

JIM THORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL
BUDGET PUBLIC MEETING
OCTOBER 29, 2020
MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:38 pm in the Memorial Park Hall, 115 East Tenth Street, Jim Thorpe by President Gregory Strubinger with the pledge of allegiance and moment of silence for the men and women serving our country.

Roll Call of Members & Officials

Gregory Strubinger	Kyle Sheckler	Joanne Klitsch
Thomas Highland (a)	Robert Schaninger (a)	Edith Lukasevich (a)
Mike Yeastedt	Borough Manager Sterner	PSM Yaich (a)
Connor Rodgers, JCP (a)	Police Chief Schatz	
Mayor Michael Sofranko	Secy. McClafferty (a)	

President Strubinger said the purpose of this meeting is to discuss the proposed 2021 budgets. No public attended and there were no public comments received.

The following items were discussed:

- Police officer – withdrawn.
- Water Fund – received late quote for chemical automation upgrade design/build for wells 1 & 4; funds will be reallocated from water capital reserve fund transfer to capital purchases. Budget includes 5% increase.
- Sewer and Sanitation funds include no increase for 2021. Capital Reserve Fund balances reviewed.
- Facilities Projects – broken into construction costs and non-construction costs. Construction costs only will be financed. Non-construction costs already expended will not be financed and paid back. The year 2021 budget will consist of remaining non-construction costs and construction loan interest only. The year 2022 budget will begin the permanent financing loan of principal and interest. The projects have been allocated between the general, sanitation, sewer and water funds. Tax mills 2.56 for 2021; 2 mills for 2022; 1 mill for 2023. We would look at the possibility of stretching out the increases and also updating the allocation between funds so that financing currently obligated in water and sewer funds that is due to be freed up in the 2023 and 2024 years, additional funds will be paid toward the project, thereby lowering the tax increases.
- Outlook 2022 through 2025 is estimating no increase in water or sewer fees. No increase in sanitation during the term of the current contract which ends February 1, 2024.
- Alcoholic Beverage License – fees waived by Governor, reduce line item to \$0.00.
- 410.156 Police Health insurance – budgeted for eight officers.

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- Part Time Police – requesting additional \$7,000.00 and increase in hourly rate to \$21.00; will make note to include hourly rate change at the January meeting.
- 430.131 Road Supervisor wages – large difference between 2019 and 2020; will review and make any necessary corrections.
- 409.303 Buildings Facilities Projects Legal – these items are included in the Capital Projects Fund; will review allocated amount in general fund and make any necessary corrections.
- Hotel tax funds – include ambulance services for 2021 when requesting grant monies.
- PMVB – Maureen will speak with Chief and Chris regarding 2021 events.
- 492.111 Fire Tax Mill - \$88,632.00 – reduce paving, use excess funds for paving and sanitation capital reserve funds if necessary.

Christmas tree – Community Watch will donate the tree, public service to pick up and place lights, request community children make ornaments and place on the tree at their convenience for a COVID friendly tree.

An executive session for personnel was held from 8:15 pm to 8:40 pm.

MOTION by Kyle Sheckler, seconded by Mike Yeastedt to approve advertising the 2021 budgets after corrections are completed. After comments, motion carried 4 to 0.

MOTION by Kyle Sheckler, seconded by Mike Yeastedt to adjourn. Meeting ended at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Maureen Sterner
Borough Manager