

BOROUGH OF WHITEHALL

Budget Meeting December 3, 2016

The Council of the Borough of Whitehall met at the Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Saturday, December 3, 2016, at 9:00 AM, for a budget meeting. President Lahr called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Ryan Barton
Linda J. Book
Kathleen N. DePuy
Philip J. Lahr
Robert J. McKown
Glenn P. Nagy
William J. Veith
James F. Nowalk, Mayor (Arrived at 9:05 AM)

STAFF: James E. Leventry, Manager
Vincent G. Yevins, Finance Director
Courtney M. Wertz, Administrative Assistant

Mr. McKown requested a review of the entire Borough Budget. All budgets include a 3% raise for all employees. To establish a balanced budget for 2017, an increase of 0.78 to the Real Estate Tax millage would be required. It is projected that \$610,996.00 would be used from the Fund Balance in 2017. Approximately \$2 million is needed in the fund balance at the beginning of each year to fund the Borough until tax revenues are received.

REVENUE:

2016 Budget -\$9,565,591.00
2017 Proposed Budget - \$9,895,482.00

The revenue figures are historic for the most part.

The line item – Real Estate Taxes Current – is budgeted at \$3,400,000.00 for 2017. In 2016 the Borough received \$3,240,000.00. The millage will have to be adjusted to account for gentrification and Act 77.



ADMINISTRATION:

2016 Budget -\$602,989.00
2017 Proposed Budget - \$608,074.00

The salaries in this budget reflect a 3% increase for 2017. The remaining figures in this proposed budget are historic.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

2016 Budget -\$254,143.00
2017 Proposed Budget - \$197,278.00

Utilities and janitorial services are included in this budget. The figures in this budget are historic.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

2016 Budget - \$2,705,964.00
2017 Proposed Budget - \$2,842,194.00

The figures in this budget reflect the retirement of the Chief and one new Patrolman in 2017. There should be some flexibility in salaries with the hiring of new officers.

FIRE PROTECTION:

2016 Budget - \$286,975.00
2017 Proposed Budget - \$293,891.00

The figures in this budget are historic.

PLANNING & ZONING:

2016 Budget - \$145,893.00
2017 Proposed Budget - \$213,579.00

The salaries in this budget reflect a 3% increase for 2017. The remaining figures in this proposed budget are historic.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

2016 Budget - \$57,800.00
2017 Proposed Budget - \$57,800.00

The figures in this budget are historic.

HEALTH & SANITATION:

2016 Budget - \$936,764.00
2017 Proposed Budget - \$957,428.00

The numbers in this budget are based on a per unit contract rate. The remaining figures in this proposed budget are historic.

PUBLIC WORKS:

2016 Budget - \$1,454,026.00
2017 Proposed Budget - \$1,455,037.00

The salaries in this budget reflect a contractual 3% increase for 2017.

SWIMMING POOL:

2016 Budget - \$217,461.00
2017 Proposed Budget - \$223,381.00

The line item – Maintenance & Repairs – was increased to \$20,000.00 for 2017. The line item – Telephone – reflects the cost of maintaining a phone line in the pool office year round.

Mr. Yevins suggested that Council reduce the fee for a lost pool pass replacement from \$10 to \$5. Council agreed to the reduction.

PARKS & RECREATION:

2016 Budget - \$104,467.00
2017 Proposed Budget - \$112,945.00

The line item – Recreation Board Program – is budgeted at \$6,000.00. This line item represents what the Borough pays to cover the cost of some Recreation events. The line item – Maintenance & Repairs – includes \$10,000.00 for tree removal.

INSURANCE & BENEFITS:

2016 Budget - \$2,001,847.00

2017 Proposed Budget - \$2,088,073.00

The line item – Hospitalization – increased to \$710,000.00 due to increases in the UPMC Police Plan. The pension contributions have increased roughly \$8,000.00 for the Non-Uniform Plan and \$20,000.00 for the Police Plan. Different plans may be considered in the future as a way to keep the Borough's costs fixed.

DEBT SERVICE:

2016 Budget - \$441,862.00

2017 Proposed Budget - \$466,462.00

The line item – Capital Appropriation – Fire Equipment – is budgeted at \$90,000.00. The line item – Capital Appropriate – Parks Project – is budgeted at \$100,000.00.

LIBRARY:

2016 Budget - \$355,400.00

2017 Proposed Budget - \$379,340.00

These figures represent the 6.7% increase requested by the Library.

STORMSEWER FUND

2016 Budget: \$2,979,800.00

2017 Proposed Budget - \$3,718,000.00

The line item – Other Financing Sources – is budgeted at \$3,500,000.00 and is the projected borrowing needed to finance projects in 2017. The Echo Glen Storm Sewer Project is budgeted at \$640,000.00. The Doverdell Storm Sewer Project will be phased over 2 years.

SANITARY SEWER FUND:

2016 Budget - \$5,454,638.00

2017 Proposed Budget - \$5,716,594.00

Some projects are required by law per the consent order. The Sanitary Sewer Fund Balance will be used to pay for many of the projects. Council agreed to keep the multiplier at the same rate for 2017.

GRANT FUND:

2016 Budget - \$4,255.68
2017 Proposed Budget - \$2,009.68

This budget funds the DARE Program.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

2016 Budget - \$163,000.00
2017 Proposed Budget - \$162,500.00

The line item – Parks Master Plan – is budgeted at \$75,000.00 and will be used to draft a Master Plan for the Parks in order to apply for grants. \$100,000.00 will be appropriated for Parks Construction and \$90,000.00 will be appropriated for a future Fire Truck purchase.

LIQUID FUELS FUND:

2016 Budget - \$350,703.00
2017 Proposed Budget - \$283,500.00

This budget reflects the funds the Borough receives under the Liquid Fuels program. The figures are set by the State.

ADJOURNMENT:

Council recessed to an executive session at 10:25 AM.

They reconvened at 11:30 AM. No further action was taken.

President Lahr adjourned the meeting at 11:30 AM

READ AND APPROVED THIS DAY OF DECEMBER 21, 2016.



Manager