

BRUNSWICK HILLS TOWNSHIP

Special Meeting

June 30, 2022

The Brunswick Hills Township Board of Trustees met in Special Session on Thursday, June 30, 2022 at 10:00 AM to discuss the 2023 Budget and an Executive Session to discuss employee discipline.

This meeting was held at the Brunswick Hills Township Townhall, 1918 Pearl Road, Brunswick Hills, OH 44212.

Present: Trustee Chair Christina Kusnerak, Vice Chair Patrica Murphy, Trustee John Witthuhn, Fiscal Officer Katherine Esber, Police Chief Tim Sopkovich, Fire Chief Anthony Strazzo, Zoning Inspector Evelyn Czyz, Service Foreman Paul Magovac, Fire Administrative Assistant Carol Bianchi, and Township Administrative Assistant Sally Galanek.

Chair Kusnerak called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM and noted the meeting was properly advertised.

The proposed 2023 Budget was reviewed by each department.

Zoning Department:

Zoning Inspector Evelyn Czyz reported that her proposed 2023 budget is the same as the budget for 2022.

Police Department:

Chief Sopkovich reported that the 2023 budget will have some increases, including 2% each for salaries, retirement, and fuel. In addition, LEADS membership has increased from \$1,200.00 to \$7,000.00.

Also, Chief Sopkovich is searching for a secondary internet service. The current provider has had recent outages, and they are in need of back up service to ensure that they have internet access at all times.

Lastly, overtime for the Police Department should conclude around the end of July so their payroll will return to normal.

Service Department:

Service Foreman Magovac reported that his department is trying to pave older roads within the Township, but at the current rate, it will take 35 years to complete all of the roads. He asked the Trustees if they would consider another levy as he will need an additional \$250,000.00 per year in order to finish the road work. Trustee Witthuhn suggested that since the Service Department does not have any large equipment purchases projected in 2023, that monies could be reallocated from the General Fund salt and equipment line item and directed toward road improvements.

Fire Department:

Chief Strazzo reported that his budget will increase in areas relating to rising energy costs, but decrease by \$265,000 because a new rescue squad was purchased from 2022 funds.

Chief Strazzo shared that the Township will need to allocate \$2,812.00 toward tornado siren maintenance, which includes inspection and battery replacement. The maintenance work was last completed in 2018. The current Fire Levy ends in 2024. Chief Strazzo and Administrative Assistant Carol Bianchi will be meeting with Dennis from the Medina County Auditor's Office on Friday, July 1 to discuss putting a levy on the ballot for voters next year.

After a short discussion, Witthuhn made a motion to do a 50/50 split on shared utilities between the Fire Department and General Fund, both of whom reside at 1918 Pearl Road. Kusnerak seconded. Witthuhn – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Murphy – no. Motion carried.

Fiscal Officer:

TFO said that she will review current medical expenses to see if it will have an impact on the 2023 budget.

Kusnerak moved to go into Executive Session at 11:12 AM for the purpose of discussing employee discipline. Trustee Murphy invited Chief Strazzo into the Executive Session. Witthuhn seconded. Kusnerak – yes. Witthuhn – yes. Murphy – yes. Motion carried.

Murphy made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 11:44 AM. Witthuhn seconded. Murphy – yes. Witthuhn – yes. Kusnerak – yes. Motion carried.

Kusnerak motioned to approve Chief Strazzo to contact Walter Haverfield & Associates, and to authorize Trustee Witthuhn to sign any required documents on behalf of the Township. Murphy seconded. Kusnerak – yes. Murphy – yes. Witthuhn – yes. Motion carried.

Kusnerak made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:46 AM. Witthuhn seconded. Kusnerak – yes. Witthuhn – yes. Murphy – yes. Motion carried.

Christina Kusnerak, Chair Trustee

Patrica Murphy, Vice-Chair Trustee

John Witthuhn, Trustee

Katherine Esber, Fiscal Officer