

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP
BUDGET WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 17, 2020

The meeting was called to order by the supervisor at 8:00 A.M.

Present: Gentner, Richardson, Johncox, Kissel, Garrison, Deputy Clerk Roesch, Fire Chief Damon and Asst. Chief Armstrong.

The meeting started with the proposed fire budget. Discussed the contract renewals for Rome and Norvell Townships; clerk provided figures based on the last six years which indicated a need for an increase. Discussed increasing each contract by an amount to get to the average cost at the end of the three-year contract. Motion by Kissel, supported by Richardson to propose an increase for the next three-year contract for each township by a percentage necessary to reach the average cost at the end of the contract. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on charges for services and Michigan International Speedway.

Discussion on the difficulty in getting enough personnel to respond to calls at certain times of the day. Damon presented a proposal developed by the fire officers that would add a two-person shift between the hours of 5:00 P.M. and 9:00 P.M., at a proposed additional annual cost to the budget of around \$33,475.00. Motion by Kissel, supported by Richardson to approve the extra shift, effective April 1, 2020. Motion carried, 4-yes, Garrison-no.

The proposed police department budget was discussed next. Chief Paterson presented his requests. He would like to see a 6% increase in wages for all personnel which would bring them closer to the other departments in the county.

Bruce Nickel presented his ideas for budget considerations for the building department and others. Discussion on bids received for changing out the fluorescent lighting in the office to LED, and to possibly changing the exterior building lights to LED as well. Discussion on the need to update to newer technology on the board room projector. Additional properties were presented for possible dangerous building hearings. Several building and property maintenance items were discussed.

The balance of the general fund departments were reviewed, including wage discussions.

Discussion on wages for the two office staff positions and the growing disparity between the two persons for essentially the same day to day duties.

Motion by Garrison, supported by Gentner to increase the wages of the two office staff by 3% each. Motion carried, 3-yes; Richardson and Johncox-no.

Motion by Richardson, supported by Johncox to increase Brenda Imm's hourly rate by \$.50/hour above the 3% previously approved. Motion carried, 3-yes, Gentner and Garrison-no.

Cemetery Sexton Scott Hunt indicated that he needs to increase his fees for grave openings and closings. The new base fee would be \$475, weekends-\$575, winter (frost) fee-\$675. These fees represent a \$50 increase from current levels. Motion by Johncox, supported by Kissel to approve the new fees to be paid to the sexton as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Richardson, supported by Gentner to increase the fire chief's salary from \$40,000/year to \$45,000/year effective April 1, 2020. Motion carried, 4-yes, Garrison-no.

Motion by Gentner, supported by Kissel to increase the police chief's salary by 6% to \$61,373/year. Motion carried, 4-yes, Garrison-no.

Motion by Garrison, supported by Kissel to increase the part-time police officers and secretary positions by 6%/year. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kissel, supported by Richardson to increase the hourly rate of the police sergeant and the full-time officers by 6%. Motion carried, 4-yes, Garrison-no.

Motion by Johncox, supported by Kissel to open an account at Bank Michigan-Onsted for the deposit of fire insurance escrow funds. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Richardson, supported by Johncox to adjourn. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 3:10 P.M.

Rick W. Richardson, Clerk