

5:30 PM

November 23, 2015

## SOUTH PYMATUNING TOWNSHIP CONTINUATION MEETING

The recessed meeting of the South Pymatuning Township Board of Supervisors was reconvened on November 23, 2015 at 5:30 PM in the Municipal Building. In attendance were Chairperson Rose Lyons, Supervisors Brian Geisel and Laurel Alexander, and Secretary/Treasurer Karen Presley.

The meeting was opened with the pledge to the flag.

The meeting was for the purpose of continuing preparation of the 2016 budget and any other business to properly come before the Board.

Public comment:

Ed Wilson mentioned the township budget issues and talked about increased wages and hospitalization. He said supervisors should not be spending money on vehicles until there is a balanced budget.

Kurt Toth said that at the last meeting, the supervisors approved spending \$3500.00 for building repairs and he would have done the repairs for free. He also does not think we should purchase any vehicles and asked if we received the estimate from Husnick's on the Tahoe. Laurel said Mr. Husnick does not work on emergency vehicles. Mr. Husnick did not realize when Chuck Vranich asked him to prepare an estimate that it was a police vehicle. Brian stated that we are down to one cruiser. Mr. Toth said the supervisors did not look at trading the old vehicles. Brian and Laurel both stated again that a vehicle cannot be traded using the state Piggy Back Program. Mr. Toth then said there is a tree on Buckeye Drive near Downing Lane that is sagging over the roadway.

Lindell Bridges says the township is in a budget crunch, but we are down to one police vehicle. He said some hard choices must be made for the safety of the township. Mr. Bridges told the supervisors they may want to consider not taking the health insurance for the township's sake, even though they are entitled to it. He said it will cost over \$50,000.00 next year when all three supervisors take the health insurance. Mr. Bridges suggested the fire department hold off on the building addition that is in their budget and try to secure money through grants and fundraisers. He said the fire department's budget also shows \$30,000.00 for building repairs, and he suggested doing only what is necessary. Mr. Bridges said he agreed with Ed Wilson's past suggestion that the fire department be audited, the same as the township, which would enable them to build a better budget.

Ed Wilson stated he never suggested that the fire department be audited. He said there are three types of statements; compiled, reviewed, and audited, and he suggested talking to the accounting firm to see what they would charge to perform any of the functions. He stated he suggested the fire department may want to do that. He again asked the supervisors to get the budget in order before considering spending any more money. He offered to get estimates on the non-working police vehicles, saying it would probably be quicker to get one of them repaired than to buy a new one. Mr. Wilson said he is not proposing a tax increase or proposing to buy any new vehicles, he just wants to get the budget in order. He believes the supervisors are entitled to hospitalization. He said professional opinions are needed on the budget.

Chuck Vranich said Husnick's Auto checked into their insurance program and it is not in their best interest to work on safety vehicles. He has names of other mechanics that work on safety vehicles. He said Scheidemantle Motors wants to sell us a new motor for the 2008 Charger for \$6,000.00. Mr. Vranich said there could be other issues with the Charger that don't necessarily warrant purchasing a motor.

Harry Mammarelli said Rose stated at the last meeting that Moore's Automotive did not want to repair the Tahoe because of a supervisor.

Del Moore, Moore's Automotive, said he didn't want the supervisors to think that he didn't want to work on the Tahoe because of one individual. He just chose not to work on the vehicle. Laurel said that Husnick's looked at the Tahoe, took it for a test drive, and said they would not recommend it for a primary vehicle. The vehicle lost power, started smoking, and Husnick's said it may even need a new engine.

Bob Layman asked if there is a maintenance schedule for the vehicles. Brian said they get the recommended oil changes and are taken to be looked at when there is a problem. Mr. Layman said we can't wait till we are under budget to start buying vehicles.

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Mark Hoffman wondered what happened to make the township under budget. Rose said health insurance increased, a full time officer was added, and the earned income tax decreased. Laurel said we started giving more money to the fire department, and since we've had lawsuits, we now have to budget \$25,000.00 for the deductible. She also said we have had to outsource some work because we don't have the staffing to do it. Laurel said she believes this is the first time we will have three supervisors taking the insurance for themselves and their families.

Tom Lyons said the fire department gets \$29,000.00 per year and asked what the police department's and the road department's budgets are.

Ed Wilson suggested hiring the accounting firm to come to the meeting and look at the budget. He promised the burden of the payment would not fall on the township. Mr. Wilson asked the supervisors to agree to contact Black, Bashor, & Porsch to come to the next meeting to assist with the budget and he offered a \$1000.00 reimbursement to the township. The supervisors agreed to meet with the accounting firm on December 2, 2015 at 5:30 PM.

Under old business, purchasing a police vehicle was discussed again. Laurel said we are down to one police vehicle and if anything happens to it, we will have to call the state police. She spoke with the state police who said the response time would probably be at least one half hour and even longer at night time. Laurel suggested selling the Tahoe, the 2006 and 2008 Chargers and also not giving as much money to the fire department next year. Rose asked if the other supervisors had thought about laying off any police officers and said she did not want to pull money away from fire protection.

There was a commotion in the audience and Laurel was going to call the police. Rose said the only person allowed to contact the police is the chairperson. The commotion died down.

A motion was made by Laurel Alexander to purchase a Ford Interceptor. Motion died for lack of a second.

Laurel brought up the used dump truck that was for sale. Brian said he talked with the supervisor from Cherry Grove Township and they received a bid on the truck for \$38,000.00. If the bidder backs out, he will let Brian know.

Budget preparation was put on hold until the next meeting.

A motion was made by Rose Lyons and seconded by Brian Geisel to recess the meeting until December 2, 2015 at 5:30 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was recessed at 7:17 PM.

Visitors in attendance:

Bob Layman	Pat Layman	Tom Lyons	Michaelene Harris
Dennis Sump	Guyla Sump	Harry Mammarelli	Sheryl Wilson
Ed Wilson	Mike Kudelko	Chuck Vranich	Barb Vranich
Bill Klumph	Del Moore	John Leyshon	

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Presley  
Secretary/Treasurer