

Cumberland Township Board of Supervisors  
1370 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325  
Minutes of the November 21, 2019 Workshop

Chair Barbara Underwood called the workshop to order at 7:00 P.M. Present were all Supervisors Underwood, Waybright, Toddles, Phiel and Paddock; Township Manager Ben Thomas, Jr., Police Chief Don Boehs and Secretary Carol Merryman. There were also four residents present.

**Public Comment: None**

**PRESENTATION OF THE 2020 PRELIMINARY BUDGET**

Mr. Thomas stated that tonight is a continuation from the workshop held two weeks ago and at that time the budget was incomplete because we were waiting on health insurance costs. He added that we now have those costs and that will be the main topic of discussion. Action on the preliminary budget will be at the regular meeting on November 26<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Thomas reported that the 2020 Budget is written with a 1.9 mill tax rate and no tax increase is proposed. Mr. Thomas briefly went over the revenues (which had not changed). The total revenues are \$3,882,128.00. Mr. Thomas reported that the draft budget is balanced using reserve funds.

Mr. Thomas explained that last year the Township moved insurance coverage from Performance Health to Capital Blue Cross level-funding plan recognizing a savings of around \$200,000.00. He also reported that there was no need for run-out insurance that was needed with Performance Health and these savings helped to balance the 2019 Budget. He added that the premium increase with the Capital Blue Cross level-funding plan for 2020 is 59% and for this reason, the Township got quotes from other insurance carriers. He stated that it seems that Highmark Blue Shield age-banded rates will be in compliance with our Collective Bargaining Agreements, will reduce the increase to 39% and these rates are presented in the budget tonight. He added that the Highmark plan will be presented to the Township's two collective bargaining units.

Mr. Thomas went through the expenditures in detail being specific with the health care costs. Police Chief Boehs explained that many of the increases in the Police budget are mandated by the Collective Bargaining Agreement. The total expenditures are also \$3,882,128.00.

Mr. Thomas also presented the following budgets: Capital Reserve Fund, Fire Tax Fund, Park and Rec Fund, State Liquid Fuels Fund and a new MS4 Budget.

All detailed budgets will be posted on the Township's website after preliminary approval and advertisement.

There being no further business, the workshop was adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

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Carol A. Merryman, Secretary

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