

**SOUTH STRABANE TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUDGET MEETING**

**October 19, 2023**

**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The October 19, 2023, Budget Meeting of the South Strabane Township Board of Supervisors (“Board”) came to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Building (550 Washington Road, Washington, PA 15301).

The following were present:

Board of Supervisors	Bracken Burns, Chair; Mark Murphy, Vice Chair; Russ Grego, Richard Luketich, and Bob Weber.
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Absent	None
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Also Present	Township Manager Jeff Ziegler, Finance Director Marie Coffman, Fire Chief/Acting Assistant Manager Jordan Cramer and Police Chief Drew Hilk.
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**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Board allocates a period of time during this item for those individuals who would like the opportunity to address the Board on any agenda item. Each person addressing the Board of Supervisors is asked to limit their comments to a maximum of three (3) minutes.

Mr. Jeff Bull, resident of Main St., stated that he had no comment.

**3. REVIEW OF 2024 PROJECTED EXPENSES, PERSONNEL AND PENSIONS**

Ms. Coffman stated that at this point in time the Township budget looks to be about \$38,500 to the positive for 2024. It was reported that the Township workers’ compensation renewal was higher than expected because of a large claim a couple of years ago. This large renewal presented a budgeting challenge because it is a fairly large number. The large claim will fall off the lookback period next year and accordingly it is expected that, unless there is another large claim, the Township worker’s compensation premium should go down next year. There was discussion about shopping the Township worker’s compensation insurance as well as the other insurance lines next year.

Mr. Luketich stated that he believes that the Act 13 projection for 2024 is high and that we probably won’t see that much revenue in 2024. He stated that we may be looking at as much as an 80% decrease in this funding. Ms. Coffman stated that she would contact the state concerning Act 13 funding and see what they suggest we budget for next year.

There was also discussion about leasing the two (2) 2024 Public Works equipment requests for six (6) years instead of five (5) years and how that would save about \$12,000 in the 2024 budget. Because the useful life of the equipment is about 20 years, this approach makes sense. The same discussion followed about leasing police vehicles for four (4) years instead of three (3) years.

Mr. Murphy commented that as the fund balance continues to build in the coming years that he would like to see more money budgeted for Risk Management to help with unforeseen expenses.

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

As no further business came before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM by Chair Burns.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey L. Ziegler  
Township Manager