re-painted at a quote of \$11,000. They would also like to purchase a new John Deere riding lawn mower with a bagger at a quote of \$7,500. Rob also explained that these projects would come out of the Park Reserve fund and, as such, they would ask that the Board consider allocating additional monies to this fund for future upkeep of the parks. The Board tabled this discussion to later in the meeting.

Scott Surra, Fire Chief, offered figures for the Fire Protection Budget. With no current truck loan, this fund will have a nice balance for equipment reserve. Dave Mattiuz asked Scott when he felt the next truck purchase would be. Scott felt that a new engine would not be considered for another 5 years. The tank truck, once it no longer passes inspection, will not be replaced.

The next item to be discussed was road maintenance. Randy Gradizzi stated that he would like to budget for the following:

Salt, same as last year - \$50,000  
1B limestone, 2000 ton @ \$24 - \$48,000  
MC70 Dust Oil, 30,000 gallon @ \$2.50 - \$75,000  
Miscellaneous (catch basins, cold patch, etc.) - \$10,000

Boone Mt. Road – scratch and top the paved portion  
West Theresa Road – scratch and top the paved portion  
Seal Coat Shelvey Road – the total cost for all three bituminous projects would be \$203,000

The paving and seal coat were put into the State Fund Budget, with the balance of the State Fund being used for salt. The rest of these items were put into the General Fund for “Snow & Ice Removal” and “Road Maintenance supplies.”

In discussing the Landfill account budget, the Board included paving the fire hall parking lot. The resurfacing of the Main Street basketball court was included with this project, hoping to reduce the cost that was quoted to the Rec Board. The total, will be a line item in the Landfill Account budget, alleviating the Park Reserve account of this cost.

In the equipment reserve fund, the Board included the purchase of the riding lawn mower (\$7,500) and the purchase of a 10,000 lb. John Deere excavator (\$58,000). This will also alleviate the park reserve fund of the tractor purchase.

Road Maintenance projects in the landfill account will only include the Byrnedale Road project, at an amount of \$27,000. This project is still waiting for a possible grant from Trout Unlimited for a bottomless pipe.

The Fox Township Sewer Authority had discussed the existing agreement with the Township and decided that they no longer need to accept the \$75,000 annual supplement from the Township, beginning with the 2017 allocation. As such, this line item was removed from the Landfill Account Budget and a new agreement will be drafted. The new agreement will include a clause allowing the Sewer Authority to request the supplement, should they not be able to

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meet their expenses without raising the user fees to an unreasonable rate. The details of the new agreement will be worked on for a future meeting.

The Board then went into executive session to discuss wages. Upon returning, Mike Keller announced that a \$0.25 per hour increase would be budgeted for all the employees, with the exception of the PHEAA program workers.

These figures for the wages were added into the proposed budget.

Randy Gradizzi had presented a COSTARS price of \$24,000 from Kennedy Signs for the purchase of a new electronic sign at the Community Building. This was added into the 2018 Budget but, after totaling the budget of the General Fund and Landfill Account, this item would need to be removed in order to balance the 2018 Budget. With the 2017 budget projected to having extra funds available, particularly due to the change in the Sewer Authority allocation, a motion was made by Dave Mattiuz, seconded by Mike Keller, to approve purchasing a new electronic sign for the Community Building from Kennedy Signs from the 2017 budget. Motion carried.

Kathy Dowie will re-check all the figures and prepare the proposed budget for the Board to review at the next meeting.

## OTHER BUSINESS

Randy Gradizzi was approached by Vince Davis regarding his Toby Water bill. Davis was billed \$200 for a replaced meter on last quarter's billing, which is the new cost of meters. Having replaced several meters before, Davis felt that he only owed \$50, the previous price of a meter, and only paid that amount of his bill. He was subsequently charged a finance charge for the outstanding \$150. Randy explained that Davis had approached him prior to the recent billing, concerned about the meter charge. Randy had not been able to discuss the issue with the Board before the new billing went out and felt that perhaps the finance charge could be waived. As far as the meter charge, the Toby Water Policy was reviewed and it clearly states that the customer will be responsible for costs to replace a meter. A motion was made by Mike Keller, seconded by Dave Mattiuz to remove the finance charge from Davis' account for this billing period. If he does not pay in full, the charge will be again be added. Motion carried. Kathy will send Davis a new bill and enclose a copy of the policy as well as the invoice showing the cost of the meter.

With no other business to discuss, a motion was made by Dave Mattiuz, seconded by Randy Gradizzi to adjourn this meeting at 6:50 PM. Motion carried. Kathy Dowie will update the budget worksheets for review again at the next budget meeting on November 1st at 5 PM at the Municipal Building.