

MINUTES  
FINANCE COMMITTEE  
NOVEMBER 5, 2007

The Penn Township Finance Committee convened on Monday, November 5, 2007 at 7:37 PM following the Public Safety Committee meeting. Present were Chairman Heilman and Commissioners Stauffer, Klunk, Felix, and Johnson. Also present were Manager Garvick, Police Chief Gilbert, Fire Chief Cromer and Administrative Assistant Rodgers. The following matters were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None.

GOD'S MEAL BARREL: The Committee reviewed a request dated October 10, 2007 from God's Meal Barrel requesting exoneration from the sign permit fee for a banner to advertise appreciation day at Buckley Chiropractic Center for God's Meal Barrel. The Committee recommended approving the request.

SOUTH WESTERN LACROSSE, INC.: The Committee reviewed a request from South Western Lacrosse, Inc. for a waiver of the sign permit fee to advertise their registration night at Emory H. Markle Intermediate School. The Committee recommended approving the request.

EXIT REALTY: The Committee reviewed a request from Exit Realty for a waiver of the sign permit fee to advertise a food drive for different charities in the Hanover Area. The Committee recommended approving the request.

P.T.V.E.S.: The Committee reviewed a request dated October 22, 2007 from the Penn Township Volunteer Emergency Services for a waiver of the sign permit fee for a temporary sign to advertise their Halloween party. The Committee recommended approving the request.

2008 LOCAL SERVICES TAX DISCUSSION: The Pennsylvania legislature has amended the procedures for collection of the Emergency Municipal Services Tax effective January 1, 2008. The name has been changed to the Local Service Tax. The law not only requires refunds to individuals who have paid the tax but have earned less than \$12,000, but also allows individuals to submit exemption certificates to exempt their employers from even withholding the tax because they may earn less than \$12,000 in 2008. Mr. Garvick provided figures for 2005, 2006, and 2007 for refunds and collections. The Committee recommended that the Township remain with the current collection process with the Tax Collector collecting the taxes and the Township staff reviewing refunds and exemption certificates and report next year on how the process went.

2008 BUDGET DISCUSSION: Commissioner Heilman stated that a finance meeting would be held on Wednesday, November 28, 2007 at 6:30 PM to further discuss the 2008 budget. Manager Garvick stated that we are not expecting as much grant money in 2008 as we received in 2007. There was some discussion on the delinquent real estate taxes versus current real estate taxes. The Realty Transfer tax is projected to remain about the same and Manager Garvick is expecting there to be some commercial development that increases the tax. Manager Garvick reported that revenue from the Township's Earned Income Tax has decreased from 2006. The Local Services Tax (emergency municipal services tax) will be reduced by about twenty-five percent because of the way the taxes will be collected from employee and remitted to the Township. The rent of the building has increased in 2007 because of the realtors association renting the community room about eight times a month but they have found a permanent location and will no longer be using the room. The grant that Chief Cromer applied for to help finance the new fire truck has been denied, even though the new engine has already been ordered. The fireman's relief grant has also been decreasing because of the decrease in the number of volunteers responding to fire calls versus the number of paid responders. The remainder of the budget was reviewed and the Committee will review the Public Works budget at the next finance meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 P.M

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey R. Garvick, Manager

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