

A G E N D A
Board of Supervisors
Budget Meeting
November 20, 2018
8:00 AM

1. Call Meeting to Order: Anne Lamberton, Chair
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. **Old Business**
4. **New Business**
 - a. Clymer Library - request for 1.5 mils increase
 - b. Proposed 2019 Budget Review
5. Board of Supervisors Report/Comment
6. Public Questions and Comment

ADJOURNMENT

AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDING IN PROGRESS

THE TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BUDGET MEETING
NOVEMBER 20, 2018

A Budget Meeting of the Tobyhanna Township Board of Supervisors was held on November 20, 2018, at the Tobyhanna Township Government Center Building, 105 Government Center Way, Pocono Pines, Pennsylvania, 18350.

Present are Supervisors Anne Lamberton, John Holahan, III, Heidi A. Pickard, Brendon Carroll, David Carbone, and Township Manager John Jablowski. Solicitor Jonathan J. Reiss, Esquire, is not present.

1. Chair Anne Lamberton calls the meeting to order at 8:00AM. It is determined that a quorum is present.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance is recited.
3. New Business
 - a. Clymer Library request for 1.5 mills increase. Trudi Denlinger states the library is grateful for the Board's assistance in the past. One thing not reflected in the financial information presented is the human aspect and sense of community the library promotes. The millage has not increased in two decades and the library is struggling to pay its bills. This tax increase will enable the library to continue to assist the community.

Anne Lamberton states she is against raising taxes in general. The Board eliminated the fixed cost for the mortgage, and the Economic Development Authority (EDA) may be able to help fund the library. This could go on a referendum so the residents of the township can decide.

John Holahan asks what .75 mills would produce. Frank Cacchione states approximately \$152,000, doubling the contribution to the library. Barrett and Paradise townships found money within their budget and did not pass a tax increase. This tax increase would allow the library to be funded at the same amount per resident as Barrett Township.

Heidi Pickard clarifies the library tax would raise to 1.5 mills. She would not be opposed to putting it to referendum. There are a lot of plans that will expand the tax base. Per the Second Class Township Code, the township is at its cap.

Brendon Carroll states five people should not be responsible for raising taxes. There are additional taxes and venues to pursue, and the library is not counting the services the township supplies in its budget. Taxpayers should have input. Trudi Denlinger states \$228,000 in grants and \$48,000 in fundraising allows the budget to balance.

John Holahan states if the library's shortfall is offset by the EDA, a future Board may decide against giving funds to the library. He is in favor of supporting the millage without referendum. If that is unfavorable to the Board, he is in favor of a referendum. David Carbone asks to table this item so the Board can research. He is in favor of a referendum.

Mike Erlsten states the Board could institute a .25 mills increase and pursue the EDA for additional support. Heidi Pickard states she believes there's .29 mills left before the cap is reached. Once the assessment goes through, millage will drastically change. Trudi Denlinger asks if the Board is willing to compromise. Anne Lamberton states she would prefer the money come from consumers instead of residents, and suggests tabling this item to look into the millage. Trudi Denlinger states if the Board needs additional info, please call the library.

Brendon Carroll requests information on what services the township already provides to the library. Trudi Denlinger asks when the EDA will be able to collect money. Anne Lamberton states the district is currently comprised of Pocono Springs, and the EDA is preparing to add Kalahari. Heidi Pickard asks if the library has prices for facility needs. Trudi Denlinger replies yes, she will send the information to the Board.

- b. Budget Discussion. The Board discusses the Sewer Fund, Sewer District No. 1 Fund, Public Improvement Fund, Non-Uniform Pension Fund, Library Fund, Highway Aid Fund, Fire Fund, and the Capital Reserve Fund. The Board discusses a possible pole barn and a potential expansion of the current DPW garage.

The Board discusses available funds for DPW reappropriations for 2018. Heidi Pickard states the pickup truck will need \$4,000 in repairs soon. Ed Tutrone states it will trade in for \$5,500. John Holahan motions to purchase the roller and pickup truck at \$76,902, understanding that it will cost more than shown to upgrade to a 9 ft. plow. Heidi Pickard seconds. John Holahan withdraws his motion.

David Carbone motions to purchase a 250 XLT pickup truck for \$37,350, plus additional costs to upgrade to a 9 ft. plow, Brendon Carroll seconds. Heidi Pickard clarifies that this is from reappropriated funds available in this year's budget. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

John Holahan motions to purchase the roller for \$39,532, Heidi Pickard seconds. Anne Lamberton asks for anticipated hours of use for next year. Ed Tutrone states he will have the information prepared for the December 4th meeting. Anne Lamberton suggests this be tabled until December 4th. Heidi Pickard states with rain and shoulder washouts, the township needs a roller. This is replacing equipment DPW used to have. Vote: Brendon Carroll and Anne Lamberton oppose; David Carbone, Heidi Pickard, and John Holahan in favor: motion carries.

4. Board of Supervisors' Report

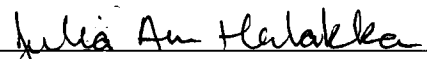
- a. Salt Shed. Ed Tutrone states the sidewall of the salt shed was beginning to blow out. He found the original plans of the building, and those walls were not meant to bear weight. The building inspector said the building is not in danger of collapse. Using a contractor to correct the problem will probably cost a couple thousand dollars. John Holahan asks how much the building is designed to hold. Ed Tutrone replies 200 tons of salt and 800 tons of mix. His department uses about 100 tons per storm.
- b. Anne Lamberton leaves at 9:42AM.
- c. David Carbone motions to advertise the budget. Heidi Pickard asks to add a \$25,000 item in capital for library repairs. Autumn Canfield states she is unsure if the township can allocate its capital funds to buildings it doesn't own. The Board decides to discuss the budget at the meeting at 7PM on November 20th, and asks that in the meantime, Autumn Canfield prepare two versions of the budget: one with \$25,000 for the library and one without.
- d. Ed Tutrone states Coolbaugh Township had their emergency services attend a budget meeting to give an outlook; this approach may benefit the Board next year. John Jablowski states the Board can raise the millage by less than .5 without a referendum. There is Board-wide discussion regarding how millage is broken out on tax bills.

5. Public Comment – none.

6. Heidi Pickard motions to adjourn, John Holahan seconds: meeting adjourned at 9:57AM.

Minutes recorded by Julia Heilakka

Respectfully submitted:



Julia Heilakka, Township Secretary