

BUDGET WORKSHOP

President Becker called the budget workshop to order at 7:00 p.m. on November 13, 2017, in the Auditorium of the Macungie Institute, 510 E Main Street, Macungie, PA. Council Members in attendance were Alma Akinjiola, Chris Becker, John Yerman, and Roseann Schleicher. Council Members David Boyko, Greg Hutchison, and Marvin Moyer were absent. Also present were Borough Manager Chris Boehm, Mayor Gary Cordner, and Administrative Assistant Cynthia Hartzell. Newly elected Council Member Barry Bloch and Mayor Ron Conrad were in attendance also.

Mayor Cordner proposed to appoint Sergeant Kocher as Police Chief and Corporal Mullen as Sergeant for 2018. He provided a draft contract for the Police Chief position. He explained there would be an increase in the police chief wages but a decrease to the shift differential since the police chief does not receive that benefit. He proposed to use 6 months of the wages from the officer out on medical leave for part time officers.

Major building expenses in the budget were for heating and air conditioning upgrades for Macungie Institute at \$73,000, Borough Hall would be \$22,000 and the police department at \$11,000. The engineer fees were adjusted as updated by Engineer Kern. Borough Manager Boehm suggested moving forward to install the pedestrian bridge on Cotton Street by applying for the DEP permit and to install the street lights on Lumber Street. She mentioned if applying for the DEP permit in 2018, Council would have 5 years to complete the project.

Council Member Yerman explained the post-retirement benefits for the police. The Borough is responsible for medical benefits for an eligible retired officer until that officer is eligible for Medicare. Currently no funds have been set aside. President Becker would like to place any funds that have not been spend in the police 2017 budget into a separate account. He would like to add \$25,000 into the 2018 budget for the police post benefits.

Council reviewed the budget. Borough Manager Boehm noted there are some revenues that pass through as an expense and do not impact the budget like grants. For Council to see the impact of expenses in the budget, Borough Manager Boehm was directed to create a budget only showing items that impact the budget. The taxes, police fines and permit are some revenues and wages, building maintenance, infrastructure maintenance and unfunded projects are some expenses that impact the budget.

Mayor Cordner suggested to the newly elected Mayor to have Sergeant Kocher attend a Borough Council meeting once a month to give a report to help with the transition.

Executive Session

President Becker called an executive session at 8:38 p.m. to discuss personnel. The meeting reconvened at 10:12 p.m. with no action taken.

Adjournment

At 10:13 p.m. Borough Council recessed the budget workshop until November 20, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. prior to the general Borough Council meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Hartzell
Administrative Assistant