

Minutes of the Spring Garden Township Board of Commissioners Workshop
5:00 p.m. – September 11, 2024

Persons Present:

Daniel E. Rooney, President Commissioner
David Detwiler, Vice President Commissioner
Anne Gray, Commissioner

Andrew Herrold, Commissioner
Thomas Gwilt, Commissioner

I. Commence Workshop

A. 2025 Draft Budget, (Krista Gardner, CFO of SEK)

1. 2025 Budget Schedule presented.
2. Reestablishing a recreation department discussed.
 - i) Commissioner Gray presented possible locations for recreation activities throughout the township and suggested using the comp plan as a source of direction as well.
 - ii) Commissioner Detwiler would like to see a fulltime recreation staff member.
 - iii) Commissioner Herrold suggested a fulltime recreation staff member and ramping up the department but recognize it may take some time to have the department fully functioning.
 - iv) The degree that the General Fund subsidizes the recreation department needs to be determined.
 - v) Roberta Boffo of 1080 Grandview Road presented possible recreation funding sources.
 - vi) Commissioner Rooney advised a fulltime position with benefits with summer parks component with seasonal help. The supplies we have and supplies we need will need to be determined. A budget of \$150,000 would be a start for a recreation department in 2025. Roberta Boffo of 1080 Grandview Road expressed her support for the \$150,000 budget.
3. Commissioner Detwiler suggested, with the future fire station, funds will not be budgeted in 2025 for a future Public Works building. He indicated that he would like to see six (6) acres by Victory Fire Company set aside for the future Public Works building.
4. Fire Expenses
 - i) The 892 fire station replacement will need to be considered.
 - a) Plan proposals are due October 4th. The vote on the design services would be at the November meeting and then it could go the bid. The engineer may be able to advise the costs for the 2025 budget.
 - ii) Fire Equipment will need to be budgeted for in 2026 and 2027. The estimated amount is \$500,000 in 2026 and \$917,000 in 2027.
 - iii) The Fire Tax could be an option to increase revenue to help cover new fire equipment expenses and new a fire station.
5. Future sewer projects will need to be considered. The treatment rate from PA American Water will be increasing May 2025 and the billed rate to our residents will need to reflect the increased treatment rate.
6. Public Works
 - i) A large dump truck and a small dump truck set to be purchased in 2025. Some funds have already been allocated for those purchases.
 - ii) A used loader would be purchased in 2025, and the cost would be split between General Fund and Sewer Fund.
 - iii) A \$600,000 sewer flush truck is budgeted for purchase in 2027.
7. General Administrative Staff Salaries to be reviewed and compared to current market.
8. Reminder that 2025 is the last year in the Public Works union contract. The contract will need to be renegotiated.
9. We will have 27 payrolls in 2025 instead of the regular 26 bi-weekly payroll.

10.All remaining ARPA funds will be used in 2025 for the Rathton Road project.

11.Stormwater authority creation discussed.

- i) There will need to be a square footage analysis for each property completed by the engineer.
- ii) Commissioner Gray indicated she has residents in her ward struggling with stormwater issues.
- iii) Commissioner Rooney suggested a workshop with the engineer.

B. Other Business

C. Public Comment

- 1. Tom Delouis of North York Borough and employed at Hajoca located at 1005-1009 E Boundary Ave. He requested an update on the construction at E Boundary Ave. The road is closed, and people are continuing the use it. Issues with road elevation has created a significant burden to his employer. The Solicitor indicated that it is understood that it is an issue, and a resolution is being worked on.

II. Conclude Workshop

Respectfully submitted,

Luther C Wike Jr.
Secretary

Approved