



PENN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

100 Municipal Building Road

Duncannon, PA 17020-1100

Township Office 834-5281

Fax 834-6854

E-Mail: penntwp6@ptd.net

Brian K. Peters, Chairman

Brian R. Maguire, Vice-Chairman

Joseph M. Landis, Supervisor

**DECEMBER 13, 2016 Budget Meeting**

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The Penn Township Board of Supervisors (PTS) met in the Municipal Building on Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 7:11 PM. Chairman Brian Peters, Vice Chairman Brian Maguire and Supervisor Joseph Landis were in attendance. Other personnel present were Helen Klinepeter (Secretary) and Roadmaster Kenneth Chubb. Chairman Peters called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. He announced that the meeting was being recorded to aid in the preparation of the minutes. A list of visitors is on file in the Township Office.

The Chairman stated that there was no Executive Session since the last meeting.

**VISITORS**

**Robert Benner**

Mr. Benner offered that this is a senior community and is on a fixed income. If they are working, they are working for minimum wage. There are no decent restaurants or hotels in the area if someone wants to build one, where would they put it, next to the rundown building or the junk yard. He offered that there should be other resources than the property owners.

**Lucinda Novinger**

Ms. Novinger offered that a tax raise would be a burden for most the residents of the Township. A tax increase only effects people who own property and that not all the Supervisors own property in the Township.

**Sue Smith**

Mrs. Smith offered that she has been going over the numbers and has noticed that most of the money has been going toward the Police Department. Her concern is that she does not like not having a police department but also noticed that some of the income is depended upon the police department. The other thing she was wondering about a regionalization of the police department. Could this be looked at in the future?

**Robert Gouse**

Mr. Gouse wanted to know how the Supervisors run this Township when a CD had to be cashed.

**Henry Holman, III**

Mr. Holman asked if the Supervisors have done an evaluation of the cost of increase of these proposals. Mr. Peters offered that the increase to the 1 mill would be \$100.00 a year or \$8.33 a month. An increase to 1.25 mill would be \$125.00 a year and \$10.42 a month. Mr. Holman asked what a new home would cost to build. The estimate would be \$200,000 with land. Mr. Holman stated that all the figures would then be doubled.



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**Lee Wright**

Mr. Wright offered that the tax increase does not include the fire tax. Therefore a \$200,000-dollar home would be twice that tax a year. Mr. Peters offered that the Fire Tax not part of the General Fund tax. This would include the whole new tax.

Mr. Wright asked if the Police Chief position was advertised yet. Secretary responded in the negative as the advertisement has not been generated. Mr. Peters offered that the advertisement had to wait until this meeting for the decision on what would happen to the police department.

**Sue Smith**

Ms. Smith asked if the millage is the increase to the amount listed or by the amount listed. Mr. Peters offered that it is to the amount listed.

**BUDGET**

**John Gerner**

Mr. Gerner offered that the handout is different from what was given tonight. He asked what the new final numbers are on the new handout. Secretary provided the information. Mr. Gerner asked if summarization could be given of the items that have changed. Secretary then listed the line item number and what the amount was changed to.

**Henry Holman, III**

Mr. Holman asked if the diesel fuel under 01.437.245 was used. Mr. Holman offered that the PTMA is having that serviced by a third party. The Board of Supervisor decided to eliminate that line item upon the recommendation Mr. Holman.

**Lucinda Novinger**

Ms. Novinger asked in regards to the Humane Society line item that we spent less than budgeted but the amount is the same. Secretary explained that number reflects the contract with humane society and the escrow being asked. The Township must pay for any dogs taken to the humane society by the police department or the dog warden. This will also cover the feral cat population.

**Stanley Mutzabaugh**

Mr. Mutzabaugh asked about line items 35.430.740, if it was for the rental of equipment. Secretary responded that no that is a payment for the dump truck that we are paying on and for a payment if we get a skid loader/trailer.



