

BUDGET/WORK SESSION

November 30, 2015

Attendees: Kali Sodano, Council President; Beverly Wolfe, Vice President; Barbara Heffelfinger, Anne Marie Kinsey, Arlene Harms, Sean Weckerly, Gianpiero Lo Piccolo, Borough Council; Bob Winkler, Mayor; Michael Savona, Solicitor; and Bob Pellegrino, Consultant

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President Kali Sodano with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements

There will be an executive session before adjournment at the end of the meeting.

The Activities' Committee Tree Lighting will be on December 5, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor's Report

Street sweeping was done today. The Borough is mandated to sweep the streets at least twice a year per the MS4 permit obligation. This is not a leaf pick up as residents have complained.

Thirteen families were provided with meals for Thanksgiving Day. There are boxes in borough hall for Toys For Tots donations.

Finance

The borough was awarded a \$50,000 Bucks County RDA Grant for the renovation of the new police building.

2016 Budget

Bob Pellegrino reviewed the proposed budget for 2016. This budget reflects no real estate tax increase and no increase in sewer and refuse fees. There is an additional \$35,000 to \$36,000 in police hours. It includes a road maintenance program for 1.9 miles of roadway, sewer system upgrades as recommended by Borough Engineer, 2 generators for traffic signals, painting in borough hall, and \$10,000 for an ADA ramp at the front entrance to borough hall. Insurance rates will increase by 8% and workers' compensation insurance rates will decrease by approximately 8%. Council will to decide which health insurance plans to sign up for next year.

Bob suggests that Council refinance the one million in general obligation notes if not paid off. Salaries include funds for a borough manager if appointed. Police hours are increased also. Council discussed engineering costs for capital projects, retainer for borough engineer and Act 537 Plan expenses. The Act 537 Plan expenses were included with the sewer operating funds. Barbara Heffelfinger mentioned the necessity for a Tax Anticipation Note for the beginning of 2016. Sean Weckerly and John Lo Piccolo are concerned about keeping the increased police hours at bay and not be abused. Bob Pellegrino offered to fill out paperwork for the Delaware Valley Investment Trust application for medical and possibly workers' compensation insurance coverage.

Gianpiero Lo Piccolo told Council that the fire company has complained that their roof is leaking and needs replacement. Council has requested some back up documentation on the costs.

Public Safety

The police headquarters committee will meet on December 2nd at 7:30 p.m. with the Chief.

Public Works

MOTION BY SEAN WECKERLY TO APPROVE THE ESTIMATED COST OF CASTING ADJUSTMENTS OF \$795.00 AND AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES ON ATTACHMENT B OF 2014-2017 PROJECT LETTER AGREEMENT WITH PENNDOT. SECONDED BY ANNE MARIE KINSEY. All ayes, carried

MOTION BY SEAN WECKERLY TO REPLACE THE CIRCUIT BOARD ON THE PORTABLE FLOW METER NOT TO EXCEED \$450.00. SECONDED BY ARLENE HARMS. All ayes, carried.

Unfinished Business

Council continued discussion of the Parkview Avenue resident's complaint regarding a tree overhanging his backyard. Council agreed to send a letter to the resident suggesting he meet with them to discuss details of the matter. Barbara Heffelfinger reminded Council that any tree trimming on Taddei Woods property requires a permit from the DEP and/or the Army Corp. of Engineers

Public Comment

Patrick Donahue, 520 Bellevue Avenue, residents blowing leaves into the street, canister on Center St. and Route 1

Rick Flanagan, Walker Avenue, metallic taste in tap water

Dave Cahill, 462 Cynthia Avenue, roof on recreation field concession stand, police department activity sheets, 2015 police revenue short compared to budget figure, employee benefits, approved plans for building, new police dept. plans and approval of the plans

There was a five minute recess and executive session at 9:10 p.m.

The public meeting reconvened at 9:45.

MOTION BY GIANPIERO LO PICCOLO TO ADVERTISE THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION FOR A MINIMUM OF TEN DAYS WITH THE FOLLOWING ADJUSTMENTS: \$30,000 FOR ENGINEERING FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS, \$50,000 FOR THE RDA GRANT AND \$1,000 FOR TREE TRIMMING. SECONDED BY ARLENE HARMS. The vote was 6 ayes, 1 no (Sean Weckerly). The ayes, carried.

MOTION BY ARLENE HARMS TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:55 P.M. SECONDED BY ANNE MARIE KINSEY. All ayes, carried.

Submitted by: _____
Marie Serota, Secretary/Treasurer