

# Canosia Township

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Town Board: Chair Kurt Brooks, Supervisor Kevin Comnick, Supervisor Dan Golen  
Clerk Susan Krasaway, Treasurer Cheryl Borndal

## **Budget Meeting Minutes**

February 5, 2019

**Attending:** Chair Dan Golen, Supervisor Kurt Brooks, Supervisor Kevin Comnick, Clerk Susan Krasaway, and Treasurer Cheryl Borndal. Chair Golen called the meeting to order at 6:28 p.m. The treasurer distributed a budget/levy worksheet for the supervisors to consider.

### **Discussion Topics**

- The supervisors were satisfied with the 2018 year-end balances for each of the funds:

<b>Year-End Reserve Totals</b>			
	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Road &amp; Bridge Fund</b>	<b>FD Operating Fund</b>
<b>2016</b>	\$71,753	\$199,943	\$121,676
<b>2017</b>	\$79,065	\$120,441	\$135,996
<b>2018</b>	\$148,655	\$95,916	\$144,038

The Supervisors agreed the goal should be to levy and budget in a practical way that results in a comfortable levelling of the major fund reserves over time.

- To this end, for example, the FD's budget will stay the same for 2019 (\$45,000 for operating costs, \$45,000 for truck replacement and \$12,000 for fire relief) even though their 2019 levy is \$82,000 as opposed to \$100,000; last year they agreed in good faith to this temporary arrangement for the 2019 and 2020 levies.
- In contrast, the 2019 road levy and recommended 2020 road levy are higher (\$98,000 vs. \$80,000) to pay for upcoming projects while levelling out this reserve fund as well; it has been steadily declining as we tackle necessary road maintenance.
- Supervisor Comnick met with St. Louis County Public Works today to discuss future road projects. He is hopeful they have developed a plan for 2020- 2022 that will fall within these prospective budget/levy numbers and bring all paved roads up to county standards by 2023. He will present the plan to the board this spring for consideration.
- The board reiterated that we still have Proctor referendum money to spend on recreation uses as well as the substantial donation from Mrs. Anderson to spend on the rec area. The treasurer will keep track of the expenditures for both pots of money to make sure they are being put to correct use.
- The treasurer will update the budget spreadsheet to incorporate the WLSSD/PLAWCS reimbursement and other important receipts.
- She will also add information about the 2018 township tax base value as well as the estimated added market value of the land use projects completed this past year; this information is derived from value estimates provided on the zoning permit applications. Brooks calculated that there was a roughly 2-

2.5% increase in our tax base in 2018. In theory, if a levy stays the same while the tax base grows, that levy amount is spread across a larger base and residents may see their township portion of their taxes go down.

- The supervisors all agreed that they would not consider raising the levy unless there was a valid reason for doing so (e.g. reserve funds were too low, specific major road project or long-term planning for a major purchase of some sort). This concept will be communicated to the township residents in the newsletter and at the annual meeting where the residents decide the levy. The levy has stayed at \$297,200 for several years.

**Recommended Levy Amounts**

Motion by Brooks, seconded by Connick, to recommend the following 2020 levy amounts:

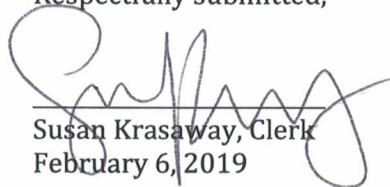
Recommended 2020 Levy	
General	\$117,200
Road & Bridge	\$98,000
Fire Department	\$82,000
(Total = \$297,200)*	

Discussion: These are the same fund divisions and total as the 2019 levy. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

\*NOTE: The residents at the Annual Meeting only vote on the total levy amounts for the three major umbrella funds (General, Road & Bridge and FD); they do not have the ability to make a binding vote on any specific accounts/expenditures within those three funds (i.e. Parks & Rec, Fire Relief, etc).

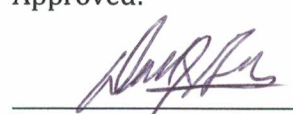
Motion by Connick, seconded by Golen, to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Krasaway, Clerk  
February 6, 2019

Approved:



Daniel J. Golen, Chair  
February 6, 2019