Special Beavercreek Trustee's Meeting

Monday, February 10, 2014

Ms. Graff called the Special Trustee Meeting to order at 2:00 P.M. Those present were Trustees: Carol Graff, Dan Paxson, and Tom Kretz. Fiscal Officer, Christy Ahrens was also present. Staff present: Township Administrator Alex Zaharieff, Assistant to the Fiscal Officer James Barone, Road Superintendent Tim Parks, and Fire Chief David VandenBos.

The purpose of this Special Meeting is to meet in Open Session to discuss various levy scenarios and future budget concerns.

Road Superintendent Tim Parks stated that, for him, the purpose of this meeting was to get direction from the Board regarding personnel whose salaries are currently paid for by the General Fund and how they will be funded in the future so that he knows what to plan for when he places his Road levy on the ballot this year.

Discussion occurred regarding the Road Department person who is currently being paid out of the General Fund. This employee works everywhere in the Township. Ms. Graff suggested he keep a record of the time he spends on each department. Mr. Parks suggested a weighted average might be more prudent. Mr. Parks also reminded the Trustees that there is one other Road Department person who is currently being paid solely out of the Road Department budget, but who also works everywhere in the Township. If the General Fund is going to divide how that Road Department gets paid, then Mr. Parks said this second position being paid out of the Road Department would need to be divided as well. General discussion occurred. Mr. Parks would like to know how these positions, and others, and are going to be funded because he would rather make adjustments to this levy that will go on the November 2014 ballot than the 1.5 mil levy that comes up in two years.

Mr. Kretz stated that we need to re-look at the General Fund projection with a weighted average and without. Discussion occurred regarding: inside mileage, zoning and growth. Ms. Graff stated that she does not want to change how we fund positions because it has been working fine. Mr. Paxson stated that we need to have a plan in place and we should be looking at the employee's time and where and how it's spent. General discussion occurred regarding: diversity of duties, shared resources, and weighted billing.

Mr. Kretz asked Assistant to the Fiscal Officer James Barone to give a brief overview of the General Fund pertaining to this matter. Mr. Barone stated that the General Fund is currently spending roughly $200,000 more per year than it is bringing in. Right now the General Fund has a carry over which can support that, however, the carry over will obviously diminish each year. Mr. Barone stated that the General Fund could sustain the next five years; however, changes will need to be made for the future. Those changes could include the Board considering placing a levy on the ballot for the General Fund or weighted billing for those positions currently being paid out of the General Fund. General discussion occurred.

Discussion occurred regarding the four levy options Mr. Parks presented the Board: renewal of the .5 mil levy; replacement of the .5 mil levy; renewal of the .5 levy with a .3 mil increase; and a renewal of the .5 mil levy with a .5 mil increase. If the renewal option is chosen it would not provide enough money to provide the road service the department currently supplies. The replacement levy is not considered an option because it will cost the taxpayer more than renewal with additional mileage. The two most prudent options to consider are renewing the .5 levy with an increase.

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General discussion occurred regarding: the township's older plats, wanting to keep the level of service where it is; the increase costs of fuel, salt, and other supplies; the increase in zoning, building and the amount of area to cover; and the fact that there has not been an increase in Road mileage since 2006. Discussion also occurred regarding: paving, other levies on the ballot in November; the capital plan for road equipment; and homeowner association involvement.

The Trustees would not like to look at internal or weighted billing until after the township performance audit is complete. Possible answers and solutions might be found from that audit.

Discussion occurred regarding: road expenses and other funds that supplement the Road and Bridge Fund. Discussion occurred regarding both levy options with increases and the services they each could provide. Discussion occurred regarding salaries and benefits for the next five years and investigating an option in between the .3 and .5 increase.

The Trustees would like to see more information on the options to renew with an increase of potentially .3, .4, or .5 mils.

2014-056 Mr. Kretz made a motion to Adjourn at 3:59 P.M. Mr. Paxson seconded. Roll Call: Mr. Kretz, yes; Mr. Paxson, yes; and Ms. Graff, yes.

Trustee: _____

Fiscal Officer: _____