

Mount Joy Borough Council
Special Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2017

The Mount Joy Borough Council held a special meeting on November 14, 2017, at the Mount Joy Borough Council Chambers.

President Glessner called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. President Glessner established a meeting time limit until 9:00 pm.

Roll Call - Present were: Councilors Deering, Ginder, Millar, Reese, Seidel, Smeltz, Youngerman, President Glessner and Mayor Bradley. Councilor Hall absent.

Also present were; Public Works Director, Dennis Nissley; Borough Manager, Samuel Sulkosky, Parks Department Brian Brubaker, Codes Officer Stacie Gibbs. Members of the public present were Kim Brewer (MSMJ) and Tena Hoffer.

Public Input Period - None

End of Public Input Period

Budget Discussion

Councilor Smeltz of the Public Safety Committee gave a brief overview of the Public Safety budget. The biggest purchase is the NIBRS reporting system via line item 01.410.750. The Borough is one of 23 municipalities selected to initiate the NIBRS system with possible grants available to those municipalities. Smeltz further explained that the part-time officers line item 01.410.136 is over budget for 2017. Smeltz asked for any questions from the Board and there were no questions.

Stacie Gibbs reviewed the Zoning, Planning and Codes budget. Gibbs reviewed expenditure and revenue line items specifically discussing engineering and low number of Zoning Hearing Board meetings. Gibbs explained new revenue line item 01.361.305. Gibbs discussed the need for a new desk and files cabinets. Gibbs reviewed the revenue section 360 and line item 01.361.320 due to reimbursements from the Authority, pipeline project and Turkey Hill. Gibbs reviewed the building permit line item and the street opening line item that was previously under the police department but is handled by her office.

Manager Sulkosky presented the Capital, Highway Aid and Refuse and Recycling Budgets to Council. Sulkosky thanked staff for their assistance in putting the budgets together. Sulkosky discussed some minor changes in the General Fund such as line item 01.471.100 moved to 01.492.100. Sulkosky also reviewed a spreadsheet with the tax assessment numbers from the county showing a \$575,891,000 and an adjustment to the millage due to the change in assessment.

Councilor Smeltz asked if the 3.754 mills would be revenue neutral with the current 4.91 mills. Sulkosky answered that it would be revenue neutral as close as possible without adding another decimal to the tax rate.

Councilor Youngerman commented about the written Administration and Finance Committee discussion on the uniform and non-uniform pension funding. Youngerman discussed the lowering of the assumed rate of return from 7.75% to 7.5%, OPEB liability and police retiree health care obligation. Youngerman proposed using debt service budgeted amount for these liabilities.

Councilor Seidel asked what the OPEB costs to the Borough are annually. Sulkosky stated that retiree health insurance premiums are about \$15,000 per month not including HRA costs.

Councilor Seidel suggested to provide an additional \$10,000 for dedication purposes for MSMJ with the condition of obtaining the \$500,000 grants.

Councilor Smelts commented that he is not favor of raising taxes. Smeltz commended Youngerman on his position to pay towards pension or OPEB liability but did not view the pension as overly underfunded.

Youngerman commented he is trying to stay within the \$70,000 previously budgeted for debt service and does not want to raise taxes. Youngerman cited that these liabilities need to be paid and did not want to push those costs off to our children. Youngerman made a motion to change 01.492.100 line item for pension to \$66,000, motion did not receive second, Youngerman withdrew the motion.

Mayor Bradley suggested the Council break up into their respective Committees and try to come up with ideas for budget cuts to balance the budget.

Manager Sulkosky reminded Council that \$284,000 has been put into this year's budget for roads. Councilor Smeltz commended everyone on a very good budget. Councilor Reese reminded everyone of the savings of \$215,000 in improved health coverage. Sulkosky reminded Council that a difference from last years budget is transfer from the Refuse Fund was reduced to \$200,000 from \$267,000 and fund balance was reduced from \$135,000 to \$0.

At 7:25 pm President Glessner recessed the meeting for 15 minutes so the Committees could meet. President Glessner reconvened the meeting at 7:40 pm.

The Public Works Committee recommended the following changes:

- 01.430.330 reduce \$3,500
- 01.430.370 reduce \$2,000
- 01.432.450 reduce \$2,500
- 01.430.183 reduce \$2,000
- 01.446.313 reduce \$7,000
- 01.430.470 reduce \$1,000
- 01.451.100 reduce \$2,000
- 01.454.183 reduce \$2,000

The Administration and Finance Committee recommended the following:

- 01.361.330 increase \$5,000
- 01.414.470 decrease \$1,000

The Public Safety Committee recommended the following changes:

- 01.410.200 reduce \$1,500
- 01.410.300 reduce \$1,500
- 01.410.314 reduce \$2,000
- 01.410.321 reduce \$3,000
- 01.410.450 reduce \$2,500

Smeltz made a motion to reduce transfer to Capital Fund 01.492.100 Retirement/Pension from \$70,250 by \$39,869 to a total of \$30,381, seconded by Deering; motion carried 7 to 1 with Youngerman voted no.

Seidel made a motion to add conditionally funds of \$10,000 to MSMJ if the \$500,000 grant is received. Motion dies due to lack of a second.

Discussion occurred as to the \$30,381 for Retirement/Pension. Consensus was to place in Capital Retirement Pension line item 01.492.100 and Capital Fund 392.160 to be appropriated at a later dated.

The Mayor thanked staff and Councilors for their work on the budget.

Sulkosky asked for a motion by Council to set the millage rate.

Motion by Deering, seconded by Seidel to set the millage rate at 3.754, carries unanimously.

If you are a person that requires accommodations to participate, please contact Borough staff to discuss how we may best accommodate your needs.

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Motion by Smeltz to advertise the 2018 General Fund Budget, seconded by Deering, motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session: Council entered executive session at 8:15 pm. Council exited executive session at 8:45 pm. No decisions were made.

Sulkosky inquired with Council if there was interest in having Laurel Harvest Labs appear before Council for an informational session. After a discussion, Council agreed to have an informational session at an upcoming meeting.

Any other Matter proper to come before Council

On a motion by Reese, seconded by Smeltz, Council adjourned the meeting at 8:54 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Samuel Sulkosky
Borough Manager/Secretary

