CHARTIERS TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS BUDGET WORKSHOP & OTHER BUSINESS

Wednesday November 9, 2022 5:42 pm

The Budget Workshop was called to order at 5:42 P.M. Wednesday, November 9, 2022.

ATTENDANCE:

Attending the workshop were Supervisors Bronwyn Kolovich, Frank Wise, and Gary Friend. Also attending were Jodi L. Noble-Township Manager, Judy Taylor, Treasurer; and Jamie Rozzo, Recording Secretary

Jodi went over the Difference Card outlook for the rest of the year. We were projected to save money by switching to The Difference card. We went overbudget instead. It did not work as planned and failed significantly to function for employees. Her suggestion to the Board is to switch back to the traditional Highmark plan for 2023, which would be flat or even save money over the Difference Card.

The fire insurance has increased for the Fire Dept. It will have a neutral effect on the budget. The fire departments allocation was higher this year due to the fire study.

The Police overtime is up as the school as additional police presence was requested at the school this year. The school compensates the Township for any overtime incurred. Jodi, Chief, and the Superintendent will have another meeting regarding regular staffing for the school. The worker's comp has increased this year for the police dept. Police MMO is our largest expense.

The planning/zoning department had additional expenses due to hiring Harshman Group LLC, to fill in with the absence of a planning/zoning director. A new Director of Engineering / Planning will be starting soon.

Jodi has budgeted for an increase for sanitation/recycle as that has to go out bid this year and she has prepared the recycling bid specifications. She suggested a shorter-term option than our normal five year option given the price of fuel, we may not want to be locked into a long term contract at this time. Mr. Wise asked if we want to consider if single hauler would save residents money and limit the number of overweight trucks on the roads? Mrs. Kolovich expressed a concern

as that concept was not well received previously. Mrs. Noble advised that many years ago it is her understanding that the Township considered unified hauler and residents were vehemently opposed. A lengthy discussion followed and the Board asked the Manager to bid two shorter term recycling options and a unified hauler option to see what those prices might come in at if there is any potential savings for residents. She will advertise a 1 year recycle, a 3 year recycle and a 3 year recycle with a 2 year trash option beginning in 2024 in case that option would present a cost savings, it would give residents a year.

Jodi budgeted for winter OT in Public Works due to plowing/snow removal. She has also suggested we take out a loan on a new truck instead of buying one outright, due to the increase in prices.

There is a new procedure for Engineer Escrows as suggested by the Auditors.

The Landfill Host Fee met budget for the first time since 2019.

Real Estate taxes have increased this year. Act 13 has seen an increase as well.

Building permits are up this year but are starting to slow.

Jodi kept the General Fund budget conservative for next year.

Chartiers revenue exceeded the budget but not expenses. Storm water management will see a decrease in budget as the new Director of Engineering / Planning will be helping with this project. Our local services tax is down. Parks and Rec is under budget currently.

Jodi and Judy will go over the budget again to fine tune it. Jodi also went over the department request with the Board to see what items they would like to purchase and hold off on.

The budget meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Frank Wise Jr.

Jamie Rozzo -Recording Secretary