

THE SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BUDGET WORK SESSION
OCTOBER 12, 2022

A Budget Work Session of the Smithfield Township Board of Supervisors was held on October 12, 2022, at the Smithfield Township Municipal Center, at 1155 Red Fox Rd, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301, and via Zoom.

Present are Supervisors Jacob Pride, Robert Lovenheim, Brian Barrett (via Zoom), Budget & Finance Manager Lucas DeBartolo, Treasurer Frank Cefali (via Zoom), and Township Manager Julia Heilakka. Also present are Leslie Pinto and Vicky Ozgun.

1. Chair Jacob Pride calls the meeting to order at 10:06AM. A quorum is present and the Pledge of Allegiance is recited.

2. New Business

- a. Budget Discussion – 2023 Budget General Fund. The Board will discuss goals for the budget today, and then consider a draft budget at the next meeting. Lucas DeBartolo provides an overview of the township funds, including the general fund, liquid fuels, professional escrow fees, smaller funds, and the creation of new funds. The 2015 bond is callable; paying off the bond will save the township \$130,000 in interest, but collecting interest off the money designated to pay the bond may make it worth retaining. The Board discusses the bond.

Lucas DeBartolo discusses the ARPA funds, creating an operating reserve, and revenue sources for the township, including property taxes, zoning permit fees, and cable taxes. The Board discusses future funding for emergency services. Lucas DeBartolo summarizes expenditure items. The Board discusses hiring additional staff, and will hold an executive session to discuss staff.

The Board considers additional expenses related to office upgrades and supervisor interests, including security upgrades, a capital improvement plan, interactive zoning maps, a new zoning vehicle, a new loader, picnic tables, defibrillators, a possible community center at Waterfront Park, and ash tree removal along roads and park trails. Brian Barrett leaves the meeting at 11:44AM.

The next budget meeting is on October 26, 2022 at 10AM.

3. Public Comment

- a. Vicky Ozgun agrees with creating a capital improvements fund, discusses the cable tax, disagrees with an EMS tax, questions why ski resorts are exempt from amusement taxes, disagrees with paying holidays for part-time staff, and asks when the social media coordinator left.

- b. Robert Lovenheim leaves the room at 11:54AM; meeting is paused. Robert Lovenheim returns 11:55AM; meeting resumes.
 - c. Leslie Pinto asks about the budget summary sheet.
4. Robert Lovenheim motions to adjourn, Jacob Pride seconds: meeting adjourned at 11:58AM.

Minutes recorded by Julia Heilakka

Respectfully submitted:



Julia Heilakka, Assistant Secretary