

MINUTES  
FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MARCH 1, 2010

The Penn Township Finance Committee convened on Monday, March 1, 2010 at 7:16 PM following the Public Safety Committee meeting. Present were Chairman Heilman and Commissioners Prieber, Felix, and Goldsmith. Commissioner Rewa was absent with notice. Also present were Manager Garvick, Police Chief Rhodes, Fire Chief Cromer and Administrative Assistant Rodgers. The following matters were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the February 1, 2010 Finance Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None.

BENCHMARK ENGERGY SOLUTIONS: Jamie Rubb from Benchmark Energy Solutions Inc. made a presentation about his company that procures natural gas and electricity for its eighty customers at cheaper than market rate. Should the Township agree to participate in the program, Benchmark will request all the Township's electric bills for the last three years and conduct an energy audit. The audit could provide a refund for the township because they will be reviewing costs along with the various rate structures. This audit will provide Benchmark the usage history they need to go to market. They will continue to audit the bills and will provide a consolidated bill with the breakdown of all our accounts on one bill. They will monitor our use and evaluate any spikes or abnormal usages and find solutions for them or work with the utility company to get the bill corrected. Benchmark negotiates with many different companies and then brings the commodity to the municipalities. Their average savings for municipalities is 13% and they have saved their natural gas customers about 23% in the last quarter. They have been buying their product using an auction process. They make their funds from the savings the municipalities would be paying and distribute the savings thirty percent to Benchmark and seventy percent to the municipality. The management agreement is a commitment for three years but there is a provision in the agreement for the municipality to be released from the agreement if the program is not what they expected. They would take all Townships electric accounts. The payments will be made to M & T Bank. There is a billing fee depending on the total utility usage fees.

2010 BUDGET & OPERATING EXPENSE REPORT: Manger Garvick reviewed the 2010 budget and expense report through the end of February. The Township is at twelve percent for revenues and expenses through the end of February.

HANOVER EARNED INCOME TAX MEETING: Commissioner Heilman reported on the Hanover Earned Income Tax meeting held on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and a copy of the audit report was provided for review. The Hanover Earned Income Office will remain open through the early part of 2012 to process returns from 2011. Everything will be turned over to the York Wage Tax office on January 1, 2012 as a result of the state mandate. The York County Tax Collection Committee has begun to meet and has selected the York Adams Tax Bureau to be its collector.

FLEXIBLE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES PROPOSAL: Manager Garvick reviewed the information technology proposal from Flexible Technology Services which is proposing a prepaid contract for services. The Committee recommended staying with the current IT

person who has worked on our system for several years.

TRI-TOWNSHIP PARK: Administrative Assistant Rodgers discussed the request from South Western School District for playground equipment at the Tri-Township Park. The Park was constructed in the 1980's by the school district along with the three municipalities that make up the school district. The Committee recommended waiting until the next budget process has begun to consider the request.

HANOVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: The Committee received a request dated January 29, 2010 from the Hanover Chamber of Commerce for a waiver of the sign permit fees to advertise the shuttle service for the Dutch Days Festival at the end of July. The Committee recommended approving the request.

OTHER MATTERS: None.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey R. Garvick, Manager