



Budget Workshop 2020/2021  
Held at Winfield Township Office  
130 Arbor Avenue  
West Chicago, IL 60185  
February 10, 2020

Meeting called to order at 6:00PM by Supervisor Smith.

Clerk Prater called roll call: Trustee Voelz, Trustee Halley, Trustee Alekna, Trustee Guglielmi, and Supervisor Smith were all present.

Also present: Clerk Nicole Prater

Others present: None

Supervisor Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audience participation: None

Budget Workshop:

Supervisor Smith started by going line- by-line

Building and equipment

For Furnace, I received three quotes running \$19,000-\$26,000.

Lights and valance were put in 20005 and we would like to fix the rest of them for \$1,000.

Liability insurance looks like we have a deficit. Reason is because we paid two years last year and this is part of the refund to avoid a tax objection for the Highway Department. We need to keep it as \$27,000.

Accounting services

Computer consulting \$6,000 for the website and the computer upkeep (including the sexual harassment policies online)

Legal Service, we have \$7,000; would like to go up a little

Dues and Subscriptions, would like to join the Metropolitan Township Association for \$1500 per year (based on population in the Township). This would go up to \$5,000.

General Assistance is so that we have a line item, so we can pay the general assistance.

Bottom of Page Two, the Assessor's, the cost of living is 2.3%. Therefore, we would need to give employees a 2.3% cost of living increase under their salary. Mark is not anticipating doing much with his number and his insurance is good.

Moving to the other divisions on page three, under Maintenance of Cemetery, these numbers were given via what has been done in the past. However, if someone is buried, it comes out of this line item.

They pay us and it goes under miscellaneous income. I anticipate \$4,000, but this year we get \$7,000.

We need to show the monies coming in. We still have the whole back half of the cemetery still open.

The Bus Ride DuPage, we can bring that down.

Under Adult Disabled Bus, I would like to see more money under Fuel just to be covered.



Clerk Prater advised under the Clerk's Budget to decrease Restoration of Records to \$0. Please keep printing and publishing as is.

General Assistance, no needed changes under salary.

Shelter, possibly decreases to \$6,000. Claudia does an amazing job in finding all that is needed for our clients in General Assistance. Trustee Voelz asks if we can take the \$4,000 and give to Claudia as a raise. Trustee Halley stated, I do not think it is appropriate to give monies that are designated to help people find shelter to give as a raise to the General Assistance Director. We can look into it a different way.

Supervisor Smith states the rest is the Highway Department, which we will not go over at this time.

Trustee Voelz asked if the negatives were overbudget on Page Two for General Assistance.

Supervisor Smith advises the \$25,000 is what has not been spent yet.

Trustee Guglielmi asked from the last budget, we should be around \$1.7 million in reserves. That is a lot of money to come after the Township for tax objections. Supervisor Smith advised, we have not had any tax objections on the Township side in twelve years or more. The tax objections that have come thru recently are for General Assistance.

Trustee Guglielmi stated, we have to look at that number. Supervisor Smith stated, this is upping these amounts and using it where we need it.

Trustee Guglielmi asked, what does the Board want to do? Use for a project? Spend the monies? Tax abatement? Transfer to Road District to have reserves? There are many things we can do rather than sit on this money. Supervisor Smith stated she would like to get mosquito abatement under the Township. We asked the Township residents on a referendum if they would like to be sprayed. If they would like, it is 80 to 20. The Township residents do for \$175,000 for West Chicago and Winfield. The biggest complaint is a senior center.

Trustee Alekna advised, if it was between the two projects, I would prefer a senior center. I do not see the point for spraying for mosquitos. However, a senior center is a huge cost for building, insurance, operating, a lot of money more than \$1.7 million. I like the idea of tax abatement; give it back to the tax payers.

Trustee Voelz: Why can we use some of the funds in the budget so that we can decrease the levy?

Trustee Guglielmi advised, that is what tax abatement is.

Supervisor Smith advised, then you need to stop cutting the levy so that we can make budget. We need the money to operate the Township. Let's say we levy \$1,000,000, but it takes \$1,300,000 to run the Township. We can use \$300,000 reserve, but next really cannot bring levy up to 130 so we need to be extremely careful.

Trustee Guglielmi advised, that is why I lean toward the tax abatement. So, you say we have \$1,000,000. Say we levy \$1.3 million next year, the tax payers would only be charged \$300,000 rather than \$1.3 million. So, that tax number that year would show at \$8 instead of \$60. So, we are not down, you are still at the \$1.3 million.

Supervisor Smith advised, it is suggested to have six months to one year in reserves. If the Board wants to look into tax abatement, then that is an option.



Trustee Guglielmi stated, he also was talking with Highway Commissioner John Dusza to see if it is possible to transfer monies to the Road District during the Annual Town Meeting to build his reserves. Supervisor Smith advised she did not think that is the correct think to do to give him money from our reserve to build his. If there is a project, then I do not have an issue. Please consider the Township to be covered first before the Road District.

Trustee Halley asked Supervisor Smith, you really think the Metropolitan Township Association would be good? Supervisor Smith advised, the classes are phenomenal. They have their own lobbyist, and they are local. It would be of great value to us to join.

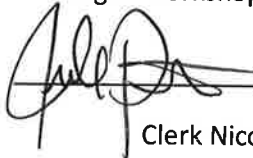
Trustee Alekna asked, just getting back to the furnace, you did get rates to replace everything? Supervisor Smith advised, yes, the furnace is over 20 years old. There are three different quotes: one at \$18,895; the highest is just under \$26,000. All of them are talking about the same repairs. I also looked into get the tuck-pointing done.


Trustee Voelz asked, is there a certain amount of money that you can just spend without our approval? Supervisor Smith stated anything over \$20,000, I have to go out for bid. If it was budgeted and put as line items, it has already been approved and will be able to do it.

Trustee Halle made motion to adjourn. Second by Trustee Guglielmi. No discussion. Motion carried on voice vote.

Trustee Halley-Aye      Trustee Guglielmi – Aye      Trustee Voelz- Aye  
Trustee Alekna-Aye      Supervisor Smith-Aye

Budget Workshop Adjourn at 6:39PM

  
Clerk Nicole Prater

  
Supervisor Dona Smith