
LIMERICK TOWNSHIP - BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
PUBLIC BUDGET MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 29, 2016
7:00 P.M.

A meeting of the Limerick Township Board of Supervisors was held on Thursday, September 29, 2016, in the Public Meeting Room of the Limerick Township Municipal Building with Kara Shuler, Vice Chairman, presiding. This meeting was advertised in The Mercury on Thursday, September 22, 2016.

Members Present: Supervisors Kara Shuler, D. Elaine DeWan, and Joseph St. Pedro

Members Absent: Supervisors Thomas J. Neafcy, Jr. and Kenneth W. Sperring, Jr.

Others Present: Daniel K. Kerr, Township Manager; Beth F. DiPrete, Asst. Twp. Mgr./Treasurer; R. Brian Skelton, Chief of Police; and Gregory R. Breyer, Director of Emergency Services

Call To Order: Ms. Shuler called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M. Members of the Limerick Fire Company led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening Comments/Announcements

Oath of Office – Fire Policers

Limerick Fire Company

- Kenneth T. Shuler
- Glen W. Russell
- Darrin G. Benfield

Ms. Shuler had the honor of performing the formal public swearing in ceremony for Limerick Volunteer Fire Company's new Fire Police Officers.

Motion was made by Mr. St. Pedro and seconded by Ms. DeWan, to appoint Kenneth T. Shuler, Glen W. Russell, and Darrin G. Benfield as Limerick Fire Company Fire Police Officers. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments on Agenda Items: None.

Bills List: Upon motion made by Mr. St. Pedro and seconded by Ms. DeWan, Bills List #19 for the period of 09/17/16 through 09/29/16 in the amount of \$2,204.00 was unanimously approved.

New Business

Discussion – 2017 Budget

- Limerick Fire Company Building Project

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Mr. Ken Shuler, Fire Chief and Mr. Thomas Walters, President of Limerick Fire Company were in attendance and offered an update on the building project. A review of the new design was offered which is now proposed as a new structure as opposed to the former concept of renovating the existing building. It was noted that the cost to renovate was estimated at approximately \$5.5 million and the design did not provide all the amenities required for a 30 year building. The new proposal will provide the Company all that is needed to support the volunteers and also accommodate live in ambulance crew and bunk rooms for the fire staff. The existing building is scheduled to be demolished early November and the new structure built over the existing footprint. Cost estimate for the new proposal is approximately \$4.25 million and expected financing for Township consideration will be \$3.8 million. Discussion ensued on the merits of the project.

A discussion was also held on the proposed new aerial truck that was approved for the current year Budget. The design of the truck has been completed and they are ready to place the order. The existing truck will be sold for an anticipated amount of \$225k and the proposed budget established last year of financing of \$1.084 million is unchanged. Discussion ensued on the merits of the new truck.

Mr. Kerr reviewed the 2016 Budget discussions from a year ago and offered that the plan was to establish the funding for both within the 2017 Budget. If the Board is inclined to move forward with the projects, then financing and tax implications will be incorporated into upcoming budget discussions.

Motion was made by Mr. St. Pedro and seconded by Ms. DeWan, to move forward on the both the Limerick Fire Company building project and the purchase of the new aerial truck. Motion passed unanimously.

➤ Limerick Police

Chief Skelton was in attendance and offered a review of the proposed re-structuring of the department in 2017 once all new hires are in place this year to bring the staffing level up to the approved level of 30 sworn officers. The plan will be to fill the vacate Lieutenant Position from the current Sergeant force. A request to add another Sergeant Position specific to oversight of the Detective force was offered. In addition, Chief Skelton is proposing an additional Corporal Position for each of the platoons; therefore, all would be served by both a Sergeant and a Corporal. All new positions and promotions would occur from within the current 30 man force. The Board offered their approval of the new structure.

Chief Skelton also proposed a purchase of an armor plated vest for each patrol vehicle. The bullet proof vests currently worn by each officer does not stop high powered or assault rifles that are becoming the norm now with recent police related shootings. The cost is \$750 each and a need for 12 cars was proposed. The Board expressed their desire to see the vests purchased

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immediately as opposed to waiting until the 2017 Budget cycle and authorized the expenditure from current year funds.

