

COOPERSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
Budget Hearing Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2015

The public budget meeting of the Coopersburg Borough Council was held on Monday, October 5th, in Council Chambers at Borough Hall. The meeting was called to order by President Felch at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Roll call was taken by Manager Paashaus. Also present were Council Members Balascak, Greenland, Lundy, Mack, Pica, Thrapp, Mayor Hovis, Solicitor Alpert, and Engineer Erdman.

REQUESTED SPEAKERS:

1. James DeSouza, Library Representative for the Southern Lehigh Public Library, gave a presentation regarding the Library and its programs. The Library is requesting a 5% contribution increase for 2016. There was further discussion regarding the Library's services, youth programs, circulation, membership, capital plan, and financial concerns. The Library makes a display available to the Historical Society and partners with Better World Books to raise money and distribute literature. Council thanked the Library for their service and requested ways that the Borough could better partner or network with the Library and its programs.
2. Doug Albright, Southern Lehigh Living Memorial Park President, gave a presentation regarding the Park and its financial needs. The Park is requesting an increase to \$15,000.00 for 2016. There was further discussion regarding the maintenance costs, the "out-of-towner" issues, the pool history, and the success of Community Day. Council thanked the park volunteers for their service.
3. Matthew Rehrig, Representative for the Coopersburg Fire Company, presented information about the Fire Company and its projected profit and loss for 2016. The fire company is requesting an increase to \$45,000 annually in 2016. There was further discussion regarding the need of a Field Truck, the terrain of the Borough, the social club, and changes in leadership. Rehrig stated that the taxes are current and the next filing will be available in November. Felch stated that the Fire Company is valued tremendously, and that Council needs to be careful with tax payer funds. There was further discussion regarding the use for the planned profit on the budget sheet, the ladder truck loan, and the concern of a Non-profit making a profit.

Felch stated that Council will have the first reading of the proposed 2016 budget in 2 weeks at the next public Council meeting. The final reading is planned for the meeting in November.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Balascak made a motion to adjourn the budget hearing and return to the regular committee workshop, which was seconded by Felch. The budget meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Timothy Paashaus – Borough Manager

John Felch, Jr. – Council President