

The December 7, 2016 Special Meeting of Lansford Borough Council was held 5:30 p.m. at the borough hall, 1 W. Ridge Street. The meeting was called to order by President Martin Ditsky and everyone in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken by Secretary Treasurer Jill Seigendall, attending were Martin Ditsky, Rose Mary Cannon, Joseph Butrie, John Turcmanovich and Solicitor Michael Greek. Jared Soto arrived late during executive session. Absent were Collin Jones, Matthew Walsh, and Mayor James Romankow.

PUBLIC COURTESY

No comments were made.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session to discuss the Police Chief Contract and the Public Work's Teamsters contract was held.

OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by John Turcmanovich to ratify the contract with Chief of Police John Soberick, with one stipulation, that back pay to the date of his being appointed chief be settled between the chief and the treasurer; whether he requests a lump sum or spread out over time. Motion was second by Jared Soto. All were in favor except Joe Butrie. Rose Mary Cannon abstained from voting on the matter because John Soberick is her son. Motion passed.

Council will iron out some issues with the Teamsters regarding contract negotiations. Martin will contact Teamsters 773 Union representative Tim Grolier before a counter offer is made.

BUDGET PROPOSALS

Three Budget proposals were reviewed; one with millage remaining the same (33.53 total mills), one raising the General Fund millage .5 mills (34.03 total mills) and one raising the General Fund millage 1.00 mill (34.53 total mills). The Secretary Treasurer pointed out the analysis of each proposal and that all funds reflect a line item for a 20% loss due to the yearly uncollected real estate taxes. Keeping millage the same will put a strain on the budget. Rose Mary Cannon explained the burden of the decreasing tax money, a decreasing tax base, and the need to increase millage to meet our expenses. Martin Ditsky noted that the borough is not getting sufficient income. Joe Butrie spoke in support of a millage increase as long as the money is used for the intended purposes it will not be wasteful spending. The treasurer reminded the group that the proposed budget needs to be advertised for 10 days. Rose Mary Cannon reminded the group that the office is being inundated with Right To Know requests taking up time and that there are numerous capital improvements needed at the borough garage, renovations to the borough hall bathrooms and depreciating public works equipment. President Ditsky reminded council that a motion must be made to accept a proposed budget. **John Turcmanovich made a motion to accept the proposed budget with a 1 mill increase to the General Fund, the motion was second by Rose Mary Cannon. All were in favor except Martin Ditsky, the motion passed.** The proposed budget shows the following:

<u>Millage</u>	2016 Budget	2017 Proposed Budget
General Purposes	27.00 mills	28.00 mills
Dept Service	1.40 mills	1.40 mills
Park & Rec	1.02 mills	1.02 mills
Fire	1.00 mills	1.00 mills
Lighting	2.61 mills	2.61 mills
Pensions	<u>.50 mills</u>	<u>.50 mills</u>
	33.53 mills	34.53 mills

2017 Budgeted the following Funds:

	Income	Expense	Net Income
General Fund:	\$1,461,605.00	\$1,465,595.00	-3,990.00
Street Light Fund:	\$ 86,686.00	\$ 90,980.00	-4,294.00
Fire Tax Fund:	\$ 33,849.00	\$ 30,000.00	3,849.00
Park & Recreation:	\$ 31,406.00	\$ 14,264.00	17,142.00
Sanitation:	\$ 315,935.00	\$ 321,535.00	-5,600.00
LST:	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 13,500.00	.00
Sewer Transmission:	\$ 260,969.00	\$ 251,000.00	9,969.00
HiWay Liq. Fuels:	<u>\$ 112,500.00</u>	<u>\$ 112,500.00</u>	<u>.00</u>
	\$2,316,450.00	\$2,299,374.00	\$17,076.00

ADJOURNMENT

No further actions were taken and a motion to adjourn was made by Joe Butrie, second Rose Mary Cannon, all were in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jill Seigendall

Secretary / Treasurer