Motion was made by Mr. St. Pedro and seconded by Ms. DeWan, to purchase vests for all vehicles. Motion passed unanimously.

A discussion was also held on the need for helmets to accompany the vests and Chief Skelton agreed to look into the cost and bring back for further discussion.

In terms of Police capital needs, Chief Skelton proposed that three vehicles be rotated over with the purchase of three new cars and an additional new vehicle be purchased due to the expanded force to 30 officers. It was noted that Exelon has offered a donation of \$90,000 to be used toward the purchase of new police cars.

➤ Additional Budget Discussion

Planning and Zoning, Code, Fire and Emergency Management departmental discussions were also offered. A proposed rental inspection program was reviewed along with the need for an additional fire inspector to handle the new duties. The Board expressed a desire for the program but requested further information on the structure of the program and other duties within the department that they would handle. It was agreed that further information will be offered at upcoming Budget meetings.

A review of the schedule for upcoming Budget meetings was offered.

Approval – Consultant Agreement, Delta Development Group, Inc.: Delta Development is requesting a new Consultant Agreement contract be signed for an additional three (3) months at a monthly retainer of \$5,000, plus reasonable and ordinary expenses. In addition, Delta will be entitled to a deferred flat fee equal to \$30,000 upon receipt of a commitment by PennDOT to fully fund construction of the eastbound off-ramp. The Agreement has a termination clause with a 30-day written notice. Based on meetings with PennDOT, TPD anticipates getting an answer from PennDOT by Thanksgiving. If that is the case, the total due to Delta should be about \$45,000. Per our Intermunicipal Agreement with Lower Pottsgrove Township, Limerick is responsible for 65% of the fees payable to Delta with Lower Pottsgrove paying the remaining 35%.

Official Action was made by Mr. St. Pedro and seconded by Ms. DeWan, to approve the Consultant Agreement with Delta Development Group, Inc. for the U.S. Route 422/Sanatoga Interchange Project. Motion passed unanimously.

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Legal

Settlement – Muhammed v. Limerick Fire Company: The particulars of the incident involve a fire vehicle that was involved in a multi-vehicle crash and hit the vehicle in front of them and the fire vehicle was then hit from behind.

The attorney handling this case for the Township Insurance agent has notified us that the Plaintiff will now agree to fully and finally settle her claims for the amount of \$17,500 against the Fire Company by way of General Release, which will end this lawsuit with prejudice. There will be no admission of liability by the Township or Fire Company in the General Release. In addition, this settlement with Plaintiff cannot be used in any future lawsuit against the Township or Fire Company to establish any liability.

It is the opinion of our attorney that a settlement at \$17,500 is in the best interest of the Township and if you are in agreement, the following motion to Not to Object to the settlement is required.

Official Action was made by Mr. St. Pedro and seconded by Ms. DeWan, Not to Object to the Settlement between Muhammed v. Limerick Fire Company, Montgomery County CCP No. 2015-30143. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments: None.

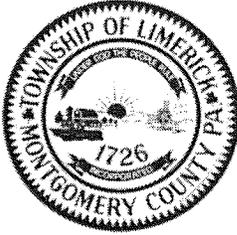
Supervisor Comments: None.

Adjournment: There being no further business, **motion was made** by Mr. St. Pedro and seconded by Ms. DeWan to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Daniel K. Kerr
Township Manager

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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BUDGET MEETING
29 SEPTEMBER 2016, 6:30 P.M. – LIMERICK TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPENING COMMENTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

➤ Executive Session re: _____

OATH OF OFFICE – FIRE POLICE OFFICERS

- Limerick Fire Company

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

BILLS LIST: #19, 09/17/16 through 09/29/16, \$2,204.00

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion – 2017 Budget

- Limerick Fire Company Building Project
- Limerick Police
- Additional Budget Discussion

Approval – Consultant Agreement, Delta Development Group, Inc.

LEGAL

Settlement – Muhammad v. Limerick Fire Company

PUBLIC COMMENTS

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

NEXT AVAILABLE NOS: ORDINANCE 372 RESOLUTION 2016-35

**EVERY EFFORT IS MADE TO FOLLOW THIS AGENDA;
HOWEVER, IT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE**