

BUDGET WORK SESSION

November 1, 2018

Council President Beverly Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present at Meeting

Council President Beverly Wolfe
Council Vice President Barbara Heffelfinger
Councilman John Stratz
Councilwoman Laura Germain
Councilman Joe Dudash - absent
Councilman Rich Flanagan – absent
Councilman Mark Moffa
Mayor Robert Winkler

Also present

Marie Serota, Secretary/Treasurer

Pensions & Insurance

The Minimum Municipal Obligation for the borough pension plans for 2019 are:

Employees' Pension	\$23,030.00
Police Pension	\$ 4,872.00

Mark Moffa said the dental coverage will remain the same for 2019. Expectations in exchange is the deductibles will probably go down next year. If we stay with the same medical insurance plan, there shouldn't be much of an increase. The exact numbers aren't in yet. The committee is also exploring other options. Any changes must be in 30 days before policies renewal. The small policies he expects to stay the same: the volunteer accident policy is \$300.00, the pension crime policy is \$250. There was an increase in the fire department workers' compensation insurance. It was increased from \$26,784 to \$35,306. There are no rates yet for liability insurance. There may be an increase because of the street light issue. Our broker is still shopping for quotes. Barbara Heffelfinger asked if deductibles are going down would it be possible to get a better plan. Mark responded that he would like to.

There was a question as to how the percentages for the fund splits were calculated. Bev Wolfe responded that the previous finance chairman provided them but we don't know what they were based on. She suggested the splits be changed to General fund 50%, Sewer Fund 40%, Refuse Fund 10%. Mark Moffa said that the splits should be uniform. Council agreed to explore changing percentages of the fund splits.

Streets & Sewer

John Stratz presented expenses for the Woodland Avenue Street Project to be done in conjunction with Middletown Township. In 2017, Council expected costs to be \$20,084. Reality in 2019 the cost has increased for paving to \$23,000, handicap ramps \$16,000, curbs \$4,000 totaling \$43,000.00. The grant amount is \$40,000. \$43,000 is the borough's responsibility. Beverly Wolfe said we will carry over \$20,000 from 2018 for next year. We budgeted in 2018 \$18,000 out of LF for the project and \$2,000 out capital reserve for engineering. There was

\$2,000 budgeted in 2018 for cracked sealing. Borough funds for project is \$18,000, \$40,000 will be paid by grant funds totaling \$58,000. We need an additional \$25,000 for the project.

Bucks County Water & Sewer Authority has the following services that they will contract out to the borough:

Vacuum sewer grates	\$600
Storm sewer cleaning	\$6,000
Storm sewer repairs	\$400

Borough Engineer recommends we negotiate repair of the trench drain at Hulmeville Avenue & Woodland Avenue with Giuseppe's Restoration. Council agrees that the Mayor should explore the repair.

Green Light Go Grant – There is a 50/50 match. The borough will be responsible to pay \$7,600. Budgeted funds will carry over to 2019 budget.

Street Light Procurement Program – Ray Sizer provided us with a quote of \$97,288. The Procurement Program cost for borough street lights is \$48,900. John suggests \$15,000 is added for wiring totaling \$63,000. There are 200 street lights including recreation field and traffic lights. The finance committee will pursue funding through PennVest. On 11/8 we are hosting a meeting for the consortium on the project.

The PA Small Water & Sewer Grant will provide \$213,000 which will pay for ½ of the I & I Abatement Project plus the Rehabilitation of Station #2. The borough owes a 15% match of \$35,000.

Carol said \$30,000 will be needed for Lincoln Hwy. in early spring. \$20,000 for sealing and micro-resurfacing.

Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority sewer fees will increase by 1.2%, which will be \$8,832 for the year.

Pothole Killers \$5,500

Snow Plowing \$12,500, Salt \$2,000

There have been complaints regarding ADA Ramp snow removal. Council would like to get the word out to residents to be good neighbors and help out with snow removal at corners and help clean off fire hydrants.

Other recommendations from Borough Engineer on sewer line items:

- Sewer connection fees \$10,000
- Borough Solicitor \$10,000
- Engineering Fees remain the same
- Communications increase to \$1,600
- Contracted Services increased to \$400,000

Mayor

We received a statement from the insurance company that they are going to pay us \$19,000 for Car #55-10, the 2013 police vehicle involved in an accident.

The Mayor also asked Ben Jones from Bucks County Water & Sewer Authority to provide us with a figure on grate repair.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 10:02 P.M.
SECONDED BY JOHN STRATZ. All ayes, motion carried.

Submitted by: _____
Marie Serota, Secretary/Treasurer