**Minutes: Budget Meeting**

February 5, 2020

Attending: Chair Kevin Comnick, Supervisor Kurt Brooks, Supervisor Dan Golen, Clerk Susan Krasaway, Treasurer Cheryl Borndal, and Fire Chief Gene Stevens. Comnick called the meeting to order at 6:28 p.m.

The board reviewed documents provided by the treasurer, as well as a year-over-year balance & disbursements comparison spreadsheet prepared by Brooks which included the following data:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year-End Balances** | | | | |  |  |
|  | **General Fund** | **Road & Bridge Fund** | **Fire Dept.** | **Total YE Balance** | **Disbursements** |
| **2016** | $71,753 | $199,943 | $266,255 | $537,951 | $407, 477 |
| **2017** | $79,065 | $120,441 | $177,401 | $376,907 | $622,840 |
| **2018** | $147,655 | $95,916 | $235,394 | $478,964 | $326,496 |
| **2019** | $209,245 | $157,919 | $272,837 | $640,001 | $221,621 |

The 2019 data is slightly skewed because it does not include the $82,000+ just paid (in 2020) for the 2019 road work; it also does not include the annual $12K fire relief contribution since we are waiting on the state fire aid to come in. However, the board agreed the finances are still in good shape, thanks to responsible spending as well as generous community donations, referendum money and grants in the recent years.

Given this data, and the fact that there are no daunting major expenditures on the horizon, the board is recommending no increase to the township levy in 2021. The levy has held steady at $297,200 for over a decade. Motion by Brooks, seconded by Comnick, to recommend the following 2021 levy amounts:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Recommended 2021 Levy** | |
| General | $117,200 |
| Road & Bridge | $78,000 |
| Fire Department | $102,000 |
| (Total = $297,200)\* | |

*Discussion:* These divisions reflect the agreement between the township and FD to return the FD levy to $102,000 after two years of increased road levies. 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 Golen, seconded by Brooks, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously, 3 – 0.

Respectfully submitted, Approved:

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Susan Krasaway, Clerk Kevin Comnick, Chair

March 4, 2020 March 4, 2020