

**CARNEYS POINT TOWNSHIP**  
**BUDGET MEETING MINUTES**  
**FEBRAURY 19, 2022**  
**8:00 AM**

The Budget Meeting of the Township Committee was held on the above date at the time of 8:00 a.m. Committeemen Dennis, Pelura, Dowe and Brown were present. Also present at this meeting were K. Mitchell-CMFO, J. Proffitt-Township Clerk, A. Davis-Treasurer and Fred Caltabiano Township Auditor. Mr. Bomba was not in attendance. The meeting was also held Virtual.

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order, he read the **Opening Public Meeting Act**. Mayor Brown led the **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag** and roll call was taken.

Ms. Mitchell started by giving an overview of the 2022 budget as it stands from last year. She said the net valuation had an increase of \$665,340,900 and increase of 6,491,700 which equates to an increase in the tax levy of approximately \$43,364.56. Ms. Mitchell said 1 cent will generate \$66,534.00. She said the fund balance as of December 31, 2021 was 5,865,939.38. Ms. Mitchell reviewed the results of Operations and the tentative 2022 Budget. She kept the non-contractual employees at a 2% increase. She mentioned reduction of \$600,000 from the CoGen in 2021. Once again, she mentioned the CoGen will be done in 2023. Ms. Mitchell commented if all stands as is then there would be a .031 cent increase which is approximately \$44.94 on an average home assessed at 144,970.00.

Mr. Caltabiano said the CoGen is going away. We are sticking to the plan to ween off the money. He said if it was not going away, we would not have to have a tax increase.

Mr. Bomba arrived at 8:10 am. He mentioned the Fund Balance numbers look good. Mr. Caltabiano addressed the American Rescue Plan of 804,000. There are six categories the Township can spend money on. Lost revenues are one with Motel/Hotel costs down and Court fees down. He said lost revenue can be up to 10 million and no calculations needed. Mr. Pelura asked what will happen if the State requests an audit on how the money was used. Chief VanNamee mentioned body worn cameras. Mr. Caltabiano said yes, public safety is one of the categories. Ms. Mitchell said the PILOT from Amazon was put in this budget. Mr. Caltabiano discussed some options with the Committee and at the end said if anyone needed anything or had a question to give him a call. He left the meeting.

Chief VanNamee took a seat at the table to review his budget. He asked to have the full-time police line increased so he could promote a third Lieutenant. This would open the other positions for promotions. He would like to hire two additional full-time officers and two SLEO-II officers. The Chief said this would bring the department to 23 men at 4 men per shift. Chief VanNamee addressed the Police Clerk. He said she is more than a clerk and would like to see her get more money. He suggested \$22.00 per hours. He gave his reasons for the increase. Chief VanNamee moved on to discuss Overtime, he said there is mandated training which requires all officers to take. The Chief spoke of increases in other line items. Uniforms for the purchase of Class A uniforms. He mentioned the computers are on a schedule to be replaced soon. He moved on to address a five-year plan for the Police Department. The Committee then reviewed the Capital requests for the Police Department.

Ted Stranahan Sr. Fire Chief took the seat to discuss the Fire/Rescue budgets. He said the budgets for Aid to Volunteer Fire did not have any major increases. He did discuss with the Committee the ages of the fire equipment. He did say the ambulance is down and can not get service, parts and such. He stated the number of calls that have increased in the past year. Alarm systems have increased also. The Ordinance needs to be looked at again. The Committee discussed Fire Trucks and Ambulances. Lease vs. purchase new. It will take years to get now. Mr. Stranahan discussed 48A in Ford Service and not priority to repair. It is still sitting in their yard. They discussed the warehouses putting the money up for new equipment. Mr. Stranahan spoke on Certified Fire Inspector. The Capital requests were reviewed.

Ted Stranahan Jr. took the table for discussion on the ambulances. He said his budget does not have many changes. He discussed his Capital requests. He mentioned the need for water rescue equipment. He said with the flooding in this area they have used this equipment a lot more. He mentioned an increase in travel expense due to going over the Delaware Bridge. Ms. Mitchell said she asked the Bridge is they could waive the ambulance when it passed. After some discussion Mr. Dowe gave a name of a person who works for the Bridge to get in contact with for assistance on taking the ambulance over to Delaware. Teddy then asked for a boat motor to be replaced.

Fire Business is Josh Widen who took the seat at the table. He reviewed his budget and then went over the Capital expenses. He did ask to be put back on the cleaning service. He did ask for 4 of the 8 doors to be replaced. Also, rehabbing the entrance of the building and painting. Snow plowing was discussed. Mr. Widen left the meeting.

Emergency Managements budget was reviewed. Ms. Mitchell said they received a grant so the salary and wages was decreased. Mr. Dowe reviewed the Court budget. Ms. Mitchell went over the Shared Service with Pennsville. She said the salary and wages are increased to 50/ 50.

Ms. Proffitt reviewed the Clerk/Registrar and Animal Control budgets. She mentioned a slight increase in mailing and advertising due to increases in costs. Ms. Mitchell said she increased the computer equipment line due to the computers are on the rotation for replacing. A copy of the animal sheltering agreement was attached for review. This is an extremely high cost. There is nowhere else to take our animals. Ms. Mitchell said he has tried different places. At the end of the discussion Ms. Proffitt presented a letter for the Committee to review of the salary resolution and ordinance. She would like to see a salary increase for her and her Deputy. She spoke of increased job duties.

Mayor Brown moved on to **Public Participation:** With no public questions or comments this portion was closed.

With no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Bomba to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Dowe. Motion passed with five affirmative votes. The meeting adjourned at 12:08 pm.

3-16-2022  
Approved:

  
June Proffitt, Municipal Clerk