

# Penbrook Borough Budget Meeting

August 26, 2024

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. Elected officials present were Newcomer, Shaw, Burdine, Stokes, Deardorff and Armbruster. Mark Sostar was there representing the Public Works Department

## 2. General Fund Expenses

A. Hogarth reviewed the 01.430 section of the General Fund relating to Public Works. Comments and topics of discussion included:

01.430.140. This figure represents half of the staff's salary less 5%. Payroll is split between the General and Sewer funds with roughly 10% of the total coming from the Storm Water Fund. Hours spent charged to Storm Water are specifically documented on the bi-weekly payroll sheets.

01.430.321. \$800 increase in this account because of higher costs mostly from Comcast for internet

01.430.370. The building is relatively maintenance free except for some small repairs. Hogarth is asking Council to consider adding additional funds to add blacktop to the apron in front of the building. After all general fund expenses and revenues are reviewed this may be considered

## 3. Liquid Fuels Fund

A. Hogarth reviewed both revenues and expenditures for the Liquid Fuels Fund

35.355.020. Actual amount has not yet been received.

35.432.000. CAPCOG is currently working on salt bid for 2025. Last year's cost was \$73.87/T.

35.433.241. Sostar would like to shift this budget allocation to street patching. There is a good supply of thermoplastic for road markings if needed.

35.438.240. Combining \$3,000.00 with the Street Marking allocation of \$6,000.00 would allow for a significant amount of hot patch street repairs to be done.

35.438.380. in-depth discussion about a long-term plan for road maintenance. The roadway evaluation is complete from Roadbotics and shows many of the roads and secondary roads in below average condition. There are two issues:

Fixing potholes, which Sostar would like to handle by using hot mix rather than cold patch. Several potholes were fixed this season using the hot mix and should be a more lasting repair. This cannot be accomplished however without the proper equipment. To do the

repairs Sostar borrowed a hotbox trailer from Harrisburg City and a mill head and brush from Steelton Borough. Hogarth said he spoke to Steelton's manager, and she's interested in working on a relationship where the two municipalities share equipment and personnel to repair roads. Sostar said he provided Council with estimates to purchase a hotbox trailer which costs between 40 and 80 thousand dollars.

The other issue is curb to curb rehabilitation. Armbruster asked if we considered microsurfacing. Hogarth said we have discussed it but that's more suited for roadways that are generally in good condition and used to prolong the surface condition at much lower cost than milling and overlay. Penbrook roads are beyond the usefulness of microsurfacing. Newcomer asked what it would look like in time and money to pave every road in the borough. Hogarth said he could use the Roadbotic software to estimate sq./yardage and use the cost of \$25/sq.yd. providing by Rettew to come up with a rough estimate. (17 million)

#### 4. Police Grant

A. Hogarth briefed Council on a grant through PCCD that he's applying for to get a new police vehicle and personnel. Hogarth said the grant is for two years starting on 1/1/25 and can't exceed \$300,000.00. A new vehicle and upfitting is \$72,500 which would leave room for two officer salaries not just one, but those combined totals will be approximately \$310,000. Newly hired Jackson Yanich is replacing Officer Pesce who left earlier this year and in 2025 and 26 will be paid for by the grant, if it is awarded. Hogarth commented that Officer Maley will be leaving in 2025.

All members present were acceptable except for Stokes. He had concerns that there would be other needs in other departments that might be considered. Hogarth commented that before this upcoming budget year is over Council will have to make a decision to replace Maley so that's the "relief valve".

5. Hogarth requested an executive session to brief Council on a personnel issue. The public meeting adjourned at 8:20pm

6. The executive session was adjourned at 8:40pm.

Respectfully submitted.

Joseph Hogarth

Borough Secretary