

SOUTH MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BUDGET MEETING
November 16, 2007
6:30 PM

Subject: Tentative adoption of the South Middleton Township 2008 Budget

Present: Bryan Gembusia, Ron Reeder, Rick Reighard, Jim Baker, Tom Faley – Supervisors; Jarrett Sweeney, Barbara Wilson – Staff; Linda Franz, Andrea Ciccocioppo – Press.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and a moment of silence was observed.

Budget:

Jarrett and Barb reviewed highlights of the budget. Following the budget review, there was a discussion about the building project. The 3-year process and investigation of the problems and possible solutions were discussed. Rick presented a spreadsheet with statistics about surrounding municipalities and their highway departments, including the number of road miles, staff, and size of public works buildings. It was noted that South Middleton Township has the most road miles in Cumberland County with one of the smallest buildings to house the equipment and staff needed to maintain the road miles. It was also noted that with almost 3,500 approved lots in the system, an increase in the size of the garage is needed.

Jarrett and Barb pointed out that the \$4M building project can be completed with no increase in taxes, and the debt service can be paid in the succeeding budgets without a tax increase. Our investments are now earning more than the cost of borrowing the money or floating a bond. The meeting attendees took a tour of the existing garage and offices. Tom Faley stated this is a difference from the way business has been done in the past. He likes the pay-as-you-go option, but respects the decision of the majority of the Board. Jim Baker agreed.

Ron Reeder made a motion to adopt the 2008 tentative budget as presented, citing a need to prepare for the present and future needs of the Township. Rick seconded, and the vote in favor was 3-2 (Jim and Tom voted no).

Other Discussion Items:

Rick Rieghard noted that a road tour has not been completed. He suggested the road liaisons work with Ron Smith to schedule a tour as soon as possible.

Rick also noted some of the Township's appointees to various boards and commissions have an unsatisfactory attendance record. Bryan agreed stating that he was appointed to the Planning Commission as an alternate because it was difficult at times for them to get a quorum to conduct their business. The Board agreed to ask the personnel to resign if they cannot meet their commitments, and agreed to consider the attendance record when reappointing people.

Jim Baker again asked about merit raises, longevity pay and Personnel & Finance Committee.

There was no public comment.

Adjournment:

Rick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 PM. Ron seconded, and the vote in favor was unanimous.