

NEWBERRY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Workshop Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2023

Call to order by Chairman Rob Harkins

Executive session was held at 5:00 pm to include the Solicitor to discuss personnel issues related to Police, and litigation matters.

Motion and seconded to approve the revised agenda to include the Sewer budget and special funds.

Motion to revise the agenda to provide food funds up to \$300 for the upcoming fire department meeting.

Attendance

Chairman, Rob Harkins
Vice-Chairman, Diane Shellenhamer
Supervisor, Dave Kirkpatrick
Supervisor, Maxine Kauffman
Supervisor, Clair Wintermyer
Township Manager, Tony Miller
Public Works Director, Scott Getgen
Sewer, Brent Zeiders
Police Chief, Steven Lutz

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sandra Gonzalez – Resident, 140 Oak Road – Commented on the importance of funding our police department.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

2024 Draft Budget Review

Sewer

Wastewater Coordinator, Brent Zeiders, presented the draft 2024 tentative budget to the Board for sewer.

General Fund

Treasurer, Jane Deamer, Chief Lutz, Public Works Director, Scott Getgen, and Township Manager Tony Miller presented their assumptions and methodology for the 2024 budget.

Hydrant Fund

Treasurer, Jane Deamer, presented the draft 2024 budget for the hydrant fund.

Fire Tax Fund

Discussion centered around the distribution of the fire tax monies to the volunteer fire departments.

Jane Harman – Resident, 205 Hemlock Road – Questioned the fire tax fund. She stated that she has spoken to firefighters, and they stated their concerns about what funds they have received. She feels they are not getting enough funds given to them.

Supervisor, Dave Kirkpatrick, addressed Jane’s concerns. He stated that a public safety department was started who meets with the fire chiefs monthly. He stated that none of the fire chiefs have requested more money from the public safety director.

Sandra Gonzalez – Resident, 140 Oak Road – Commented that she feels like the intent of the fire tax fund was to collect the money and disperse as needed. When they have a need they submit bids and then a decision is made.

Connie Flasher – Resident – Stated that it is taxpayer money that it is required under the second-class township code that there are certain ways that the money can be spent. She stated that it is up to the fire department if expensive equipment needs to be purchased that they apply for a grant first.

Dave Parsons – Resident, 200 Winding Hill Drive – Stated that the contribution to the fire departments should be increased by \$5,000 or \$10,000.

Sue Ostrander – Resident, 35 Rolling Hills Court – Stated she thinks the Board should be notified of what the fire department needs. The Board should be accountable to decide what is needed and inform the public.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION By Supervisor Kirkpatrick to adjourn., seconded by Vice Chairman Shellenhamer, carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION None

Respectfully submitted,



Tony Miller, Secretary

