BUCKINGHAM TOWNSHIP

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BUCKINGHAM TOWNSHIP Board of Supervisors Work Session Agenda September 27, 2023 6:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. Budget

Buckingham Township Board of Supervisors Work Session Minutes

The work session of the Buckingham Township Board of Supervisors was held September 27, 2023 in the Township Building, 4613 Hughesian Drive, Buckingham, Pennsylvania.

Present:

Paul Calderaio

Chairman

Maggie Rash

Vice-Chairman

Jon Forest

Member

Dana S. Cozza

Township Manager Township Engineer

Daniel Gray Craig A. Smith, Esquire

Township Solicitor

Not Present:

Luke Rosanova

Bucks County Planning Commission

Gary Weaver

Township Water/Wastewater Consultant

The work session began at 6:00 p.m.

Budget - Building and Codes Department

Mr. Kettler, Director of the Code Enforcement Department, was present along with Mrs. Pistory, Director of the Finance Department, to discuss the projected 2024 budget.

Mr. Kettler said projecting future building within the Township is always a guess, but he projected that 12 single lots may have building permits issued in 2024. He said a big question is whether the Stonehaven development starts construction as the ball is in their court. Mr. Kettler explained that the McKee Development gave a projected timeline that by fall of 2024 they might be pushing dirt around. Mr. Kettler explained some developments like to submit building permits while doing site work to speed along progress.

Mr. Kettler said that the building department received three new house permit applications in 2023, and issued four permits from last year's applications. He said some 2019 permits are still not complete.

Mr. Kettler said that the houses being built are getting larger, so the fees are more than projected on previous budgets. Consequently, permit fees were adjusted in 2023 to accommodate this.

Mr. Kettler said there were a significant number of alterations and renovations (including basements) done in 2023, adding that there were fewer swimming pool applications.

Mr. Kettler said for new commercial building, Total Skills is getting close to permit application, and the Sylvan Pools site has been acquired and Land Development plans

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have been submitted to the township for a Hyundai dealership and Biotechnology building.

Mr. Kettler reported the building department oversaw a fair number of new tenant fitouts, including Buckingham Friends School.

Mr. Kettler said the 1-2 house developments take a lot more staff time than a larger development, as many of the contractors, builders, architects and homeowners are new to the township, are unfamiliar with procedures and oftentimes change things.

Mr. Kettler said in looking ahead, the fire marshal's 2015 vehicle has 91,000 miles, and the Board may want to consider ordering a truck to replace it, depending on delivery time with the supply chain. Mr. Kettler explained that for health reasons, firefighters should store their (used) gear in a separate compartment due to health reasons such as cancer presumption. He said all of the fire chiefs now have trucks for that reason.

Board of Supervisors

- Township Newsletter. Mr. Calderaio suggested including two newsletters in the 2024 budget, adding they may not both be used, but better to include them just in case.
- Agricultural Preservation. Mrs. Pistory noted she added an Ag Preservation line (312) in place of "Bedminster" who are no longer doing inspections of preserved properties. Mrs. Rash said she would contact Heritage and get a quote for their services.
- Audio/Visual in Buckingham Room. Mrs. Cozza said the township had received two quotes for a new audio/visual system in the Buckingham Room, and noted that just the audio portion is quoted at \$20,000-\$30,000. She said this is under the Capitol Budget.

Administrative Department

- Desktop computers. Mrs. Pistory explained the computers purchased in 2019 for Windows 10 were now due for replacement. She said this expense is reflected on line 750 of the budget.

Mrs. Pistory announced there is no increase for dental, life and disability insurance in 2024. She said that hopefully the health care increase is low. Nonetheless, she has budgeted a 15% increase, just in case.

Fall/Winter Meeting Schedule

Mrs. Cozza suggested the Board meet on October 11, 2023 for budget discussions, and the Board agreed to begin the work session at 4:00pm.

Mrs. Cozza asked if the Board was agreeable to changing the November meeting from the 22nd to the 15th, and the December meeting from the 27th to the 13th, and the Board said "yes".

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Mrs. Cozza confirmed the Township Employee and Staff Holiday Party on December 14th at 4:00pm, and the Board agreed.

7:05 p.m. The Board of Supervisors retired into Executive Session to discuss a potential land preservation easement acquisition.

Approved by the Board of Supervisors on the 25th day of October, 2023.

Buckingham Township Board of Supervisors

Paul Calderaio, Chairman

Maggie Rash, Vice-Chairman

Jon Forest, Member

Attest:

Dana S. Cozza, Township Secretary

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lori Wicen.