WILKINS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BUDGET MEETING, MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2009

The Budget Meeting of Monday, October 26, 2009 was brought to order at 6:00 PM by President William G. Wilson. A quorum was present as follows:

Mr. Wilson		Ms. Fialla
Mr. Padula	Mr. Costa	Mr. Szoko

Mr. Costa submitted correspondence to be read at the regular meeting of the Board requesting consideration to authorize the manager to explore whether or not it is possible to reduce real estate taxes in 2010 due to the surplus created by the Procare escrow, in recognition of the declining economy.

Ms. Fialla stated that she believes that this is a good idea, but also would like to explore allocating funding to remediating Wilbur Street.

Mrs. Bradley stated that there were a few changes to the proposed budgets initially presented on October 12, 2009. The Township received the 2010 hospitalization premiums for active employees and retirees who are not yet 65. Hospitalization will increase by about 17% over the 2009 budget. MEIT, the Township's carrier will also provide a grant to the Township to help offset the cost of the increase. The grant in the amount of $8,900 is included at line-item 364.300. In addition, the PA Department of Transportation finally sent out the Township's notice of 2010 Liquid Fuels allocation. The allocation is slightly more than what was estimated and the change is reflected at line item 355.020 in the General Fund Budget. The Liquid Fuels budget was also amended to include this change. Fund balance was increased slightly to account for a change in projections for 2009. These changes included an increase in building permit fees received and a decrease in the amount of fuel purchased by the Police and Public Works Department. Finally, a change was made to line item 492.018. Transfer to Capital Reserve. These funds represent the surplus funds due to the pending Procare settlement. The line-item was adjusted downward by $5,600 to balance the General Fund Budget. Accordingly the Capital Reserve budget was adjusted downward by $5,600 by reducing the amount of funds to be transferred from Capital Reserve to Emergency Contingency. Finally, the Emergency Contingency Fund Budget was adjusted downward by the same $5,600. The Board should expect additional changes prior to budget adoption. The Township has not yet received workers' compensation or other insurance premiums for 2010.

Mr. Szoko requested that Mrs. Bradley provide the increase in hospitalization by department in numbers, instead of percentages and questioned the current amount of debt service the Township pays.

Mr. Wilson stated that he believes that the Township should consider earmarking some of the surplus funds to demolition and recommended that the Manager review street opening permits to determine whether or not these fees need to be increased.

Ms. Fialla requested a comparison of the 2009 budget and the 2010 budget with variances and also stated that she believes that we should act on the manager's recommendation to increase park rental fees to be in-sync with the actual Township expense.

(9-285) MOVED PADULA-FIALLA to adjourn. The Budget Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM. The motion was adopted by unanimous roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Bradley
Secretary