

Finance Committee Minutes – 2/29/16

Present: Dave Beaumont, George Fisher, Jim Hamtil, Gary Hoyer, Kiyle Osgood, Zach Rich.

Absent: Porter Little, Dan Malek, Hal Shute

Approval of Feb. 4 minutes: Revise minutes as Hoyer was present. Otherwise accepted as presented.

User Friendly Budget: Kiyle Osgood informed he is working together with Hal Shute. No new current information, but working on it and forging ahead.

2016 Budget: Good discussion. Zach Rich presented a simple spreadsheet of Budget Statistics. Very good start for the user friendly budget. Reviewed total employees (13 full, 31 total) as well as total costs of employees. Rich to check if employee healthcare can be privatized. Reviewed other areas to save money, such as shared service for courts (see below). It was noted that there is a large percentage of the township costs for the police, but it was brought up by Fisher that the township offers very little else other than Police, Road crew, and volunteer fire; percentage for police would be expected to be high.

Court: Zach Rich is checking with East Amwell concerning the possibility of shared services with East. It was estimated a possible cost savings of \$60K/yr.

Trash/Recycling: Nothing new – continuing on previous course.

Use of JCP&L Woodlands Mitigation Funds: It was reported that the Environmental Committee made no determination. It was agreed we should hold off for now on any decision.

School State Aid: Dave Beaumont presented State Aid for Calendar Year 2016 and Fiscal Year 2017 Budgets. Beaumont reported that for next year it appears to be a decrease of 0.7%, but is less than others in the county. Beaumont offered to the school board West Amwell Twps. assistance in reviewing the state calculations, as we have recent experience.

Next Meeting: April 4, 2016

Submitted by Jim Hamtil 4/04/16