

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
1580 PAOLI PIKE
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2020, 10:00AM
LONG-RANGE BUDGET PLANNING SESSION
FINAL MINUTES**

Note: In light of the Coronavirus pandemic, this was a virtual video-conference meeting conducted via the Zoom platform. In response to media reports about the vulnerability of the Zoom platform, public participation was limited to telephone.

Present: Chairman Marty Shane; Vice-Chairman David Shuey; Members Michele Truitt and John Hertzog; Township Manager Rick Smith; Assistant Township Manager and Finance Director Jon Altshul; Public Works Director Mark Miller; Zoning Officer Mark Gordon; Parks and Recreation Director Jason Lang; Christina Morley (Pipeline Task Force); Leo Sinclair (Conservancy Board)

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Marty called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. David also called for a moment of silence in honor of our troops, public health workers and first responders. David also addressed a comment that John Hertzog had made in the previous night’s meeting and provided John with clarity about what “depreciation” means in the local government context and how the Township has historically funded capital assets.

Discuss 2021-2030 Budget Forecast and Memo

Jon provided an overview of his 10-year expense and revenue forecast and stated that absent a reduction in expenses or a tax increase, he projects the Township’s General Fund balance will fall below the minimum level established in our financial policies by 2026 and run out of money by 2028, or approximately one year earlier than he had forecast last year. While he attributed this decline to the current COVID crisis and the resulting economic slowdown, he noted that his forecasts have historically been more pessimistic than the actual financial performance has ended up being.

The table below reflects the specific topics discussed and the general consensus of the Board on each matter for the preparation of the 2021 Proposed Budget in the fall.

| Topic | General Consensus of BOS |
|------------------|--|
| Renewable Energy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will research costs and payback periods of various options outlined in the Cadmus report, including 3rd party ownership of solar panels on the Township building and Public Works Annex roofs; Virtual Power Purchase Agreements (as opposed to physical PPAs); Electric Vehicle charging stations with credit card readers to recoup installation and electricity costs. |

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| Fire Company Funding | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board is in general agreement with staff's funding proposal • Staff will continue to work with partner municipalities to ensure that all partners are in agreement on approach. |
| Comp Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target early 2024 to determine whether a Comp Plan update is warranted. |
| Park Improvements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General opposition to additional Park improvements until current economic conditions improve. • Staff shall coordinate with Friends of East Goshen to determine whether public-private partnerships are feasible for an amphitheater bandshell. |
| Pond Improvements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement to deal with future pond improvements on a year-by-year and case-by-case basis. • Conservancy Board to make a recommendation on possible improvements to culverts and storm sewer infrastructure in Grand Oak development |
| Trail Connections | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement to revisit this issue when primary trail is complete and in use. |
| Act 537 Sewer Study | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff to meet with selected HOA leadership to determine whether this is a worthwhile topic for further study/analysis |
| Westtown Way Pump Station Project | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wait for West Goshen Sewer Authority staff and engineer to evaluate potential options. • If project costs continue to be high, consider coordination at elected official level. |
| Replacement Financial/Permitting System | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General agreement that a replacement system should be budgeted and implemented in 2021. |

Any Other Matter

David recognized that 2021 will be a difficult budget year due to all the deferred projects from 2020, but suggested that the Township attempt to develop a balanced budget by 2022. Jon agreed to work on this.

Public Comment

Kate Minshall, 473 Gateswood Drive, expressed concern about the cost and safety of the Paoli Pike Trail. Jon explained that the construction costs of the trail between Reservoir Road and North Chester Road are being fully paid for by grant funds.

Ms. Morley suggested that the Township re-evaluate the Comp Plan prior to 2024, as so much has changed in the Township since 2015 with both the construction of the Mariner East pipelines and the emergence of COVID-19. She suggested as a first step that individual ABC groups evaluate those sections of the existing Comp Plan that are relevant to their missions.

Mr. Sinclair expressed his disappointment about the meeting. He noted that there was no discussion of the TND overlay and raised concerns about the cost of the trail.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Michele made a motion to adjourn at 12:15pm. David seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Jon Altshul, Recording Secretary