

Washington Township Budget Workshop
Meeting August 8th, 2017 — 6:00 PM
Held at: Washington Township Government Center
311 Production Drive, Avon, Indiana 46123

Call to Order and Pledge

Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM and the pledge to the American flag was given.

Quorum

Quorum was established. Fred Palmer and Suzanne X Conger present. Also in attendance: Trustee Don Hodson, staff and public. Doug Elmore arrived during meeting.

Public Comment

None.

Trustee Comments

Trustee Don Hodson stated that this was the second budget workshop and the purpose was to go over any changes that have been made by the department heads and the Trustee.

Department Presentations.

1. **Fire Equipment and Park Bonds.** Township Administrator Josie Conrad asked if there were any comments regarding the fire equipment and park bonds from the initial budget meeting. There were no questions.
2. **Public Assistance.** Trustee Don Hodson stated there was only one change to the public assistance budget. The workman's comp figure was incorrectly shown previously as \$620, and the amount of \$780 is the amount that should have been shown. This amount came from the workers comp carrier for the position.
3. **General.** Township Administrator Josie Conrad reviewed the changes to the general fund budget which are. EAP services was added to the budget for \$300. For printing and advertising the budget amount was reduced to \$12,863. For fiber location, the amount was increased to \$2,500, because of the increase in construction projects going on within the community. These charges are divided between general, fire and park. The general fund part of the fire alarm was increased to \$200, due to the new building. A new line item for Town of Avon Storm Water fees for the Township building under the general fund was budgeted for \$507. For weed control the budget was increased to \$200, because the weed control has increased due to the influx of weed complaints and the increase of fees for the county to access liens.

Township Board Secretary Doug Elmore arrived at 6:07 PM.

Trustee Hodson reviewed the proposed budget for 2018 for the human resources budget. He stated that he asked our HR Consultant Terri Shea and Josie Conrad to review items that need to be completed and to assign weekly hours to complete all tasks. Please see the attached memo. The board requested that the amount for human resources would be broken down to the four operating funds.

4. **Park.** Trustee Hodson presented the proposed salaries for 2018 park employees. He provided a comparison between our park and six other parks within the county (please see the attached). He explained that all seven parks show how many employees they have for part-time, full-time and seasonal and that he did a pay comparison for the park directors, assistant park director, programmer, maintenance superintendent and grounds keepers. He stated he only did reviews on those due to those being the only positions within our park. He

found that we are the lowest paying park and still would be in some jobs with the proposed 2018 increases. The board said with the comparisons provided that they have no issues with the proposed pays for 2018 for the park. Park Director Lora Lacey reviewed the changes she made on her proposed budget. Besides the pay that Trustee Hodson reviewed the camp staff budget was also increased due to the camp attendance increase in 2017. She also stated that she added a line item for EAP in the amount of \$1,200 to cover the park employees. She also indicated the camp operating supplies was increased to \$7,000 due to the increase of camp attendance. Awards funds were increased to \$2,500. The pavilion maintenance line item was increased to \$3,500.

5. **Fire and Cumulative Fund.** Trustee Hodson proposed his recommended salaries and pay for the fire department in 2018. He began by doing a comparison between our department, Brownsburg Fire Territory and Plainfield Fire Territory, please see the attached. In those comparisons, he showed the areas serviced within those territories, the population served by each department and the staffing of each department. He stated in those comparisons he found that our department served the highest number of citizens in the amount of 49,178 people, and we have the lowest staffing of 20 personnel per shift. He also went on to state that even with the proposed increase of one person per shift we will still have the lowest staffing of all three departments. Trustee Hodson went on to review the 2017 pay of the fire personnel of our department compared to the other two departments. He found that we were in the middle, with Brownsburg being the highest. With the proposed pay increase, we would still be within the middle range. He stated that it is important to pay for what we are receiving, which is excellence, and that goes for all employees. He stated that within the past few months we have lost three firefighters, almost lost our park director and park programmer. Fred Palmer stated that we need to do a good job playing catch up and that we need to not find ourselves in that situation again. Chief Smith went over the changes made since the last meeting. He also stated that there were no changes to the 2018 CUM Fund budget since the last meeting.

Trustee Hodson told the board he would have the changes reflected during the meeting, especially showing the HR broken down in the near future and unless there were any further changes there is not a need for another budget meeting unless the board felt otherwise. The public hearing will be advertised to be held September 12, 2017 at 7:00 PM. By law the Township cannot approve budgets higher than the amounts advertised.

Public Comment

Township resident Laura Dryer stated that she wanted to compliment the parks department as she has seen several excellent changes within the parks appearance within the last few months. Laura and her family has enjoyed all of the different programs that the park provides. She also wanted to compliment the fire department, as she had a family member who received services from them. She stated she was glad that the board was agreeing to increase the compensation of the township employees.

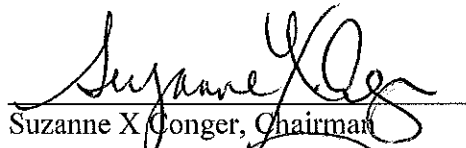
Wishes to be Heard

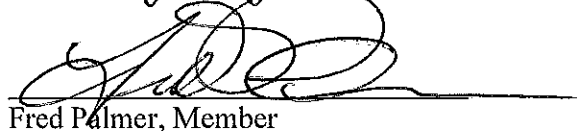
None.

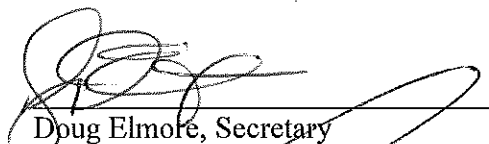
Adjournment

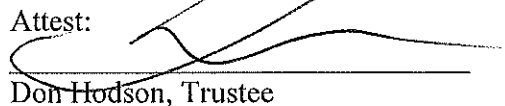
Doug Elmore moved to adjourn the meeting and Fred Palmer seconded the motion. **Motion carries 3-0.** Meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM. The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be August 8th, 2017 at 7 PM directly after the Budget Workshop, which begins at 6:00 PM. All meetings to be held at Washington Township Government Center, 311 Production Drive.

Minutes Approved September 12, 2017:


Suzanne X Conger, Chairman


Fred Palmer, Member


Doug Elmore, Secretary

Attest: 
Don Hodson, Trustee