

BUDGET WORKSHOP

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A special meeting of the Fox Township Board of Supervisors was held October 26, 2016 at 4:00 PM for the purpose of discussing the 2017 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, JoAnn Grazioli, Don Ruffner, Cheryl Ruffner, Scott Surra, Rob Singer, Rick Krishart, Mike Agosti, Terry Krishart, Rob Woelfel, Matt Pontzer and Scott Surra.

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

Mike Agosti asked when the Board would be taking comments on the Budget. Mike Keller responded that it will be advertised for comments in November, but anyone can comment at any time.

Rob Singer suggested that the Board offer a reward for information leading to the arrest of the persons that stole sand from the park and vandalized the multipurpose field. A motion was made by Randy Gradizzi, seconded by Mike Keller to offer a \$1,000 reward to anyone who offers information leading to the arrest of the person who stole sand from the volleyball court and/or the person who vandalized the multipurpose field. Motion carried. Rob will look into getting this on crime stoppers.

Scott Surra, Fire Chief, was present to discuss the Fire Protection budget. With no large purchases being planned at this time, he suggested leaving the Fire Protection budget much the same. Each line item was then discussed with a figure being placed in the budget for each. Scott also asked the Board if they would approve the installation of a fire hydrant at the new fire hall. They will be running a 6-inch line for that project and would like a hydrant placed on fire department property. A motion was made by Randy Gradizzi, seconded by Dave Mattiuz to approve a fire hydrant the new fire hall, as determined by the fire chief. Motion carried.

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

4,000 ton 1B limestone at \$92,000 (approximately)

4,000 ton of 2A limestone with 1,000 ton being delivered this year yet. (\$68,000)

The same tons of salt

Only 10,000 gallons of MC70 Dust Oil

Paving Krise Road at \$125,000

Paving Lovers Lane (top coat) at \$99,500

Replace the cross drain on Byrnedale road with a squash pipe at a cost of \$24,000 for engineering and matching funds. The balance would be from a low-volume roads grant.

Seal coating Shelvey Road at \$35,000.

Repairs to the Keller Road Bridge (repoint stone & clean I beams) \$3,000

These items were worked into the State Fund and General Fund for road maintenance supplies.

Randy would also like to sell the 1995 dump truck with the money received being placed into the equipment reserve fund.

The Board went into an executive session to discuss personnel. Upon returning, Mike Keller announced that they would be giving the employees a \$0.25 per hour raise next year. Dave Mattiuz then suggested that they consider increasing the hourly rate of pay for the PHEAA students to \$10 per hour. He suggested this because he knew of two students that would have been eligible to work at the park this year but went to a plant because it paid \$10 per hour. In doing this, he feels that we will get more eligible students applying for these jobs. Kathy Dowie stated that she receive a letter from PHEAA stating that they are increase their reimbursement to 50% of the student's earnings up to \$2,500. Don Ruffner stated that the Rec. Board felt only 6 PHEAA students would be needed for programs next year. Dave Mattiuz felt that 8 students would be better. Kathy will calculate the new wages and related line items for the next meeting.

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In discussing the Landfill budget, Randy Gradizzi proposed that they clear lot 7 in the Industrial park to make it more marketable. He also suggested that they complete the upgrades to the stormwater system that were discussed earlier this year. Much of the work could be done by the road crew with a total cost for equipment rental and materials at \$17,800. This was added to the landfill budget.

Kathy Dowie proposed purchasing a new color copier for the Township building. Since this new copier would be networked, everyone could print their color and even black and white copies from it and likely save on toner costs. The cost of the new copier was quoted from Way Office Supply at \$4,271. Service cost would be \$.059 per BW copy and \$.0069 for color. This includes toner and servicing. This was budgeted from the building reserve fund for 2017.

Randy also suggested that the road master pickup truck be replaced, with the current one being given to the park staff and their current truck be sold. Dan Ruffner stated that Jerry Zimmerman suggested a new lawn tractor with a bagger, at a cost of \$5,500. Dave Mattiuz suggested that once all the wage items, cash transfer amounts and investment amounts were input into the budget, that any remaining landfill money be placed in the equipment reserve fund.

The garbage compactor needs replaced. The landfill quoted this at \$18,932. A motion was made by Dave Mattiuz, seconded by Randy Gradizzi to replace the compactor, with delivery after January 1, 2017. Motion carried. This was added to the budget.

The final fund to be discussed was the Toby Water fund. Since St. Marys water has supplied water to Toby, the Township has been paying more to St. Marys than has been collected from the customers. The Toby Water fund has now significantly decreased in reserve and no longer has enough in it to pay additional engineering costs and basic operations at the current customer rates. It is estimated that the balance in the fund will be only \$16,000 at the end of 2016. After much discussion, it was decided that rates will need to increase to \$9 per month in readiness to serve fees and \$6 per 1,000 gallons of water used. It was also decided that they would do another timber sale to offset the costs of the engineering fees to study the permanent interconnect with St. Marys which is quoted at \$19,200.

With no other business to discuss, a motion was made by Dave Mattiuz, seconded by Randy Gradizzi to adjourn this meeting at 6:24 PM. Motion carried. Kathy Dowie will update the budget worksheets for review again at the next budget meeting on November 2nd at 5 PM at the Municipal Building.