

BUDGET WORKSHOP

President Ramsey called the 2012 budget workshop to order at 7:00 pm on November 14, 2011, in the auditorium of the Macungie Institute, 510 E. Main Street, Macungie PA. Council members in attendance were Chris Becker, Robert Bogert, Dorothy Kociuba, Jean Nagle, Guy Ramsey and Joseph Sikorski. Council Elect Members Debra Cope, Greg Hutchison and Linn Walker were also in attendance. David Boyko was absent. Also present were Borough Manager Chris Boehm, Macungie Fire Chief Michael Natysyn, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Doris Horner and Administrative Assistant Cynthia Hartzell.

Borough Manager Boehm has continued to work on the budget. She reviewed adjustments made to the general revenues. Borough Manager Boehm suggested increasing the monthly rental amount for 24 S. Church Street from \$325 to \$375. The rental amount has not been increased since 2005. Council Member Sikorski suggested increasing the transfer from the capital fund to include the chipseal coating because it increases the life of the road.

As requested, Borough Manager Boehm created a spreadsheet showing the amount of millage for each service as recreation, fire service, ambulance service, shade tree, library and the Macungie Institute. Council discussed detailing the tax millage to show the residents what service their tax dollars pay for. Fire Chief Natysyn suggested the 1 mil fire tax for fire service. A 1mil tax would provide the fire department with the Borough allocation, the vehicle fuel and the workers compensation that are currently in the budget. The balance of tax amount would include approximately the amount the Fire Department collects from their solicited subscriptions. The Macungie Fire Department would not be able to solicit for the subscriptions if the Borough enacts the fire tax.

Council Member Becker provided his recommendations to balance the budget. Council discussed in length the police vehicles, public work trucks and Borough personnel. With the advantage of having a mechanic, Council discussed not purchasing a vehicle just because it is scheduled in the capital plan and outsourcing some maintenance work.

Borough Manager Boehm will make adjustments to the budget as discussed including adding a 2 mill tax increase.

Council rescheduled the next budget workshop to December 1 at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment

The workshop was adjourned at 9:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Hartzell
Administrative Assistant