

The stated Special Budget Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington was held on Tuesday, October 1, 2024 via webinar and in-person at the Township Administration Building, Abington, PA, with President Hecker presiding.

CALL TO ORDER: 7:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: Commissioners ROTHMAN, DiPLACIDO, LANEY MARTIN, WINEGRAD, HENRY, YOUNG-GERTZ, SPIEGELMAN, BOLE, SCHREIBER, BOWMAN, VAHEY, HECKER
Excused: Commissioners BRODSKY, BROWNE, ZAPPONE

President Hecker called on Manager Manfredi.

Manager Manfredi said the preliminary proposed budget presented before the Board this evening has been amended to reflect only one change, and that is due to an increase in costs from United Healthcare in the OPEB Fund. Adjustments were made resulting in a \$13,000 increase.

President Hecker clarified that the change is now reflected online. Is that correct?

Manager Manfredi replied that is correct.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Adele Kubel, resident, asked about the Roslyn Library upgrade, and when Roychester Park will be built?

President Hecker replied he does not know at this time, but we will provide an answer.

Adele Kubel expressed concern about potholes in the street, especially near train stations, and the trash needs to be picked up along the street. Also, WAWA on Easton is filthy and their trash goes into the creek; the laundry mat has deep potholes in the parking lot; and the AutoZone has an opened dumpster in the back facing homes, and this is destroying our neighborhoods.

A resident questioned whether the Board of Commissioners has already decided on which projects will be done using ARPA funding?

President Hecker replied not yet, but we will soon.

Lora Lehmann, resident, expressed concern about the budget meeting process and the three minute speaking time. Also, about the funding for inspection time of facilities, construction services, and the EDC.

President Hecker replied it is not just three minutes of speaking time. There have been 25 pages of questions/answers between the resident and Township staff over the past month and that opportunity will continue up until the day the Board passes it in its final form.

Commissioner Winegrad clarified that the number of Township employees will remain the same except for two new police officers. Is that correct?

Manager Manfredi replied yes, the compliment will only increase by two in the police department.

Commissioner Winegrad said he wants to be sure that essential services such as trash collection, construction, and Public Works have enough employees and that it will remain the same based on the number of employees budgeted in 2025.

Manager Manfredi replied yes, it will be carried forward to 2025, and we are not reducing any level of service.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item BOC-01-100124:

Vice President Vahey made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Spiegelman to adopt the proposed Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Budget.

MOTION was ADOPTED 12-0.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Vile, Minutes Secretary