

Upper Makefield Township Board of Supervisors September 26, 2011 Special Meeting Minutes

The September 26, 2011 Special Meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chair Bud Baldwin at 6:04 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Board of Supervisors: Chair Bud Baldwin, Vice Chair Tom Cino, Treasurer Mary Ryan and Member Dan Rattigan. Member Dave Kulig was absent. Also in attendance were Township Manager Stephanie Teoli, Finance Director Sandy Wenitsky and Police Chief Mark Schmidt.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

WATER/SEWER FUND DISCUSSION:

Ms. Teoli provided an overview of the Heritage Hills Water/Sewer Fund and Dutchess Farms Water/Sewer Fund. Members of the Board provided comment throughout the presentation.

Mr. Tom Zarko led discussion on the proposed Capital Improvement Projects for the 2012 budget.

MISCELLANEOUS FUND DISCUSSION:

Ms. Teoli presented a draft of the following funds: Fire Fund, Building Construction Fund, Riparian Restoration and Preservation Grant Fund, Tree Fund, Emergency Services Fund, Grading Escrow Fund, Capital Reserve Fund and Cable TV Fund. Members of the board provided comment and input.

PARK AND RECREATION FUND DISCUSSION:

Ms. Teoli led the Board through the line items of the Park and Recreation Fund and the Park and Recreation Capital Fund. Ms. Teoli reported on the proposal recently made by Upper Makefield-Newtown Soccer Club to take over maintenance responsibility of fields in lieu of paying user fees. She explained that the proposal hinged on the township making a capital investment to provide water at both fields.

OPEN SPACE FUND DISCUSSION:

Ms. Teoli reviewed the Open Space Fund with the Board and highlighted her proposal to shift one mil of tax revenue from the Open Space Fund to the General Fund. Ms. Teoli further reported that if the Board wanted to reduce taxes in this Fund, she would suggest a maximum of .5 mils.

Mr. Cino requested that Ms. Teoli report back to the Board on the remaining authorization from the Open Space Referenda and an estimated cost of borrowing.

GENERAL FUND DISCUSSION:

Ms. Teoli then presented a draft of the General Fund, incorporating recommended changes of the Board of Supervisors.

Discussion ensued regarding various line items in the General Fund budget. After some consideration, the Board agreed that the Cable Fund should be moved into the Capital Reserve Fund and that all future vehicle purchases should be made from this fund.

Mr. Cino expressed his opinion that \$600,000 needed to be cut from the General Fund budget and that he saw no way of doing that short of cutting personnel.

Mr. Cino further commented that he was in favor of moving forward with the proposal made by the soccer and baseball associations which would include transferring maintenance to the user groups and the investment of approximately \$100,000 in a project to provide water at both parks. Members of the Board agreed and directed Ms. Teoli to include the proposal in the budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Victor Ameye, Lookout Lane, questioned the need to transfer the Foreign Fire payment to the Upper Makefield Fire Company.

Phil Goldman, Biedler Drive, noted that the township staff should be "lean and mean." He also commented about the security of placing funds in banks.

Ellen Lane Novits, Dunkin Drive, encouraged the board to budget expenditures at the same level of revenues.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Approved: October 5, 2011