

Trustees & Fiscal Officer
(513) 722-3400

Zoning
(513) 722-3400

Service Department
(513) 722-4600



www.goshen-oh.gov

Police
(513) 722-3200

Fire & E.M.S.
(513) 722-3473
or
(513) 722-3500

**Special Meeting – Goshen Township
Board of Trustees
Friday, January 30, 2015
4:00 PM**

**General Business and
Budget Discussion**

Meeting Minutes

Opening

Roll Call

Fiscal Officer Allgeyer

Trustee Allen called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM and roll was taken.

Trustee Lisa Allen – Present

Trustee Claire Corcoran – Present

Trustee Lois Pappas Swift - Present

In Attendance: Fiscal Officer Cheryl Allgeyer, Administrator Lou Ethridge, Fire / EMS Chief Steve Pegram, Police Chief Rick Combs, Service Director Bob Seyfried

Adoption of Agenda

57-2015 Trustee Corcoran motioned to adopt the agenda. Trustee Swift seconds the motion; motion carries.

Trustee Allen – Yes

Trustee Corcoran – Yes

Trustee Swift – Yes

New Business

2015 Operational Budget presentation

Administrator Ethridge presented the 2015 Operational Budget draft and with this draft his recommendation is that General Fund, Motor Vehicle License Fund, Gas Tax Fund, Road & Bridge Fund, and Cemetery Fund does not touch available unencumbered funds. Administrator Ethridge stated the Police District Fund revenue is anemic and would recommend to the Board of Trustees that they look toward a Police levy in 2016. Administrator Ethridge stated that in the Fire fund expenses are less than revenue and that unencumbered funds would increase.

Administrator Ethridge stated that the Zoning Fund has historically needed help from the General Fund and that this is true for most municipalities. Administrator Ethridge stated that in the Zoning fund a contract for \$17,000.00 has already been executed with Compass Point Planning and complimented Wendy Mueller with Compass Point on her reputation regarding zoning matters and stated that a transfer of money to the Zoning fund is pretty typical. Administrator Ethridge stated that no changes had been made to the Ambulance Fund from the prior operational budget draft.

Administrator Ethridge stated that in the Safety Service fund his recommendation is that the Board of Trustees makes a determination on how the fund revenue should be split between the Police and Fire Departments and recommended to the Board that available unencumbered funds be used towards Police expenses. Administrator Ethridge recommended to the Board of Trustees that they make a determination on how unencumbered funds could be used and inquired of the Board if the Fire Department could take lesser revenue funds from the Safety Service Fund since other revenue funds would be available in other Fire Department Funds.

Administrator Ethridge stated that new revenue would be generated in fund 2193 Fire / EMS Levy as of January 1, 2015. Administrator Ethridge stated that in Drug Law Enforcement fund 2221 that revenue is generated solely by the Police Department and decision was made to put the "911" call expense in this fund because there was no available revenue in the other Police funds. Administrator Ethridge stated that the Permissive Motor Vehicle License fund 2231 is a healthy fund and that a lot of the service department labor is budgeted in this Fund. Administrator Ethridge stated that in the Federal Law Fund 2251 that the Fund has had zero change for years with no change in revenue or expenses. Administrator Ethridge stated in Lighting District Fund 2401 that revenue and expenses are about even and that in Building Fund 4901 there is no activity and that this Fund just carries an unencumbered balance. Administrator Ethridge summarized that at the end of the 2015 year the balance is pretty close to the same.

Trustee Allen inquired if Administrator Ethridge could go through line by line and explain changes made from the prior budget drafts; Administrator Ethridge replied he was not prepared to go line by line, but there were not significant changes made from prior drafts. Administrator Ethridge stated the primary change was to the Safety Service Fund 2192 and asked the Board of Trustees for a policy on the usage of unencumbered funds and whether money should be exchanged between departments if they have access to other Funds with unencumbered. Trustee Corcoran stated there was an increase in medical expense fee of 12 percent. Trustee Swift inquired if the Safety Service levy was a continuous levy; Chief Pegram stated it is continuous. Trustee Swift stated that since the Fire Department has other revenue available, why not move the money needed to the Police Department in the Safety Service fund; Chief Pegram stated that the Board of Trustees would make the decision on how the Safety Service revenue should be split, but he strongly suggests not taking revenue away from one department in order to pay for another department.

Trustee Corcoran stated she would like for each department to define each line item on the Administrator's budget.

Fire / EMS Chief Pegram stated he believes that the Township should honor what they promised the voters when they passed the Fire / EMS levy which was no additional revenue would be taken away from the Fire / EMS departments if the levy were to pass.

58-2015 Trustee Swift motioned to tentatively schedule Special Meeting on 02/13/15 at 9:00 AM for budget discussions. Trustee Corcoran seconds the motion; motion carries.

Trustee Allen – Yes Trustee Corcoran – Yes Trustee Swift – Yes

59-2015 Trustee Swift motioned to tentatively schedule backup Special Meeting on 02/16/15 at 9:00 AM for budget discussions. Trustee Corcoran seconds the motion; motion carries.

Trustee Allen – Yes Trustee Corcoran – Yes Trustee Swift – Yes

60-2015 Trustee Corcoran motioned to direct Police Chief Combs to offer part-time employment to Steven Schlie as an investigator effective January 30, 2015 at the rate of \$11.43 per hour. Trustee Swift seconds the motion; motion carries.

Trustee Allen – Yes Trustee Corcoran – Yes Trustee Swift – Yes

Administrator Ethridge stated that confirmation had been received that labor expense could be allocated to the Drug Law Enforcement fund 2221 as long as employee's time was documented. Trustee Allen stated she had questions regarding the budget draft presented today and not sure where budget will end up and not sure why this is an emergency situation. Police Chief Combs stated that the current budget has 4 part time individuals included and that one Officer has left and this individual would replace the one which had resigned. Trustee Allen inquired if this individual would go on the road to patrol; Chief Combs stated the employee would be working on projects which were determined by Chief Combs and that the road patrols are currently covered but should Chief Combs determine it necessary for this individual to be on road patrol he would assign him there.

Community Forum

Jim Constable – Blanchester, OH

Mr. Constable inquired about the estate tax, local government revenue and if the Administrator's salary is split between funds, inquired of the revenue for Fire Department in Safety Service fund 2192 and revenue in the Radio Grant fund.

Jeff Corcoran – Goshen, OH

Mr. Corcoran inquired if the 2014 budget balanced and that he would like to see an easier budget form presented. Mr. Corcoran stated he believed the Police Department should get a higher amount of the Safety Service Fund revenue since the department needs additional money.

Adjournment

61-2015 Trustee Swift motioned to adjourn the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 5:22 PM. Trustee Corcoran seconds the motion; motion carries.

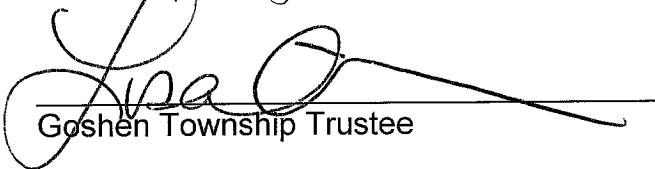
Trustee Allen – Yes

Trustee Corcoran – Yes

Trustee Swift – Yes

Respectfully Submitted by:


Cheryl Albeyer, Fiscal Officer


Goshen Township Trustee

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