

Minutes of the Hanover Township **Finance Committee** December 18, 2014

- I. Chairperson Trustee Mary Alice Benoit called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.
- II. <u>Roll Call</u>: Clerk Dolan Baumer called roll and present were Trustee/Chairwoman Benoit, Supervisor Brian McGuire, Administrator Barr, and also present were Trustee Caramelli, Road Commissioner Ochoa, Assistant Administrator Suzanne Powers and Management Analyst Amy Kaufholz.
- III. Review of the Salary Study: During the October Finance Committee Meeting, the committee asked for a study of salaries of units of government and other comparable entities to Hanover Township. Ms Kaufholz presented a spreadsheet with the results of that study.

Discussion ensued and included the review of the position of social services specialist; this position has a higher turnover rate, as it offers an employee the opportunity to get a good employment history, and then go on to a higher salary. The committee sees that this salary needs to be adjusted to attract and keep quality staff.

Another position where turnover may be linked to salary is that of bus driver.

The committee asked that these two positions be addressed, specifically, in light of this survey, and made a part of the budget proposal for January.

IV. <u>Consideration of October 2014 Committee Minutes</u>: The Committee agreed to defer this item to the January agenda.

V. <u>Budget Priorities for January:</u>

Mr. Barr noted that there have not been dramatic, new requests for the FY16 budget year. Should Home Delivered Meals be a line item rather than being included in the Senior Contingency line? The Committee agreed that it would be better to be a stand-alone line item. Mr. Barr noted that there has been an increase in funding from Age Options and that donations are up.

At this point, discussion ensued regarding a cost benefit analysis for the Meal Program as it stands today, and the committee directed staff to prepare an analysis, to include how much the Township is actually subsidizing the program. Build-in home delivered meals to increase the numbers. Consider a part time position for the food service program.

A capital item for FY16 would be the front parking lot.

VI. New Business:

Commissioner Ochoa noted that in the past five to six tons of salt were used in the Township; in 2014 he purchased and used over 1,700 tons. The cost was \$75,000 and it may have to be raised to cover \$250,000 at about \$139 per ton this winter. With the inclusion of Grover Road, the improvements needed would run about \$780,000 for a two-way road and \$520,000 for a twelve foot, one directional road.

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Trustee Caramelli noted that money is available from the State for Townships and he recommended to the Supervisor and Administrator that we consider hiring a consultant to lobby for the Township in Springfield. He reported that six collar county townships received about \$150 million for their townships. This could be used for the Mental Health Board, for specific departments such as YFS, in senior services toward social services, and maybe for emergency services, as well. The Committee asked Mr. Barr to investigate the costs and budget, and the process of selecting a lobbyist, as well developing a set of expectations and the process of use, and the benefit of a lobbyist versus an association.

- VII. Executive Session: No motion was made to go into Executive Session.
- VIII. Other Business: The Committee agreed to hold the next Finance Committee Meeting on Friday, January 23 at 8:30 a.m.
- IX. <u>Adjournment</u>: Motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor McGuire and seconded by Trustee Benoit; Trustee Benoit adjourned the meeting by unanimous voice vote at 8:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Kathleen M. Dolan Baumer

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Clerk.