

LANSFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Special Meeting

November 1, 2017 6:00 p.m.

A special meeting of Lansford Borough Council was held 6:00 p.m., November 1, 2017, at the borough hall, 1 W. Ridge Street, to discuss the 2018 proposed budget.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Martin Ditsky, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll call was taken by Secretary Treasurer Jill Seigendall. Council members present were Martin Ditsky, vice president Rose Mary Cannon, Joseph (Joe) Butrie, John Turcmanovich, and Mayor James Romankow. Absent were Jared Soto, Colin Jones, Matthew Walsh, and Solicitor Michael Greek. There was no printed agenda for the meeting.

Public Courtesy:

Lansford resident and public works supervisor Mario Marconi was the only resident in the audience and Blue Ridge Channel 13 videographer taped the meeting and interviewed Martin Ditsky at the end of the meeting. No comments were made during public courtesy.

Rose Mary Cannon explained the October 6, 2017 Carbon County Tax Assessment Recap Report for Lansford Borough. The report shows a current assessment amount of \$33,380,944.00. This shows that at the current time, 1 mill will equal about \$33,381.00 to Lansford Borough in tax receipts. This was compared to neighboring municipalities assessments; Summit Hill \$44,150,148.00, Nesquehoning \$64,479,101.00, Jim Thorpe, \$97,403,139.00, Coaldale (Schuylkill estimate) \$20,000,000.00.

Two budgets were presented to council.

Budget Proposal #1 totaling about 2.45 million, showed no millage increase and a \$61,920.37 loss overall. Profit and loss for each fund are as follows:

	2018 Proposed Budget with no millage increase by Fund			
	RECAP OF ALL FUNDS			
		Total Income	Total Expense	Fund Profit or Loss
01	General Fund	1,524,741.04	1,557,400.00	-32,658.96
02	Street Light Fund	86,855.00	96,170.00	-9,315.00
03	Fire Tax Fund	33,573.94	31,411.00	2,162.94
04	Park & Rec Fund	33,343.00	29,400.00	3,943.00
09	Sanitation Fund	316,425.00	316,425.00	0.00
10	LST Fund	12,500.00	12,500.00	0.00
18	Sewer Transmission Fund	264,103.00	261,725.00	2,378.00
35	Hiway Fund	119,300.00	147,730.35	-28,430.35
	TOTALS	2,390,840.98	2,452,761.35	-61,920.37

Budget Proposal #2, totaling about 2.44 million, included a 1.31 millage increase and all accounts were balanced; showing no profit or loss. Millage rates were increased 1.00 mill in the General Fund, .35 mills in the Street Light Fund, and reduced .02 mills in the Park & Rec Fund and .02 mills in the Fire Fund.

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Proposed 2018 Budget with 1.31 millage increase				
	RECAP OF ALL FUNDS	Income	Expense	Profit or Loss
01	General Fund	1,556,543.00	1,556,543.00	0.00
02	Street Light Fund	96,700.00	96,700.00	0.00
03	Fire Tax Fund	33,006.00	33,006.00	0.00
04	Park & Rec Fund	32,773.00	32,773.00	0.00
09	Sanitation Fund	316,540.00	316,540.00	0.00
10	LST Fund	12,500.00	12,500.00	0.00
18	Sewer Transmission Fund	268,025.00	268,025.00	0.00
35	Hiway Fund	119,300.00	119,300.00	0.00
	TOTAL	2,435,387.00	2,435,387.00	0.00

President Ditsky read budget proposal #2, line by line. Questions and comments and were discussed by those in attendance. Increased costs for health care, insurance, and wages provide the necessity for a millage increase. Upon completion of the review it was noted that there were no project costs appropriated for funding the proposed borough garage. \$160,000.00 in LSA Grant funds were awarded in 2017 for a borough garage however loans must be obtained to supplement the estimated project cost \$300,000.00. Mr. Ditsky and Ms. Cannon recently met with USDA representatives for figures and procedures to apply for a \$150,000.00 loan, at 3.5% interest rate. Estimated cost for a \$150,000.00 loan at 15 year term is \$1,073.00 per month and 20 year term is \$870.00 per month.

Lansford	Current	Proposed	
Millage by Fund	2017	2018	Millage
	Millage	Millage	Change
General Fund & Pol Pen	28.50	29.50	1.00
Street Light Fund	2.61	2.96	0.35
Fire Tax Fund	1.00	0.98	-0.02
Park & Rec Fund	1.02	1.00	-0.02
Sanitation Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
LST Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sewer Transmission Fund	1.40	1.40	0.00
Hiway Fund			
TOTAL	34.53	35.84	1.31

Secretary Treasurer Seigendall laid out a tentative budget time line for budget approval. After approval of the proposed budget it must be posted for ten days and advertised for public inspection along with advertisement of the tax ordinance. The budget approval process should be completed in a timely manner so special meetings will not be scheduled over the holidays.

Adjournment:

At 7:45 p.m. Rose Mary Cannon made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Joe Butrie, all were in approval and the meeting disbanded.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Jill Seigendall

Borough Secretary/Treasurer