

NOVEMBER 25, 2008

SPECIAL MEETING

A Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Mahoney at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 25, 2008 in the Township Building.

ROLL CALL

The following other Commissioners were present: Messrs. Mr. McAndrews, Janiczek, Wechsler, Rudolph, Devenney and Lanciano. Also present were Mr. LeFevre and Mrs. Warner.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by Dr. Janiczek, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Mahoney stated due to the difficult economic times, the Board made every effort to minimize the financial impact of municipal services on our residents. He announced the 2009 budget calls for no increase in real estate taxes and no increase in sewer rent. The refuse fee will be increased by \$50. The proposed 09 budget is \$2,700.00 less than the present year. We are able to present a budget without a tax increase despite projected decreases in several important revenue areas, including, real estate transfer taxes, business taxes and interest earnings. The County will begin charging local municipalities a fee for each ton of refuse and yard waste taken to the trash to steam plant or compost center. Until now, the County assumed the cost of disposing of our trash. Because of these new county fees, the Township refuse fee is increasing to \$150 per household. This is the first increase in fifteen years.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE  
2009 Budget

Mr. McAndrews read the proposed budget for 2009, which calls for total expenditures of \$15,457,600. A full copy of the budget will be available in the Township Building for public viewing. He moved that the proposed ordinance be accepted on its first reading and advertised.

Mr. Mahoney called for public comment.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Mullen, 624 Old School House Drive, stated he had hoped taxes would have been rolled back a little bit. He questioned the need for 14 librarians. Mr. LeFevre stated under the State Code the library is run by the Township's Library Board. The Township is responsible for its funding part of their budget. The actual staffing levels is set by the Library Board, but there is not 14 librarians. Mr. Mullen also stated he doesn't understand the need for an electric door at the Library. Mr. LeFevre replied that was paid through a grant through State Senator Erickson's office to assist handicapped access. Mr. Mullen commented he does not think the Township is any better off having seven commissioners rather than having five or three and was under the impression their salaries have doubled. Mr. Mahoney responded salaries have not risen and he is receiving the same amount as in 1989. Mr. Mullen also asked if the Commissioner get a township car? He was advised the Board members receives no car, gas, perks or benefits.

The motion to adopt the budget on its first reading was seconded by Mr. Devenney and carried.

Mr. Wechsler thanked the Board of Commissioners on this budget, as well as Mr. LeFevre, Mrs. Warner, the department heads and employees. The backbone of any organization is productivity and one of the reasons we are able to balance the budget with no increase in taxes is the efficiency of our employees and department heads.

Mr. Wechsler read a proposed ordinance amending the refuse fee to \$150 per residential dwelling unit and for persons over sixty-five years of age with an annual income of \$20,500 or less may request a rebate of \$100. Widow or widowers over the age of 50 meeting the same income qualifications may also apply for the same rebate.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE  
Refuse Fee

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Permanently disabled persons may obtain a refund of the \$150 fee. He moved that the proposed ordinance be accepted on its first reading and advertised. Seconded by Dr. Janiczek and carried.

ADJOURNMENT  
(7:50 p.m.)

On motion by Mr. Devenney, seconded by Mr. McAndrews the meeting was adjourned to an Executive Session.