

CARNEYS POINT TOWNSHIP
BUDGET MEETING MINUTES
FEBRAURY 3, 2024
8:00 AM

The Budget Meeting of the Township Committee was held on the above date at the time of 8:00 a.m. Committee people Shaw, Pelura Johnson and Brown were present. Mr. Bomba was not in attendance. Also present at this meeting were C. Ehret-CMFO, B. Kelly Treasurer, and J. Proffitt-Township Clerk.

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

Mr. Pelura started the meeting with speaking on the Sub-Committee for Ambulance Service. He said they visited Pennsville to get information on the number of calls, billing and collection rate. He mentioned the financial costs of running an ambulance service. He stated that Pennsville does send a bill to the insurance company and also what is not paid to the resident. He said they are going to speak to the CFO, Mayor and Solicitor. He said he wants to address this to the Insurance Company also. The Committee discussed this further and said there will be more information to follow. Mr. Pelura said EMSS our current service will be at our committee meeting on Wednesday and requesting more money. He suggested adding more to the line item in the budget now.

Fred Caltabiano, Township Auditor addressed the Committee. He said our surplus is strong due to the work we put in over the past few years. He said we saw the last year of the CoGen payments in 2023. He said when we knew this was going to happen, we put in place a way to build our revenue so the loss of the payment from the CoGen would not be that bad. He went on to mention the County taxes as being really high. We are going to have a revaluation done this year but that should help for next year. He discussed the reval and assessments and how that effects our revenue and County tax payment. Mr. Caltabiano said he and our CFO went over the budget and it is currently at a 9-cent increase. This needs to be cut to 3 1/3 to 4 was his suggestion. Mr. Caltabiano said he would hang around for any questions that come up.

Mrs. Ehret started by giving an overview of the 2024 budget as it stands from last year. She said the Township Auditor helped put this Budget together. She said her plan for today is to go through some of the smaller budgets and next week do the Police Department, then Public Works having the Fire Department come in last.

The Committee moved on to review the Administration, Administrator, Computer, Clerk's and Finance. As they moved through the budget's cuts were made to various line items. Mrs. Shaw questioned the computer line item in each budget. This should be one line with all of them listed. A few more budgets were gone through with cuts made.

Mayor Brown mentioned the Elected Official training with JIF. He requested an email be sent to everyone again to take the online class. It was mentioned that OEM salaries will be looked at for the next meeting. Also, the Assessor budget will have to be done. They asked if she needs to attend a meeting. Health Department, they heard Mr. Schmidt wants to work an extra day which will also be more money. The Committee will get back to the Recreation budget so they can discuss hiring a grounds keeper.

Mayor Brown mentioned that Pennsville updated their courtroom with sound system and electronics. He asked if someone can find out who did their work and get pricing.

Ms. Ehret said at the next meeting she will have Police Department and the Construction Code Office attend.

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

With no further business, a motion was made by Mrs. Shaw to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Johnson. Motion passed with four affirmative votes. The meeting adjourned at 12:07 pm.

2/21/2024
Approved: _____



June Proffitt, Municipal Clerk