

Garfield Township
Special Board Meeting-Budget
April 11, 2016
7:00 p.m.

Board members present were Byl, Yarhouse, Irwin, Roland, and Farwell. Also attending the meeting were Fire Chief Tubbs and Maint. Foreman, Bill Schaell and 4 citizens.

1. The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with Supervisor Byl leading the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of the agenda.
3. Approval of the regular Board meeting from March 28, 2016, after a motion by Yarhouse, supported by Roland. All ayes. Motion Carried.
4. Byl gave an introduction to the preliminary 2016-2017 budget. We have maintained our budgets and audits, well, over the last few years.
5. Fire Chief Kevin Tubbs gave details of the department's budget for 2016-2017 based on conversations of the department's needs. Total is \$149,600.00 for the year. He is adding janitorial services. The office needs a new computer and Lexipol Services for legal expertise and bylaws as mentioned. Several equipment purchases are necessary, stabilizer bars, pagers, radios, hoses, nozzles, air breathers, turn out gear, etc. Note: (No fire truck payment this fiscal year because of the delivery delay. Comments on early principal payment ensued).
6. Roland comments: Questioned the Parks and Recreation expenditures.
7. Irwin Comments: Lights at the Depot out again.
8. Yarhouse Comments: The Preliminary looks good, No Changes.
9. Farwell Comments: Election accounts look good. (Forgot to mention that there is a possibility that new election equipment will be required by the state during 2017. Therefore would like to place \$4,000.00 in the Elections budget in case it becomes a reality. Part of the cost will be paid by the state, but no amounts are known). Would also increase Deputy Clerk by \$1,000.00 because will need to train new deputy before 2017. Decrease the clerk equipment budget by \$1,000.00.
10. Byl comments: In the Township Board budget decrease Equipment budget by \$8,000.00 to \$2,000.00.
Decrease Depot Salaried to \$1,000.00 and the equipment to \$5,000.00.
He met with Joel Johnson, Judy Emmons and Greg Bergtold on the grant application. The Clare Historical Society has approached the DNR and is interested in Cleaning up the Coal Chute Site. The office renovation with aforementioned items could cost about \$7,500.00. Bids on flooring still coming in.
Building & Grounds: There is a Sheriff sale of three properties, so blight costs could reduce to zero. Boats to be sold.
11. Public comments: a) What are gas and diesel prices to the township? b) Need to check the cemetery boundaries because there is a 30' dispute near the back of the land being cleared. C) Need to pay extra money on the equipment to pay the principal quicker.

12. 2016-2017 Budget Comments: Be cautious- Lot more expenses this year,
\$100,000.00 in roads. We have a 24 month cushion. Taxes do not give us
money to save. They pay for services
Meeting adjourned at 9:09pm

Supervisor

Clerk