

**CARNEYS POINT TOWNSHIP**  
**BUDGET MEETING MINUTES**  
**FEBRAURY 4, 2017**  
**9:00 AM**

The Budget Meeting of the Township Committee was held on the above date at the time of 9:05 a.m. Committeemen Dowe, Brown, Dennis, Pelura, and Racite were present. Also present at this meeting were M. Stout- CMFO / Administrator, J. Proffitt-Township Clerk and L. Jones-Treasurer.

Mayor Racite called the meeting to order, he read the **Opening Public Meeting Act**. Mayor Racite led the **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag** and roll call was taken.

Mayor Racite started by making a Mayor Appointment of Rochelle Miller to the Recreation Commission. She will be filling the Alternate Member #1 position which expires on December 31, 2018.

Mayor Racite told the Committee that he, Mr. Brown and Mr. Gilbert from Public Works had a meeting with Verizon on placing a tower at Public Works. Mayor Racite told the Committee he was toke that Verizon has put the installation on their books for 2018. Paperwork will be sent in the future for this project. Mr. Gilbert will be the point person for Verizon.

Mrs. Stout reviewed with the Committee the changes made in the budget from the last meeting. She asked if anyone had any questions so far. She then proceeded to go over Transitional Aid. Mrs. Stout said she spoke to both Auditor Fred Caltablano and Mike Welding from Bowman. They feel our situation is what Transitional Aid was made for. Mr. Dowe asked about Transitional Aid. Mrs. Stout said it is money given by the State to help the Municipality get over a hump due to unforeseen situations. The State then oversees all operations of the Municipality. Mrs. Stout said the oversight starts as soon as the paperwork is filed. Penns Grove has gotten Transitional Aid for years and is existing on it. That is not what it is for. Mrs. Stout said there will also be a MOU with the State. Mrs. Stout said she phoned the state and was told a referendum would have to be done asking to raise the appropriations. Mrs. Stout said last time a referendum was done it cost about \$30,000 and that was going in with the School for a board election. Ours would be even more costly.

Mayor Racite asked Mr. Dennis to present the Aid to Volunteer Fire budget. The Committee reviewed the numbers and made a few cuts. Then moving on to Rescue Ambulance the budget was reviewed and again cuts were recorded. Mrs. Stout mentioned the volunteer ambulance is at Bay Shore with about \$8,000 in repairs that need to be done. It was discussed if a new ambulance is obtained who will get it. Mr. Dennis mentioned that when an ambulance went down AMR would provide ambulances. Mrs. Stout said if a new ambulance is obtained than the old one can be auctioned. Mr. Dennis finished up the budget for ambulance/rescue. He did have a question on the line item "injury and medical". He asked what that is used for. Mrs. Jones said for Hepatitis shots. Last was the fire business. Mr. Dennis discussed air bottles and turnout gear. The next budget to be discussed was Emergency Management. It was asked if the grant had been applied for. The Committee thought it was in October that came due. Mrs. Stout said she will look into when the grant was due. Mr. Pelura said the year they did not receive the grant

was because of the lack of community training. There was a discussion on vehicle maintenance. The Committee was wondering where the oil changes are being charged. Someone mentioned they could be changing the oil themselves. Mr. Dennis said he will look into this.

Mayor Racite moved on to reviewed the budgets for UCC, Housing and Zoning. There was only a few items that were reduced and these budgets were complete. Mayor Racite moved on to Public Health. He removed all the money from the demolition line. Mayor Racite said Mr. Berducci told him there is enough money in the vacant housing line if something needs to be done.

Mr. Dowe then proceeded to review the Municipal Court's budget. He said the Administrator is very cognizant of the budget so made cuts where she could. Mrs. Stout mentioned if anyone knows someone who would like a part-time job as a court recorder, to please let the Administrator know. Mrs. Jones said at the end of the report is Public Defender. She said the fees are all out of current fund. Mrs. Stout said we are just not getting the public defender fees in to cover. With no questions the Committee moved on to discuss the Industrial Commission. Mr. Dowe said the budget is the same as last year with money moved around to cover a new line item "web". Mrs. Jones said there was not enough money in the Industrial Commission trust so she added money from the current fund to make \$10,000. Mrs. Jones said the Township would have to fund \$4,000. The Committee discussed the property donated to the Township by Scarborough and can it be turned over to the Industrial Commission for them to sell. Mr. Pelura said once the Township makes a decision on the properties of what we want then send it to the Industrial Commission for sale. Mr. Pelura said there would have to be stipulations on the deed. Mayor Racite said Mr. Dowe and Mr. Dennis will be a (Fenton property) subcommittee. Mr. Dowe then spoke of Animal Control. Mrs. Jones said the first page is the trust amount. Mrs. Stout said the trust account is low because the rabies clinic was moved to later in the year. Mr. Brown asked if we take any animals to the new Humane Society in Carneys Point. Mr. Brown said it is close and a no kill shelter. Mrs. Stout said she would look into that. Mrs. Stout discussed the dog census. IF the census is done it will have to be budgeted for. Mrs. Stout said we would sell up to about 800 licenses a year but without the census it is now about 500.

Mr. Pelura spoke on foreclosures. For the last few years this has been in the works. It involves a large amount of time and our Solicitors do not have the time to put into doing it. Mr. Pelura explained that there is a person who does foreclosures. Mrs. Stout said we have 1.2 million in uncollected taxes. The oldest one goes back to 1980. She said they suggested doing ours in 10 to 25 property increments. Also to not do anyone with a common last name due to the research involved. Mr. Pelura said this will start the process to clean up the foreclosure list. If the property is foreclosed then we can sell it. Mr. Pelura said a lot of the liens are small pieces of properties between two residences. With the liens clean up then when we sell it either property owner will bid to increase their property line. There was more discussion on foreclosures. Mrs. Stout said if a home is foreclosed on could we deed restrict that home for moderate/low income and sell them. This would also help our COAH requirement. Mr. Pelura and Mr. Brown are on the foreclosure subcommittee.

The Committee moved on to review the expanded Capital list. Mr. Pelura started with an infield Groomer with attachments. He said the cost of the equipment they are requesting is offset by the amount of money that is brought in by teams using the park. Mr. Dowe said he believes the Recreation fields need to be up kept but asked about the rink. Mr. Pelura said it will be taken

down eventually and sold. Mr. Brown made a motion to authorize the rink to be taken down and sold on govdeals.com, seconded by Mr. Dowe and all were in favor.

The Committee moved on to address Public Work requests and Police. Some of the items will have to be checked but most were approved. The Committee moved on to go over the requests from UCC. The big request is for another vehicle. Mayor Racite feels this would be beneficial due to there being six people using the one vehicle. The Fire Dept., Rescue and Fire Business was next. Mr. Dennis asked for 15 air packs to be added at \$995.00 each. He did not put a request in to make the list. He said the ones they currently have will expire the end of 2018 and they do have a 15 year life. Mr. Dennis also asked for two gurneys with automatic lifts. He said they have a 700 pound capacity. He said one would be for each ambulance at \$16,000 each. Mrs. Stout said in order to not hold a special meeting, she would go over the list and put together a bond ordinance to meet the requirements for our bonding.

Mayor Racite moved on to **Public Participation:** With no public questions or comments this portion was closed.

With no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Brown to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Dowe. Motion passed with five affirmative votes. Meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

2-15-2017  
Approved:

June Proffitt  
*June Proffitt, Municipal Clerk*