

October 6, 2009 - Antrim Township Board of Supervisors

MINUTES OF THE ANTRIM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WORKSESSION MEETING

October 6, 2009 7:00 p.m.

The Antrim Township Board of Supervisors held a budget worksession meeting on Tuesday, October 6, 2009 in the Antrim Township Municipal Building, 10655 Antrim Church Road, with the following present: Chairman Curtis Myers, Vice Chairman Rick Baer, Fred Young III, Sam Miller, James Byers, Brad Graham; Township Administrator and Mary Klein; Secretary/Treasurer.

Visitors: There were none.

Chairman Myers called the worksession meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Chairman Myers called for public comment.

Bill Hull, President of the Rescue Hose Company addressed the Supervisors regarding the 2009 contribution the Board of Supervisors approved in the beginning of the year. He wanted to formally ask the Supervisors for the contribution. He also asked them to consider an additional donation of \$100,000.00 from the general equipment fund to help them with the cost of a new rescue vehicle that is going to cost \$575,000.00 next year. They would like this contribution in addition to the normal contribution. He wanted the Supervisors to keep that in mind as they are planning the 2010 budget. The Supervisors acknowledged Mr. Hull's requests.

A Miller/Byers motion passed 4-0 (Young arrived late) to approve a planning module to DEP for the removal of Lift Station # 4.

Supervisor Young arrived at this time – 7:09 p.m.

Township Administrator, Brad Graham addressed the Supervisors regarding a letter we received from a resident concerning Trick-or-Treat night. They would like the Township to recognize a date. As a result of the letter, the Borough of Greencastle changed their official date to the 31st. The Supervisors all agreed that the Township would not designate a night for Trick-or-Treat and leave it up to the developments in the area to designate their own night.

Administrator Graham also addressed the Supervisors about designating an attorney to serve as Labor Counsel for the Township for personnel matters. This is per a requirement from National Casualty, the company that carries our labor-related insurance coverage. Administrator Graham recommended to the Supervisors that we designate attorney Crystal Clarke as Labor Counsel for personnel matters since she is the attorney who is handling our current litigation with previous employees' of the Township.

A Myers/Miller motion passed with unanimous vote to designate Crystal Clarke as Labor Counsel for the Township for personnel matters.

The Supervisors, Administrator Brad Graham and Secretary/Treasurer Mary Klein reviewed the current budget by referring to the Statement of Revenues and Expenses Compared to Budget – Period 9 Report. There was a general discussion about some of the line items on the report.

The Supervisors then reviewed the Budget Worksheet – Revenues report and focused on several line items individually. The first line item they discussed was the Earned Income Tax and they mentioned the fact that this could be down significantly next year due to the layoffs from various large companies

in the Township, such as Grove and Jerr-Dan. The Supervisors agreed to decrease the budget amount for several revenue line items for next year due to the current economy. They decided to decrease the EIT next year to \$900,000.00 from the \$1,300,000.00 that was budgeted this year to be conservative. They agreed that the Real Estate Transfer taxes should be decreased to \$200,000.00 from the \$280,000.00 that was budgeted this year since it seems we won't reach the budgeted amount this year. They also agreed to decrease the land use permits budget from \$40,000.00 down to \$30,000.00. They agreed to decrease the State aid for pension from \$70,000.00 to \$60,000.00. There was an agreement to decrease the subdivision fees from \$12,000.00 to \$6,000.00. A discussion about the host fees that we receive from Waste Management resulted in them increasing of the Out-of-State fees budget amount from \$100,000.00 to \$150,000.00.

The Supervisors and Administrator Brad Graham reviewed some items on the expense side that they would like to see budgeted for next year. Supervisor Sam Miller mentioned that he would like to see money budgeted next year for intersections in the Township that will need improvements such as Williamsport Pike and Hykes Road and State Line. He would also like to see money budgeted next year for adding another road crew person and a part-time engineer. Administrator Graham stated that they would need to budget for the road improvements they would like to do next year. Administrator Graham mentioned that Paul Minnich, Roadmaster would like to pave another 7-8 miles of road next year. Supervisor Sam Miller mentioned that we should perform traffic studies and impose weight limits on Coseytown Road and on other roads in the Township that are being newly paved. The Supervisors all mentioned they would like to see funds budgeted for next year to make improvements to the current Township building. Discussion regarding the potential building improvements included installing new ceiling tile, drywall to replace the paneling, new lights, making the restrooms handicap accessible, new flooring, installing a new sewer line to connect to the sewer system and possibly installing a new roof over the garage area. Administrator Graham mentioned that Roadmaster, Paul Minnich would also like a new implement shed to be built to store some of the Township equipment. Chairman Curtis Myers mentioned that the State Line Ruritan Community Park is in financial trouble and wouldn't be surprised if they didn't ask us to take it over next year. Administrator Graham mentioned the old concession stand building at the Martin's Mill Bridge Park and that the boy scouts would like to use the building next year for storage. Supervisor Byers mentioned that he would like to see us build a cul-de-sac at Martin's Mill Bridge Park to gate it off next year and to concentrate on having more security at the park to alleviate the vandalism that is occurring at the park.

Administrator Graham reviewed a list with the Supervisors of items that Paul Minnich, Roadmaster would like to see budgeted for next year. The first item on his list was the implement shed/storage building to store the equipment that is currently being stored outside. The second item on the list is to replace the 1991 Chevy pickup with a newer vehicle. Mr. Minnich would also like to purchase a new mini excavator next year for smaller jobs the road crew would be doing that do not require large equipment such as the track hoe. Administrator

Graham replied to the Supervisors that he thinks we could rent a mini excavator for any projects we might have and it would cost us less, while we determine if it would really be beneficial to own one. The Supervisors all agreed that we would rent one if necessary. The next item on Mr. Minnich's list was to budget funds next year to replace the tires on the large equipment at a cost of approximately \$20,000.00. He would also like to replace truck # 2 at a cost of approximately \$130,000.00. Administrator Graham also stated they would like to contract out the road side mowing next year.

Administrator Graham addressed the Supervisors regarding some items the utilities department would like to see budgeted for next year. He mentioned that the ATMA could use funds from the Repair & Improvement fund next year to replace some more generators at the lift stations as well as replace more of the lift stations. He also mentioned that we will need to budget next year for additional chemicals for

Lift Station # 17. Roger Nowell, Water Plant Operator would like the Township to consider doing a trial of utilizing chemicals that could impact solids by using enzymes at the Sewer Plant. If successful the annual cost for the chemicals would be approximately \$25,000.00. This could potentially eliminate or delay the need for the Township to do the Sludge Drier project. Chairman Myers mentioned that we will need to comply with the recycling requirements of the State very soon. He also mentioned about putting trash pickup for the residents of the Township out to bid.

A Baer/Young motion passed with unanimous vote to adjourn the budget worksession meeting at 9.02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Klein

Secretary/Treasurer