

**UPPER BURRELL TOWNSHIP
BUDGET MEETING
3735 SEVENTH STREET
NEW KENSINGTON, PA 15068
OCTOBER 20, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Ross G. Walker, III, with the Pledge of Allegiance at 3:00 pm. Present at this meeting were Chairman – Ross Walker, Vice Chairman, Michael Conley, Supervisor, Ken Slahtovsky and Secretary, Melissa Cortileso.

DISCUSS 2023 BUDGET

A budget work session of the Board of Supervisors of Upper Burrell Township was held on Friday, October 20, 2023. Secretary, Cortileso presented the Revenues and the Expenses of the General Fund and Special Funds. The Board of Supervisors discussed the proposed 2024 Budget. After reviewing the proposed revenues and proposing the anticipated expenses the Board decided that they arrived at a balanced budget. It was determined that a second budget meeting would not be needed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cari Armstrong, 260 Upper Drennen Road, asked which line item is used to pay for the new tractor. Cortileso responded that it is in the Highway & Streets Budget, Capital Purchase. Walker stated that township has 16 miles of road and needs new equipment to maintain the roads. Dan Hosac stated is it possible to look into Capital One to see what their interest rate would be.

Mike Zanella, 642 Knoll Lane, asked if more could be done for the Fire Department. Zanella stated there is a huge police department budget and no one to work. Chief Pate stated those monies will be needed when rebuilding the department. Walker stated they will talk about it. It was asked what happened to the proposed fire tax. Conley stated it just never went anywhere. Zanella asked about increasing the LST donation for equipment. Conley stated that Jeff Ewing negotiated the \$52.00 tax and did a great job. LST is based on the workforce.

Cari Armstrong, asked what happens to the police budget funds that are not be utilizing, where the money rolls into. How do the unused funds work? Conley replied they are hoping to get officer hired and a couple of part time patrolman. It was asked is it possible to just hire 3 full time officers. Conley replied by hiring a third full time officer that changes the pension benefit. The pension would go from a defined contribution to a defined benefit which could be extremely expensive. It was also mentioned about a regional police department. Walker stated 30 years ago a regional department was not a good idea but not it seems to work. Dan Hosac stated that some previous patrolman stated that it is not busy enough in the township. Hosac also asked about the police using radar. Conley stated local police cannot use radar only state police.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Walker second by Conley to adjourn. All in favor.
Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Cortileso, Secretary