

**MINUTES**

**SPECIAL MEETING  
Board of Commissioners  
Township of Haverford**

**November 20, 2017  
Monday – 7:00 p.m.  
Commissioners Meeting Room**

**1. Opening of Meeting – Chris Connell, Sr., President, opened the meeting**

**A. Roll Call – all 9 Commissioners were present at roll call: Commissioners D’Emilio, McCloskey, Siegel, Lewis, Holmes, McGarrity, Wechsler, Oliva and Connell.**

**Also present were: Lawrence J. Gentile, Township Manager, Lori Hanlon Widdop and Tim Denny, Assistant Township Managers, Deputy Chief Joseph Hagan and Aimee Cuthbertson, Finance Director.**

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Citizen’s Input – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

**Irene Coffey – 1437 Maryland Avenue**

**Mr. Coffey was present to ask the Board to add \$50,000 to the 2018 budget for work to be done at Nitre Hall.**

**3. Budget Hearing and Preliminary Adoption of Year 2018 Budget**

**Motion made by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner Siegel to adopt as an Ordinance a Preliminary General Fund, Sewer Fund and Capital Fund Budget, including all taxes, fees, service charges and other revenue sources provided within all funds for 2018.**

**Roll Called.**

**All 9 Commissioners voted Yes: Commissioners D’Emilio, McCloskey, Siegel, Lewis, Holmes, McGarrity, Wechsler, Oliva and Connell.**

**4. Presentation of Preliminary Budget by Lawrence Gentile, Township Manager**

**Mr. Gentile stated that to keep taxes low for the residents and still operate fiscally sound, he had to reduce staff by eliminating two full time employees and one staff personnel will go from full time to part time.**

**Goals/Improvements while keeping taxes in check and maintaining the same level of service:**

**Infrastructure, Public Safety, Roads and Parks & Recreation improvements.**

This year's budget is \$43,201,341.00. This is a proposed 2.4% increase. Trash will remain the same at \$197.00 and no change in water - \$4.70/per 1,000 gallon usage.

The Finance Department will now begin accepting tax payments via credit card and a more modernized tax bill will be sent out.

General Fund Revenues were broken down (see attached).

Street Light upgrades in 2018 and this was discussed in length with completion by the end of April.

Sewer Fund Revenues & Expenses (see attached)

General Fund Expenditures were explained. This year all employees will receive a 3.5% increase in salaries, the Library allotment, shade trees and street light upgrades. The three major departments in the budget are: Parks & Recreation, Police and Public Works. (see attached).

Cost Drivers:

Wages, Medical Benefits, Municipal Pension Obligation, Township Insurance and Debt Services.

Bond/Capital items were discussed and what will be purchased (see attached):

Major Equipment: 5 Police vehicles

8 Public Works vehicles.

A Sewer Lateral Camera

Upgrades in the IT Department. The website will be upgraded and a new server purchased.

Infrastructure Improvements:

Sanitary Sewers

Storm Sewers

Completion of the new Municipal Services Building

Library renovations

4 Grants have been obtained but with a 30% match on each:

1. Traffic adaptive System – helping with air quality – traffic will move quicker on West Chester Pike.
2. Another facelift on Darby Road – from the Brick & Brew down to Benedict Avenue.

3. **Water Retention Basin at Chatham Park School – 2018/2019.**
4. **Paving of the parking lot at Hilltop Field.**

**The Skatium plaza (outside) is in the development phase, a new Fire Alarm System and Cameras will be purchased.**

**Major Park Improvements will be done in 2018.**

**Alternative fuel plans were discussed. We are looking to see what our neighbors are doing, hybrid vehicles were also discussed.**

**The Historical Society's request was discussed at length. Conclusion: consider long term and to be part of the Capital Plan.**

**Other topics discussed:**

**Energy – reducing carbon in the air.**

**Begin looking at vehicles**

**Propane and natural gas**

**Street sign upgrades – this is mandatory and new posts need to be installed by 2025.**

**Roll Called.**

**All 9 Commissioners voted Yes to the 2018 Preliminary Budget: Commissioners D'Emilio, McCloskey, Siegel, Lewis, Holmes, McGarrity, Wechsler, Oliva and Connell.**

**5. Ordinance No. P22 -2017 Sewer Rental Charge (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**

**Motion made by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner Oliva to adopt the first reading of Ordinance No. P22 -2017 fixing the annual sewer rental or charge for each property connected to the sewer to \$4.70 per 1,000 gallons of water consumed or used by said property.**

**Roll Called.**

**All 9 Commissioners voted Yes: Commissioners D'Emilio, McCloskey, Siegel, Lewis, Holmes, McGarrity, Wechsler, Oliva and Connell.**

6. Ordinance No. P23 -2017      Trash Fee (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)

**Motion made by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner Wechsler to adopt the first reading of Ordinance No. P23 -2017 fixing the Township of Haverford Trash Fee at \$197.00 per year.**

**Roll Called.**

**All 9 Commissioners voted Yes: Commissioners D'Emilio, McCloskey, Siegel, Lewis, Holmes, McGarrity, Wechsler, Oliva and Connell.**

**7. All Commissioners agreed to adjourn.**