

LAWRENCE PARK TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS BUDGET MEETING

September 26, 2023

5:00 PM

Present: Commissioner J. Golden, Commissioner T. Benovic, Commissioner B. Rodemaker, Twp. Secretary C. Cunningham, Twp. Accountant L. Bliley, Tax Collector/Treasurer J. Spitznogle, Chief J. Morell, Maintenance; G. Cunningham

Visitors: Pete Ogden, Dale Williams, Ed Krugger, Chris Buchleitner, Tom Buchleitner, Robin Sinare, Greg Windle

President J. Golden called the 2023 Budget Work Session Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and waived the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

J. Golden stated that at the previous meeting reviews were made line-by-line in Public Safety, Emergency Management, Sanitation, Streets, Traffic control devices, Road Construction, Buildings, and Administration with the exception of wages.

L. Bliley presented the Board with all updated information concerning the prospective changes as previously discussed. Also, she gave the current wages and the contracted wages sheets for police. All items concerning this were presented including projected overtime, medical, and comp time.

Chief Morell presented to the Board concerning the items within the police department budget. Chief asked for an increase in office materials. Gasoline will be estimated high because of potential gas increases. Also, he has asked that his vehicle maintenance be increased as one of the cruisers needs major repairs. If a new vehicle is purchased then the budget can be adjusted accordingly. Most all items will need a slight increase due to increased prices of all items. Morell also gave all numbers of revenue that he projects based on this year.

Secretary C. Cunningham reminded the Board that there is an LSA grant available with up to one million dollars to purchase equipment. Commissioner Golden stated that it could be possible to secure a loan for a new police cruiser. Commissioner Benovic said that she would like to consider applying for new mowers, a Street Sweeper is also a consideration. C. Cunningham told the Board that you can submit many applications but the Grant owners will ultimately decide which one they will award to the Municipality based on Community need; basically all applications will be competing against each other.

Maintenance head Gary Cunningham spoke to the Board regarding Parks, Sewers, Streets, vehicle maintenance, etc. Cunningham stated that they would like a weed trimmer, and a small chain saw for the trucks for the Parks. He also stated that the mower is in bad shape and the repairs have been costly. His concern is that it will finally be unrepairable. Concerning sewers which can also be used in all departments a hotsy pressure washer would be a great help to clean the lift stations and all the equipment from the mowers to the salt dogs. Cunningham stated that the

maintenance crew does all the maintenance on all our vehicles, from oil changes, filter changes, chip guard etc. He also let the Board know that the street sweeper is beyond repair and he has had to put it out of commission. He requested that the Board consider purchasing a new one. The new street sweepers are capable of cleaning our storm drains and sweeping the streets, and also have a leaf pick up sleeve. Golden said that Wesleyville has a street sweeper and would consider a shared service in the future. Cunningham said that the machine would need to be run at the least 3 days a week, would Wesleyville be able to let us use it that much. The storm drains need to be cleaned when clogged; and when it rains and the temperature drops then there would be an ice issue. The cost of a new machine is over \$300,000 thousand. Cunningham stated that the maintenance guys collect scrap material and turn it in and asked for a separate line item that they can use that money to purchase tools with. Commissioner Benovic said it had been discussed and it will be added for 2024. Golden said in light of hearing these things that a street sweeper would be a good idea for LSA Grant to apply for.

Commission T. Benovic motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:46 p.m., seconded by Commissioner B. Rodemaker and the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Jo Cunningham  
Township Secretary