

Finance Committee Minutes – 1/7/16

Present: Steve Bergenfeld (Twp. Comm.), Dave Beaumont, Jim Hamtil, Kiyle Osgood, George Fisher, Hal Shute, Porter Little

Absent: Gary Hoyer, Dan Malek

Other:

Hal Shute nominated and reelected Chair by unanimous consent.

User Friendly Budget: No report, Kiyle will work with Dave and Hal on this.

2016 Budget: Tabled

SHREC: George reported that the community aggregation program is back in effect after latest auction yielded bid of about \$.08/kwh. Residents will be receiving notification soon, opt in is automatic unless they opt out.

On the solar project SOLAPs has agreed to revised language regarding insurance.

Roads/DPW: Ryan is working up a roads maintenance plan. FC will discuss when available.

Police/Courts: It was suggested that WAT look into possibly using East Amwell Court. Steve asked about possible callout charges for Police and Fire similar to Rescue Squad.

Fire Co: Freeholder Walton issued a letter describing a possible countywide fire system

PennEast: No report

Trash/Recycling: Porter distributed information on current costs and revenues for trash/recycling and clean-up days. Total revenue for all in 2015 was \$61,283 and total cost including amortization of garbage and recycling trucks was \$65,308. Clean-up day loss totaled \$2,471 so trash/recycling is about break-even.

There was discussion of bidding out curbside pick-up to a private hauler. Informal quote of about \$200/yr per household discussed, where Republic is apparently charging up to \$1000/year for same service. Consensus that in house program should be retained but 'cheating' was getting to be a problem and low cost pick up should also be investigated.

Insurance: Total for 2015 was \$128K for everything. Consensus that price seemed reasonable.

Farmland Assessment Rollback Taxes: No report

Use of JCP&L Woodlands Mitigation Funds: Consensus that as much of the funding as possible should be used for roads.

School Equalization Ratio: Dave reported that the appeal was successful and should result in a savings of about \$62,000 in school taxes for the year. Also some savings in the county tax should be realized. Additional savings should accrue in future years as well.

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 18 (later rescheduled to Feb. 4)

Submitted by Hal Shute 2-4-16