

Republic Township Board
March 21, 2019
Budget Workshop/Meeting Minutes

1. The Board came together @ 10:00 am to discuss the budget. The meeting/workshop was called to order, all Board Members were present.
2. **DISCUSSION** – There was general discussion on several budget items, some questions and answers regarding various line items.
3. **HAWKS DRIVE** – Supervisor Ulrich and Trustee Haslip had a discussion with the MCRC and asked to only have hawks drive crushed and shaped this year and put in any culverts or ditching needed, then pave next year after everything has had a chance to settle hopefully making the repairs last longer. There was additional discussion on the financing of this project including possibly borrowing money from the county to try to get as much done as we can.
4. **FIRE HALL DEBT RETIREMENT** – We have made two unscheduled payments of \$80,000 over the last couple of years. When the principle payment due in April is made, Treasurer Koski will request an updated payoff amount to see if it is possible to pay off the Fire Hall Debt to the USDA 20 years ahead of schedule. If possible, that would mean a reduction in property taxes to our residents.
5. **SEWER/WATER BOND FUNDING** – There was a general discussion/question/answer period regarding the funding of the Sewer/Water Bond accounts, repair/replace/improve accounts and operating/maintenance accounts. This helped newer Board members to better understand the process of how the funding works and where the money comes from for each line item.
6. **UPDATED TOWNSHIP CHARGES** – The main change is to the zoning application fee. We will now charge a \$40.00 flat fee, plus \$20.00 per hour for additional time needed.
7. **TOWNSHIP ROOF** – Need a new roof on the Township Hall
8. **SIDEWALKS** – Treasurer Koski suggested that she would check into grant opportunities for getting sidewalks redone.
9. **TOWNSHIP PARKING LOT** – Needs to be graded with fill and we also need to look into the possibility of having it salted/sanded during the winter months for safety purposes. There is a possibility that we could purchase our own sander for our dump truck, and also check into tire chains for the loader.

- 10. CREDIT UNION CLOSING** – perhaps we can streamline some of our bank accounts to help with some of it, but Treasurer Koski also will now have to make regular trips into Ishpeming for the physical deposits, she will need mileage and paid time for this.
- 11. WATER FILTRATION** – got an estimate of \$500,000 for a new filter system, but it just isn't feasible with the current outgoing payments to USDA. Will continue to check other possibilities.
- 12. ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn by Supervisor Ulrich, seconded by Treasurer Koski, all in favor, meeting adjourned @ 11:12 am

Sworn and Subscribed to by:

Marilyn Brancheau, Clerk Date

Approved