

**BRUNSWICK HILLS TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES**  
**Special Meeting**  
**January 18, 2021**

The Brunswick Hills Township Board of Trustees met in Special Session on January 18, 2021 for the purpose of discussing Township levies and property to build a new Administration building and Fire Department building. Chair Esber, Vice-Chair Witthuhn, Trustee Kusnerak, Chief Sopkovich, Chief Strazzo, Foreman Magovac and five members of the public present.

Esber called the Special Meeting of January 18, 2021 to order at 2:00PM.

Esber stated that he is in favor of a replacement 2.5 mil levy for the Police Department.

Sopkovich requested the replacement of the existing 2.5 mil Police levy, as the cost to taxpayers would be the same as when the levy was approved in 2016, which is \$87.50 per \$100,000 of home value per year. Currently the levy costs homeowners \$73.52/\$100,000/year.

Witthuhn stated he had financial concerns for the Road Department for facility upgrades and road repairs, and the Fire Department to replace Station One, in addition to the Police levy.

Esber motioned to proceed with a 2.5 mil replacement Police levy 5-year term. Esber explained the requirements to place this on the May, 2021 ballot. Kusnerak seconded. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Esber will follow up with the Prosecutor's Office for proper placement of the levy on the May, 2021 ballot.

Esber asked Strazzo about the financial needs for the Fire Department. Strazzo replied that this question was just asked at the last meeting and he would need more time to research and gather information to provide an accurate dollar amount. Strazzo estimated 2 to 4 acres would be needed for a replacement fire station. There was discussion of a joint project to include the addition of a new Administration building. Also, the Board should make a decision regarding the SR303/West Chase property that it owns. Information regarding a bond levy will be forthcoming.

Esber asked if there was any public input. Ron Wetterman asked if there would be the potential to remodel the existing Town Hall/Fire Station One for Town Hall use should a new Station One be built. The Trustees expressed concerns as to the cost to do so.

The Service Department has the continuing need to update their facility to include building a bathroom and dedicated office area. Esber asked about adding a Service Area to the potential Administration building and Fire Station One project. Magovac would prefer all of the Service Department in one location, as opposed to two separate

locations. Magovac estimated his department would need an additional \$200,000 annually to properly maintain and keep up with road resurfacing/replacement. Desired equipment upgrades include an asphalt hot box, berm box and wood chipper. Magovac asked for consideration of a Road levy in November.

Strazzo advised that the average home value in Brunswick Hills is \$209,000, with annual property taxes costing \$4,148, with only \$853 going to the Township. Of the \$853, the Police Department receives 48%, Fire Department 31%, and the remaining 21% for General Fund and Roads.

Esber moved to adjourn at 2:57PM. Seconded by Witthuhn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Esber, Chair Trustee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Katherine Esber, Fiscal Officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Witthuhn, Vice - Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christina Kusnerak, Trustee