

## North Middleton Budget Meeting #2

October 15, 2008

The North Middleton Township Board of Supervisors held a budget meeting on Wednesday, October 15, 2008 at the Township Municipal Building, 2051 Spring Road, Carlisle, PA. Chairman Richard A Bucher called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board members present were: Vice-Chair Robert Shearer, Supervisor Dennis Hurley, Supervisor Harry Kelso, Supervisor Robert Reisinger, and Manager Deborah Ealer, and Recording Secretary Tracy Gates.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag opened the meeting.

Supervisor Robert Reisinger requested an executive session following the budget meeting concerning a personnel issue, no vote will be required.

The minutes from the budget meeting #1 were approved. Supervisor Kelso made the motion and Supervisor Reisinger seconded the motion, motion carried.

### Fire truck Purchase Update:

Chief Bricker requested a purchase of a fire truck, a combined engine and tanker, at a cost of \$606,000. The price of the truck will increase effective November 1, 2008 in the amount of \$24,000. There will also be an additional cost of \$15,000.00 to upgrade the truck with the National Fire Standards. The board decided to table this issue until next meeting to determine whether or not to order the truck prior to November 1, 2008. If the truck is ordered, no deposit is required and the truck will not be available for six to seven months.

### Gypsy Moth Spraying:

Decision made at last meeting that the township would spray in 2009 and then ask property owners with over one acre for donations to help cover the expense. The board decided it should be noted in the township newsletter, that the township will spray this year, but will not spray private properties in future years. The township will only be responsible for public township property. The township will also notify the county of this decision.

### Contributions for 2009:

Letort Authority has made a request for a donation of \$3,685.00 for 2009. In 2008 North Middleton Township did not make a donation, however, in 2007 the township made a donation in the amount of \$2000.00. The board unanimously decided to support the donation with a flag next to the line contingent on the final budget. If the donation is made, it should be noted in the township newsletter in effort to make the residents aware of the availability for their benefit.

### Humane Society

Ealer commented, the Humane Society fee of \$4,921.16 reflects a 3% increase from last year, with an optional service of \$75.00 for emergency calls, after hours and on weekends. The board voted concerning whether this service should be continued or discontinued, Supervisor Hurley - no, Supervisor Kelso - yes, Supervisor Reisinger - no, Vice-Chair Shearer - no, Chairman Bucher - no. The board still wants Manager Ealer to call the Humane Society to identify the township's actual usage of the service.

#### General Funds:

##### Street lighting tax fund

Manager Ealer is estimating \$80,000 in funds, but actual costs of \$82,000 leaving a deficit. Manager Ealer suggested a 1 or 2 cents increase in front foot assessment. The board unanimously agreed on the increase.

##### Municipal Building tax fund

Manager Ealer shows the township will collect \$134,000 next year. Manager Ealer would like to move those funds to capital projects and then use that money to pay off the bond debt. The board unanimously agreed on the transfer of funds.

##### Fees in Recreational Escrow Fund

Manager Ealer noted the township is not looking to receive many contributions this year. Manager Ealer suggested using a vo-tech program to build the restrooms at North Middleton Park. It is also a possibility to use the money to purchase playground equipment.

Capital Projects, page 20 – will discuss later in the meeting.

##### Capital Reserve Fund

Manager Ealer pointed out that this fund has \$431,000 for infrastructure such as road improvements.

##### State Liquid Fuels

Manager Ealer indicated this fund was restricted for roads, road improvements, and ice and snow removal. The fund will be receiving approximately \$ 9,000 less this year since people are driving less (information provided by the state). Lester Brickner recommends that the township purchase the utility truck out of this fund.

##### Capital Expenditures - Capital Expenses 2009 – 2013,

Manager Ealer reviewed this information with the board.

1<sup>st</sup> page 2009 – Represents a Christmas Wish List from all departments.

Public works wants to purchase 2 trucks, a pick-up truck and a utility truck

Fire Department wants the pumper/tanker/engine

Police Chief wants a patrol vehicle, computers, and bullet proof vests

Parks and Receptions wants playground equipment, a tractor, and restroom at North Middleton Park

Codes wants a computer and codification due to zoning changes

Administrative wants a new computer, building security, and debt service that has to be paid.

##### 2<sup>nd</sup> page – 2010

Public Works will need a dump truck and a mower.

Fire Department will not need anything until 2015 if new truck is purchased.

Police – a vehicle, office equipment

Parks and Recreation additional equipment

Codes will need a truck

Administrative continuing expenses for building security

The board made the following decisions on the capital expenditures for 2009:

Public Works – only one vehicle, need to know which vehicle is needed most

Police – vehicle approved, but investigate the possibility of leasing vehicles in future years

Parks and Recreation – tractor deleted for 2009, playground equipment approved since money comes

out of the Recreation Escrow fund. (Tractor will be considered for the following year.)  
Codes – wait on red book codification until 2010  
Administrative – building security dropped at this time; inquire into grant money for this project

Health Insurance Plans for the township –

Manager Ealer stated health insurance with Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield will increase 28%.  
Manager Ealer compared numerous healthcare plans, presented the information to the board. Based on the information, Vice-Chair Shearer motioned to switch the township's healthcare plan to Benecon as of 12.01.08.

Supervisor Reisinger seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Making Part-time officer to a Full-time officer

Manager Ealer presented an analysis she did involving the cost to upgrade the current part-time officer to a full-time officer. Currently with the 9 full-time officers and the 1 part-time officer, the total police budget is 35% of the overall budget. The board unanimously agreed to keep the 9 full-time officers and one part-time officer. The board also is considering cutting the overtime from 30 to 20, along with contacting the state police regarding protocol for the state police to cover state roads within the municipality.

Keystone Arms

The board had asked to see a sketch plan for proposed traffic changes on Post Road and Rt 11 for board approval. Sketches were provided by the developer. The board unanimously agreed to support the proposed changes.

Next week's plan of action:

Manager Ealer will adjust the figures

Fire truck purchase will be further discussed

Public Work's decision on vehicle need

Information on leasing a vehicle for the police chief

Salary Discussion (increase in not a flat rate)

Personnel

Joint meeting review (with the Borough, West Pennsboro, South Middlesex, and Dickinson)

Carlisle Borough requested donated from municipalities for the dog park.

Wanted a donation for a fire department vehicle

RESTA –

Discussed Bridge

Meeting Adjourned at 8:31 pm upon a motion by Supervisor Reisinger, which was seconded by Vice-Chair Shearer.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Ealer

Tracy Gates

Recording Secretary