

deal with a huge shortage and a larger tax increase. The reality of this is--you either have to cut services or raise taxes.

Commissioner Connolly said this same thing--to raise taxes--was said last year at Budget time. He is not looking to deplete the Capital Reserve, but feels this is not the Township's money, but the residents' money--it's taxes they've already paid. He feels it's a good compromise to use a portion of it to give the residents the services they expect even though costs have gone up. We are not depleting the Capital Reserve; it's actually gone up the past couple years. It's using savings the people have already contributed to. He does not want to cut services or raise taxes and thinks it's a solid budget.

Commissioner Milakovic said he believes it is the Board's responsibility to keep the Budget in a good fiscal position. Bond agencies and advisors look for Cash on Hand and not dipping into Reserves year after year. It's been a trend that revenues have failed to keep up with expenses, and if we continue to spend down the cash reserves, it will leave the Budget in the same situation every year. The expenses we are trying to keep up with are just daily operating expenses with no provisions for paving or a recreation program. Commissioner Milakovic respectfully asks the Board to consider a small millage increase to offset the deficit in the proposed Budget.

Commissioner Varner said this is like taking money out of your personal savings to pay your monthly bills and mortgage. Sooner or later it will catch up with you. He thinks it's good fiscal practice to have a large Capital Reserve.

Commissioner Spandler commented that the Township hasn't done paving in years. He asked the Board to really consider coming up with a plan to fix the roadways. There is a proposal for \$2.5 million just to do three roadways. He asks that they really work on a plan, whether you have to borrow millions and float a bond or what. The longer you wait, the more extensive the repairs. This is an issue throughout the State. He urged seeing what others in the area are doing and following their lead.

President Troxell called for a roll call vote and the motion carried 6-3 with Commissioners Varner, Milakovic, and Moyer voting no.

8. Consideration of Ordinance-2016 Tax Rates: Finance Director Fosselman reviewed the tax rates to support the 2016 Budget as follows:

General Tax	2.38446 mills/\$1.00 assessed value or 23.8446 cents/\$100.00
Fire Protection Tax	0.89992 mills/\$1.00 assessed value or 8.9992 cents/\$100.00
Debt Service	0.3900 mills/\$1.00 assessed value or 3.93 cents/\$100.00
Emergency Services	0.0865 mills/\$1.00 assessed value or .865 cents/\$100.00

- Commissioner Chiavetta moved to adopt Ordinance 2015-16 (full text available in Township Ordinance Book) so fixing the tax rates with no total tax increase over last year. Commissioner Connolly seconded the motion; carried unanimously.
9. Consideration of Resolution-Tax Discounts & Penalties: Solicitor Wion reviewed the Resolution fixing the 2016 tax discounts and penalties on the tax rates. Commissioner Chiavetta moved to approve Resolution R-2015-42 (full text available in Township Resolution Book) fixing the tax discounts and penalties. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
 10. Consideration of Resolution-PEMA Designation of Agent: Commissioner Murphy moved to approve Resolution R-2015-43 (full text available in Township Resolution Book) designating Brian Zimmerman as an Agent for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Commissioner Connolly seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
 11. Consideration of Delinquent Tax Fee Waiver- TCS Property Management: Commissioner Chiavetta moved to approve the delinquent tax fee waiver for TCS Property Management, Parcel 63-022-053, in the total amount of \$730.59 as recommended by the Tax Claim Bureau. Commissioner Milakovic seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
 12. Authorization to Advertise and Hire Custodial Position: Commissioner Milakovic moved to authorize advertising for a custodial position due to retirement of the present custodian. Commissioner Boudier seconded the motion; carried unanimously.
 13. Acceptance of Separation Agreement - Administrator Paul Cornell: Commissioner Boudier moved to accept the Separation Agreement with Administrator Paul Cornell. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion; carried unanimously. Finance Director Fosselman said that Administrator Cornell is the Right-to-Know Officer and someone should be appointed to that position. President Troxell said that Assistant Administrator Zimmerman will be moved to that position.
 14. Visitors Requests & Comments Regarding General Matters: Mike Jarman, President of the Vista Foundation--reviewed the background of his organization and their presence in the Township. There are problems obtaining the occupancy permit because of parking requirements. Under the Fair Housing Act they are entitled to make a request for an accommodation under the parking regulations. President Troxell would like to look at this with Codes and the Codes Committee. Commissioner Moyer had questions about the classification for employee parking. He also questioned whether this should go to the Variance Board. Mr. Jarman said they are asking for an accommodation rather than a

variance. Federal law allows this without binding the Board for anything else. This is a home; it is not an institution or a business. President Troxell said this will be put on a priority with Codes and our new Solicitor in the new year.

Roosevelt Lawson, 1040 4th Avenue--commented on the Bressler School building. He feels it is a "no brainer". If you have never heard of the Reverend's ministry, you are blessed. The people served are without heat, food, clothing--they are desperate people. Rev. Mim is taking the desperation out of people's lives. Her mission is to help people. She needs a bigger place. Stop the Violence deserves that building. The building was offered to her--now give it to her. Don't be bad politicians. Please think about it.

15. Commissioners Requests & Comments:

Commissioner Moyer - thanked Commissioner Spandler for the time spent and the assistance provided to the Board. He said he enjoyed learning from Commissioner Spandler and appreciates all he has done.

He thanked Commissioner Murphy for his short tenure and wished him well.

Commissioner Varner - said he's known Commissioner Spandler for a number of years; it's been a pleasure serving with him.

He also thanked Commissioner Murphy for his time working with the Board.

Commissioner Murphy - thanked the fellow Commissioners and the public for the opportunity to serve. He commented that the Budget was a very, very difficult process. He wished all well in the future and said he may be back some day.

Commissioner Boudier - thanked Commissioner Murphy for his willingness to serve and wished him luck in the years ahead.

He thanked Commissioner Spandler for his work on the Board and noted that he was the first Swatara Township Commissioner to serve as President of the State Association.

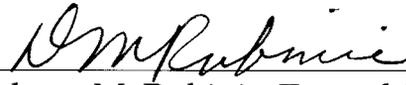
Commissioner Connolly - thanked everyone for their work on the Budget especially Finance Director Fosselman. He knows everyone is not happy, but feels it is a good budget.

Commissioner Connolly thanked the volunteer fire companies for their holiday events throughout the Township. He also thanked those who attended the two Christmas parties held at the Township by Stop the Violence and Sheetz. He thanked Brenden and Mike Ibberson for helping to relight the tree out front. He thanked Commissioner Murphy for filling in when a Commissioner moved out of the Township.

He has known Commissioner Spandler for a long while and hopes to keep seeing him around.

Solicitor Wion said he is proud to have in his own way, without anything other than providing the legal services for this Township, to have served the Boards and the great people in this Township in that way. He thanked all for that privilege.

16. Adjournment: Commissioner Murphy moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Spandler and carried unanimously. The Special Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.



Dolores M. Rubinic, Township Secretary