TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING MINUTES - OCTOBER 16, 2002

A Special Budget Meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on Wednesday, October 16, 2002. Secretary/Treasurer Hackman called the meeting to order at 8:50 a.m. noting that the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the 2003 Budget.

Those present:

Board of Supervisors: Scott Fegley, Chairman (joined meeting in progress)

Grace Godshalk, Vice Chairman (joined meeting in progress)

Wesley Hackman, Secretary/Treasurer

Frank Fazzalore, Supervisor

Pete Stainthorpe, Supervisor (absent)

Others: Terry Fedorchak, Township Manager

William Taylor, Finance Director Heidi Sheridan, Asst. Finance Director

Donna Linney, Park & Rec. Dept. (joined meeting in progress)

Mr. Hackman stated he and Mr. Fazzalore went through the Budget page by page and wanted to discuss several items in the Budget. Mr. Hackman stated the Park and Recreation Budget is at \$1,100,000. Mr. Hackman asked Mr. Taylor what makes up that \$1,100,000 Budget. Mr. Taylor stated there is an increase across the board. Mr. Fedorchak stated Park and Recreation carried over a balance of \$292,000 from the prior year and 2 mills were used to pay for operating costs.

Mr. Fedorchak stated the Budget provides for borrowing of \$5,000,000 for Operating Debt Cost. The Township chose to borrow this money for capital projects the Supervisors approved in 2002 totaling \$5,000,000. The projects in the Budget are \$800,000 for the purchase of Prospect Farm, \$2,000,000 for the Senior Center, \$1,000,000 for the purchase of a new fire engine and \$1,000,000 for Phase I of Memorial Park. Mr. Fazzalore stated this borrowing equals a 1.5 mill increase. Mr. Taylor stated yes.

There was discussion among the Supervisors of both support and opposition for building a Senior center for \$2,000,000. Mr. Fegley stated the YMCA is looking to build a facility in Lower Makefield Township and that facility would have facilities for seniors. Mr. Fegley stated the seniors have adamantly stated they want their own facility separate from any other group. Mr. Fegley and Mrs. Godshalk both stated they would not vote for the Senior Center in the Budget. Mr. Fegley stated the Senior Center should be put on the Board of Supervisor's meeting on Monday, October 21, 2002. Mr. Fazzalore stated the Senior Center should be discussed at the Budget Meeting now.

There was discussion on the Police Budget. Mr. Hackman stated the Police Budget provides for one new hire, a Park Ranger. He asked if the new hire would be full-time and have benefits. Mr. Taylor stated the new hire is budgeted between the Police and Park and Recreation Department. Mr. Fedorchak stated the new hire should be a contracted person. Mr. Hackman asked if there is a contract for the Police for this year, 2002 or 2003. Mr. Fedorchak stated no, but the Budget provides for a projected 3-½ % salary increase across the board in 2002 and 2003.

There was discussion on Phase I of Memorial Park. Mr. Hackman asked Mrs. Godshalk what would happen if the Memorial Committee does not raise the projected cost of the memorial of \$580,000 through donations. Mrs. Godshalk stated there is \$25,000 in cash in the bank and over \$100,000 in pledges. Mr. Hackman stated there is \$1,000,000 in the 2003 Budget for Phase I of the Memorial and he doesn't think the Township would start that project in 2003. Mr. Hackman stated he doesn't want the \$1,000,000 in debt service or the increase in mills to be in the Budget if it is not realistically going to happen in 2003. Mr. Fegley stated the Supervisors voted to include the Phase I money in the Budget whether or not it is spent.

Mr. Fazzalore stated he wants to see an increase in the Budget for Transfer Taxes. Mr. Fazzalore asked why the Recycling Budget increased. Mr. Taylor stated the recycling Budget increased because of the tub grinder purchase. Mr. Taylor stated grants for the recycling department are lower than in prior years. He stated the grants are based on the number of residents and the number of residents has increased.

Mr. Taylor asked the Supervisors to look at the Capital items in the Budget. Mr. Hackman asked Mr. Taylor what is \$250,000 in the Capital Budget for an unnamed project. Taylor stated that is for unidentified but anticipated projects.

There was discussion on the Public Works Department Budget. The Supervisors agreed the Budget was acceptable without any changes.

There was discussion on the Park and Recreation Budget. Mr. Hackman asked what the \$25,000 for well irrigation is for. Mr. Taylor called Mrs. Linney in to go over the Park and Recreation Budget with the Supervisors. Mrs. Linney stated the well irrigation if for Macclesfield Park. The soccer fields are so over used as well system may prevent the fields from being out of commission. The Supervisors discussed the proposed fence replacement at the tennis courts on Roelofs Road. Mr. Hackman suggested replacing some of the tennis courts with basketball courts in the future. Mr. Hackman stated he doesn't want to install fences if the courts may be reconfigured.

Mr. Fegley excused himself.

There was discussion on the Pool. Mr. Fazzalore stated the Supervisors approved \$300,000 in the Budget, but he only sees \$100,000 for improvements. Mrs. Linney stated all of the improvements are budgeted in either the Maintenance or Park and Recreation Budget.

Mr. Hackman asked Mrs. Godshalk if sewers are budgeted for 2003 in the Historic District (Edgewood Village). Mrs. Godshalk replied that sewers are not budgeted for 2003. Mr. Taylor stated sewers are budgeted for Edgewood Village on 2004. Mrs. Godshalk stated to Mr. Taylor the budget for sewers could be moved to 2005.

There was discussion on the Afton Road bike path. Mr. Fedorchak stated a \$150,000 is in the Budget for a bike/pedestrian path, with a \$350,000 grant from the state. He stated the path must be located on the North side of Afton Avenue. There is a steep bank on the North side of the road that would need to be cut into and a retaining wall installed. These improvements increases the project cost to \$800,000. Mr. Fedorchak stated the Township is looking at an alternate of just having a marked bike path on the road.

The next Board of Supervisors Budget meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 17, 2002 at 8:30 a.m.

There being no further business, Mr. Hackman moved, Mr. Fazzalore seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wes Hackman, Secretary

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