



HAMILTONBAN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

23 CARROLLS TRACT ROAD • P.O. BOX 526
FAIRFIELD, PA 17320

(717) 642-8509 • Fax (717) 642-9511 www.Hamiltonban.com

2020 BUDGET MESSAGE

February 4, 2020

Since 2007, the Hamiltonban Township Board of Supervisors has issued a Budget Message to our Residents to accompany the Annual Budget. As in previous years, we hope that through this message and our Newsletters, you will agree that our Township operations are being managed as efficiently as possible. The Board and our Employees work very hard to responsibly plan how your tax dollars are spent by controlling costs and utilizing grant funds when available to us.

In 2020 we will not have any tax increase but we will need to utilize some of our Capital Reserve Funds (\$135,000.00) to balance our budget. We will continue our .25 Mill Fire Tax to help support our four Volunteer Fire Companies.

GENERAL FUND

This fund is the primary fund used for every day Township operations. By law, all Municipal Budgets must balance when they are passed. The majority of our revenue comes from Real Estate and Earned Income Taxes. The 2020 total projected revenue is \$1,106,445.00 which includes a borrowing of \$ 250,000.00 for a 5-year General Obligation Note with ACNB for the Gum Springs Road Project and \$135,000.00 that will be moved from our capital reserve to balance the budget.

Total projected expenses are \$1,106,445.00. This includes the 4th of five scheduled payments of \$40,000.00 for our PIB (Pa Infrastructure Bank) loan that assisted with the replacement of Reeds Bridge at end of Mt. Hope Rd in 2016. In 2020 we propose one Capital expenditure from our continuing Capital Improvement Plan. We will enclose our Regional Fuel Station with three sides and a roof. That cost is estimated at \$50,000.00 (Building Capital Reserve, line 409.373)

The General Obligation Note of \$250,000.00 will be used for the total reconstruction of Gum Springs Rd from Township Line to Mt. Hope Rd and will include milling, ditch work, cross pipes and paving.

The \$135,000.00 deficit that is being funded by Capital Reserve funds, will cover the following; \$50,000.00 for Fuel Station, \$30,000.00 for Mt. Hope Bridge, \$32,000.00 for John Deere Boom Mower, \$19,000.00 for Wheel Loader and the balance to cover snow removal, line painting and signs.

The 2020 Budget includes \$30,000.00 line 439.040 for the preliminary work (Engineer costs, Permits, Rights of Way, surveys) of replacing the bridge on Mt. Hope Rd. near Mountain Lane in 2021. The one lane bridge will be replaced with a two-lane box culvert.

In 2019 we purchased a new F550 Truck to replace the 2007 F350 that was sold at auction and a New Low Boy Trailer to replace an aging trailer that was also sold. The 2007 Ford Explorer SUV was also sold at bid to help offset these new purchases. In 2020 we will trade our 1998 John Deere Mower for a New John Deere Boom Mower with a 5-year lease. We do not anticipate any additional equipment needs until 2022 when we will look to replace the 2006 Peterbilt Dump Truck. We continue to update our fleet of trucks and equipment in a scheduled “turn-over” plan to minimize excessive maintenance and breakdowns. Between utilizing low interest rate lending on 5-year plans and planned savings withdraws we have been able to maintain these purchases without a tax increase. This budget includes debt payments for the 2018 Mack Dump Truck, the 2019 Wheel Loader whose down payment was from Equipment Capital Reserve Funds, and the 2020 John Deere Boom Mower.

Road Department expenses have increased for Snow Removal, Line Painting and Sign replacement for reflectivity, as required by Federal Law.

As noted under State Liquid Fuels, a major Hickory Bridge Road Project was completed near Orrtanna with road reconstruction. We plan to expand our work into Orrtanna in 2021 with funding from the Sewer Capital Reserve Fund.

STATE LIQUID FUELS

In 2019 we reconstructed Hickory Bridge Road with Dirt & Gravel Road grant and Liquid Fuel Funds and paved a portion of Carrolls Tract Rd. in that area which completed the project of the Hickory Bridge Road Bridge replacement.

We anticipate revenue from the State (Gas Tax) of \$151,000.00 plus our balance on hand of \$17,000.00 which gives us a budget of \$168,000.00. Two major projects are planned with these funds;

1. Reconstruction of a portion of Moritz Rd. which will include some ditch work, moving utility poles, and paving. If this project gets delayed due to the extensive preliminary work that is required, we will use the funds on other roads and perform the Moritz Project in 2021.
2. Selected paving areas on Cold Springs Rd. in the areas of Moritz, Mt. Carmel and Deer Track.

SEWER CAPITAL RESERVE

The Orrtanna Treatment Plant Authority was officially dissolved in 2019. Under legal guidance, all remaining funds from their assets were placed in a Sewer Capital Reserve Fund. The Township plans to utilize these funds for improvements to the Orrtanna Village infrastructure and other expenses of the Public Works Department.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

As previously noted, we propose the enclosing of the Regional Fueling Station at an estimated cost of \$50,000.00 using Building Capital Reserve Funds and this is shown on line 409.373 of General Fund Budget. No other projects are planned for 2020. The Plan does show long range plans which identify future equipment and building needs thru 2024.

The Budget is available at www.hamiltonban.com or at the office during business hours. You may attend Board of Supervisor meetings on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of month at 7 p.m. for additional information.