

**TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING
MINUTES - OCTOBER 17, 2002**

A Special Budget Meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on Thursday, October 17, 2002. Vice-Chairman Godshalk called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. noting that the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the 2003 Budget.

Those present:

Board of Supervisors: Scott Fegley, Chairman (joined the meeting in progress)
Grace Godshalk, Vice Chairman
Wesley Hackman, Secretary/Treasurer
Frank Fazzalore, Supervisor
Pete Stainthorpe, Supervisor

Others: Terry Fedorchak, Township Manager
William Taylor, Finance Director
Heidi Sheridan, Asst. Finance Director
Chief Kenneth Coluzzi (joined meeting in progress)

There was discussion on the increase in mills in 2003. Mr. Hackman stated the Budget provides for a 2.56 mill increase. Mr. Stainthorpe asked what does 2.56 mills equate to in dollars to a homeowner. Mr. Taylor stated 1 mill equals \$10.00 per \$1,000 assessed value. Mr. Hackman suggested that since the Township would not be using the entire \$5,000,000 as projected in 2003, then don't borrow the full amount. Mr. Fedorchak stated the architectural and engineering fees for the Senior Center will cost approximately \$250,000. The Supervisors agreed to borrow at least that amount out of the Capital Fund for the Senior Center.

Chief Coluzzi joined the meeting.

There was discussion on the Police Budget. Mr. Hackman asked Chief Coluzzi how could he cut the Police Budget by 10%. Mr. Fazzalore stated the Police Budget has increased by 9.4%. Mr. Fazzalore stated 3.5% of the increase is attributed to labor fees and \$450,000 is for building renovations. Chief Coluzzi stated if you take out the building renovation, the budget is only \$34,000 over budget from last year.

Mr. Fazzalore asked if the wages and increases are included in the Budget. Mr. Hackman and Chief Coluzzi stated yes, the actual wages plus projected increases are included. Mr. Fazzalore asked at what stage the Township is at in the salary negotiations with the Police. Mr. Fedorchak replied in arbitration.

Mr. Hackman discussed ways of increasing income in the Police Budget, such as giving more traffic violation tickets. Mr. Hackman asked Chief Coluzzi about the increase in overtime in the Budget. Chief Coluzzi stated the increase is attributed to unexpected events such as 9-11 and the addition of a part-time administrative person. Mr. Taylor stated the proposed Park Ranger is in the Police Budget. The Supervisors discussed eliminating the part-time administrative person for \$11,000 and decided against it.

There was discussion on the proposed Park Ranger. Mr. Hackman asked if the Police are patrolling the parks. Chief Coluzzi stated the Police patrol when they can, and the complaints about the parks warrant a Park Ranger. The Supervisors agreed they need more information from the Park and Recreation Department

before they could vote to approve the hiring of a Park Ranger. Chief Coluzzi and Mrs. Linney will attend the next Park and Recreation meeting to develop a plan.

Mr. Fegley joined the meeting.

There was discussion on the Police Station renovations. Chief Coluzzi gave a report on why the Police Station needs a renovation. He stated the renovation would solve the need for better bathroom facilities for the women employees, better secure evidence room and need for conference rooms. Mr. Fegley stated the Supervisors should consider building a new Township Building to solve many of the space problems such as the Senior Center, Police Station renovation and need for Township Building expansion. Mr. Fegley stated the Supervisors needs to vote to proceed to research building a new Township Building.


There was discussion on the Senior Center. Mr. Fegley and Mrs. Godshalk stated they would not vote for the Senior Center. Mr. Fegley suggested including a Senior Center in another building such as the Rescue Squad or a future YMCA. Mr. Fazzalore and Mr. Hackman both stated they think a group of the population is being excluded and they need their own facility. The Supervisors were unable to agree on a vote for approval of the Senior Center.

Mr. Taylor stated the General Fund is limited to 14 mills. The General Fund has been deficit spending in the past. Mr. Taylor stated either a drastic reduction must be made or add income in 2004.

The Board agreed that November 8, 2002 would be the date for the golf course groundbreaking event.

There being no further business, Mr. Hackman moved, Mr. Fazzalore seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wes Hackman".

Wes Hackman, Secretary