

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING
NOVEMBER 1, 2011

The Board of Supervisors of Upper Merion Township met for a Budget Workshop Meeting on Tuesday, November 1, 2011, in the Township Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Supervisors present were: Greg Waks, Joseph Bartlett, Edward McBride, Bill Jenaway, and Edward McBride. Also present were: Ronald Wagenmann, Township Manager; Judith A. Vicchio, Assistant Township Manager; Nick Hiriak, Director of Finance; John Waters, Director of Safety & Codes, Pam Forster, Lafayette Ambulance, Bill Gittins, Karl Helicher, Library Director. Supervisor Erika Spott was absent.

DISCUSSIONS:

FIRE OPERATING BUDGET

John Waters, Fire Marshal and Director of Safety and Codes, provided an overview of the township's Fire Operating budget and reported an overall budget increase of 1.29% over 2011.

Highlights of his presentation included noting:

- \$40,000 for new line item for Volunteer Firefighter Pension Fund; however, in 2011, this item was budgeted for same amount in account 01411-3190.
- Pension funding would come from Fire Apparatus Fund

Mr. Waters reviewed the Capital Budget and listed the following requested items:

- replace Chief 317 for \$48,000
- replace Chief 48 for \$51,000
- computer equipment contingency of \$20,000
- pager replacement of \$5,000
- Capital equipment maintenance (if needed) for emergency repairs to vehicles - \$10,000

Mr. Waters then reviewed the Safety and Codes Operating Budget.

Overall the budget is up 1.0%; however, when the equipment replacement amount is factored out the budget is down 0.6% compared to 2011.

Highlights include:

- Tuition reimbursement item is up 452% or \$22,645 over 2011
- A number of Safety Codes Enforcement staff have expressed interest in pursuing both bachelor and Masters degrees and are looking to begin course work in 2012
- Purchase of code book due to 2012 editions being released next year
- Other professional services up 138.1% or \$29,000 over 2011. The Director explained he would like to hire third party electrical inspection agencies to handle the township's inspector role on larger commercial and residential development. He will go through on RFP process to put together a list of approved agencies.

Mr. Waters also reviewed with the Board of Supervisors requests for service, which was approximately \$25,000 in 2011 as well as the department's revenue collections covering the department's expenses.

The Capital Budget for the department is all equipment replacement, if needed.

LIBRARY BUDGET

Mr. Karl Helicher, Library Director, reviewed the library operating budget. Highlights include:

- Budget increase of 2.5% with equipment replacement and without is .6% over 2011
- Library staff member retired and position was not filled which accounts for the reduction in department salaries and benefits
- Tuition item is up due to a staff member enrolled in graduate studies
- There are no new increases in any of the department's materials or program budget line items.

The capital budget is equipment replacement for furniture, if necessary, and would be brought back to the Board of Supervisors at a future time if deemed necessary.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

RONALD G. WAGENMANN
SECRETARY-TREASURER/
TOWNSHIP MANAGER

rap

Minutes Approved:

Minutes Entered:

Due to technical difficulties there is no audio tape available for this meeting.