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Mr. Mutzabaugh asked about the seal coat line item. Mr. Chubb offered that is for the tar and chipping of Watts Drive. Mr. Mutzabaugh asked what the road way servicing is for. Mr. Chubb offered that is for Watts Paving. Mr. Chubb then explained some of the items that the money could be used for.

**John Gerner**

Mr. Gerner offered that in 2016 the expenses were over the revenue and to do a balanced budget the money from General Fund and CDs were used. This amount has not been shown this year. Secretary replied that is correct because she did not know which revenue or expense budget was being used. Mr. Gerner asked if before a balance is adopted should the amount brought over from the CDs and general fund be shown? Secretary explained that the Board has those numbers. They just have to decide which revenue and expense option they are going to implement and then I could show that amount.

Mr. Peters offered that the Board must look at what to do with the police department, and that the numbers are lower than last year. Discussion continued the different options for the police department.

**Lucinda Novinger**

Ms. Novinger offered that the amount in the CDs is the amount being put over to balance the budget is the whole of our savings. This would wipe out the Township savings. Ms. Jodi Reisinger offered that some of the reasons were people working for nothing and lending equipment. Ms. Novinger offered that we have positions that we did not have in the past. Mr. Peters asked what positions we have now. Ms. Novinger offered that a Police Administrator. Mr. Peters stated that we don't have a Police Chief. Ms Novinger then offered that we hired him when there is a hiring freeze, and we paid off the Police Chief instead of just letting his time run out at the end of the year and we have hired a HR Attorney for \$8,000.

Mr. Peters offered that the situation is that with the constraints on the Borough, they had to let the Police Contract go. Additional costs are due to the decisions of previous boards. Mr. Peter's recommendation is to do away with the Police Department.

**Steve Crider**

Mr. Crider offered not to do away with the police department, but to spend it and re-organize and come back next year and have a public meeting for the residents to comment on what they want. Mr. Crider offered comments in regards to the police department.



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John Gerner

Mr. Gerner asked what would be a downside to the suspension of the police department. Mr. Peters offered that the police budget was redone. Mr. Crider offered other comments and the discussion commenced.

Mr. Gerner asked if we could increase the EIT tax. Secretary explained that the Township is at the max that it can receive on the EIT which is .5%. It was explained that the law would have to change for an increase in the percentage allowed.

Lucinda Novinger

Ms. Novinger offered that the figure for Street Lights Revenue is low.

Henry Holman, III

Mr. Holman asked if the Township needed CDL testing needed as we don't have a CDL Truck. This line item should be changed to Drug testing for all personnel.

FIRE TAX

Mr. Peters explained why a fire tax is being considered. He offered that with a fire tax the line items be developed by the Township with more flexibility with the Fire Companies. There are two proposals for .75 mills and .85 mills.

Byron Worner

Mr. Worner asked what was the figure for worker's compensation from Duncannon Borough. Secretary replied that the last bill we received was \$9,000. Mr. Worner asked why the budgeted amount is \$15,000. Mr. Peters offered that the Township is in discussion with Perdix Fire Company. Mr. Peters emphasized that there's no blame to put onto Perdix Fire Company for this tax. Mr. Worner also noticed that there is not a line for fuel this year. Would this be under the fire tax? The answer was affirmative. Mr. Worner then asked about the additional \$12,500 still owed for this year, is this in other donations. Mr. Peters offered that the rest of 2016 donations will not be paid out this year. Mr. Worner asked if it is deferred to 2017. Further discussion on the fire tax and possible payment continued.

Mr. Worner asked if the discussions regarding its apparatus and needing an increase in the funding was considered. Mr. Landis stated that it was in consideration.

Kraig Nace

Mr. Nace asked if the Township Code stated that if there is 25% change the budget would have to be re-advertised. Mr. Peters states that that is true if there is an increase of 25%.



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Upon a Peters/Landis motion, the PTS voted unanimously to place the real estate tax at .8144 mills; To suspend the Police Department as of January 1, 2017, and to establish the fire tax at .85 mills.

Upon Maguire/Peters motion, the PTS voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Helen Klinepeter*  
Helen Klinepeter

Secretary