

LAWRENCE PARK TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS BUDGET MEETING

October 17, 2023

5:00 PM

Present: Commissioner J. Golden, Commissioner T. Benovic, Commissioner Williams, Commissioner Rodemaker, Twp. Secretary C. Cunningham

Visitors: Darlene Whitney

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.

The Board discussed bringing on an existing part time employee into a temporary full-time position on November 13th at \$18.00 to fill an injured maintenance employee vacancy. On January 1, 2024 the position will then become permanent full time at \$20.00.

Commissioner Golden said that the cleaning position for the building will be absorbed by the maintenance department thus eliminating that line in the budget.

Commissioner Golden stated that the Township is applying for both a street sweeper as well as police cruisers. They have budgeted for these items in case the grants are not awarded to the Township but the hope is at least we would receive one of them.

With the proposed 2 mill tax increase Golden said that with all the degradation of all our deteriorating equipment as well as building repairs, tree removal and general maintenance in every aspect of daily operations, the idea is to have a reserve to help defray the costs of all these things going forward. There were several years where taxes were not raised thus causing the Township to have to catch up to where we should have been a few years back. There should not be a large yearly increase as is proposed for 2024, this is needed this year to bring us up to where we should be. The police department will have a 3% rate increase per their contract with the Township. Newly elected Commissioners will receive an increase in pay from \$1,875 to \$3,145 per First Class Township Code. Township office staff and maintenance employees' rates will remain the same as 2023.

Commissioner Golden said the October 24th budget meeting will be canceled as well as the November 7th (due to elections) . The November 14th meeting will be considered after the November 8th meeting. The November 21st Budget meeting will be held so that the budget can be accepted and passed at that time.

Darlene Whitney stated to the Board that the parks and alleys have never been cared for as well as they have been for the last year.

Commissioner Benovic motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Moffett and the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Jo Cunningham
Township Secretary