

## BUDGET WORK SESSION

October 27, 2015

A Budget Work Session of the Whitpain Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, October 27, 2015 at the Whitpain Township Building, 960 Wentz Road, Blue Bell, PA at 8:30 a.m. for the purpose of reviewing the proposed 2016 Budget. Chairman Frederick R. Conner, Jr., along with Vice-Chairman Adam D. Zucker, Secretary Anthony F. Greco and Treasurer Melissa Murphy Weber were present. Supervisor Kenneth F. Wollman was not in attendance. Township Manager Roman M. Pronczak, P.E., Assistant Township Manager David J. Mrochko, Director of Finance Christine M. Bauman, Police Chief Kenneth Lawson, Code Enforcement Officer Michael E. McAndrew, Director of Public Works Ronald J. Cione, Director of Parks & Recreation Kurt W. Baker, Township Engineer James E. Blanch, P.E., Fire Marshal David M. Camarda, Assistant Finance Director Kellen Jarrett, and Recording Secretary Virginia Papale were also present. There were no members of the public present.

Township Manager Roman M. Pronczak began the presentation noting that today's topics include the following funds: Fee-in-Lieu of Stormwater, Traffic Improvement, Debt Service, Stormwater Outfall and Highway Aid. Mr. Pronczak said he will also take questions and comments on the funds presented to date.

Mr. Pronczak discussed the Fee-In-Lieu of Stormwater Fund, used for existing developments. A property owner who is improving a property by expanding impervious areas and is unable to provide a stormwater management system must pay this fee, as long as their project will not affect an adjoining property. Mr. Blanch added that the first 500 sq. ft. would be exempt from the fee. The funds are used for stormwater improvements throughout the Township. It was with these funds that we were able to make basin retrofits and work on water quality matters. Grant funding would be first priority for improvements. If grant funding is not received, the projects will be pushed back. Because of Act 167 regulations, this will not be option in the Wissahickon Watershed in the future.

Mr. Pronczak then discussed the Traffic Improvement Fund where revenue comes from the impact fees developers pay. This money must be used to provide for additional capacity, such as additional turning lanes, or through lanes to help improve the level of service. Other sources of revenue would come from grants or state funding. Some of the improvements identified for 2016 and beyond include the intersection of Butler Pike and Skippack Pike, which involves a turning lane from southbound Butler Pike on to Skippack Pike; the five-points intersection of Norristown/Township Line/Walton Roads which will include pedestrian crossings; and the intersection of Skippack Pike and Union Meeting Road in conjunction with the intersection of Skippack Pike and School Road, with a proposed signal at Skippack Pike/School Road.

The Debt Service Fund includes a drop-off in debt service after 2017 with some outstanding debts paid in full. Mr. Pronczak explained that our Aaa Rating and lower interest rates account for the savings. We have another opportunity after 2017, to finance some capital projects once existing debt is paid off.

The Stormwater Outfall Fund receives revenues primarily from developer impact fees for new developments. Developers pay a fee based on front footage on an existing road, or the footage on a proposed road. These funds are used for any type of stormwater management projects or improvements.

The only source of revenue for the Highway Aid Fund comes from the state Liquid Fuels Fund, which is distributed to municipalities based on population (Census) and road mileage of public streets in the Township (50/50 split). Because of decreasing revenues due to more efficient vehicles and less gas usage, the amount of revenue was decreasing. Harrisburg passed a new Transportation Bill, and it increased allocations. The Liquid Fuels monies are used 75% for resurfacing and 25% for snow and ice control.

Mr. Pronczak stated that at the next budget meeting scheduled for November 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m., Open Space, the Manor House, and Fire Operations and Capital will be discussed. On November 12<sup>th</sup>, the Sewer Operations and Capital funds will be presented. Anticipated adoption of the 2016 Budget is scheduled for December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Additional comments will be taken at the Board of Supervisors' meetings at 8 p.m. on November 17<sup>th</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Pronczak said all of the presented information will be on the Township's website.

At approximately 9:22 a.m. the Budget Work Session was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Roman M. Pronczak, P.E.  
Township Manager