

**Peninsula Township Board
Study Session
March 28, 2018
9:00 am
Township Office Conference Room
Minutes**

1. **Call to Order** by Manigold at 9:00 am
2. **Pledge**
3. **Roll Call** Present: Manigold, Westphal, Bickle, Achorn, Wahl, Wunsch Absent: Saunders
4. **Approve Agenda** Wunsch moved to accept agenda; Wahl seconded **Passed unan**
5. **Conflict of Interest** None
6. **Business**

a. Budget Work Session.

A general discussion of last year's budget and this year's budget was conducted by the Town Board and members of the audience who were invited to speak. The Treasurer reviewed the status of the FY2017-18 activity column for the various revenue and expenditure accounts to date (3/28/2018). He also reviewed the working budget for FY2018-19 and noted any changes in general ledger lines for specific accounts. He has built into the FY2018-19; salary increases for staff at 2%; a parity raise for the Treasurer's salary to bring it up to the other two officers' salary level; and with exception to the Treasurer's salary, no increases to the Town Board's salaries.

It was noted in that FY2018-19 will see the retirement of the bond for the purchase of Pelizarri Park. The presentation given by Fire Chief Fred Gilstorf at the regular Town Board meeting (03-27-2018), and the comments received by the audience in the public hearing that followed suggested public support for an increase in millage for the Fire Department to 2.0mil/year. The Town Board members took time to comment on the public feedback at the meeting on the millage increase, and they expressed their support for Fred's effort to get the additional manpower to fund the additional ALS qualified fire fighters for the Fire Department. This would require a Fire Department millage increase to 2.0; the Treasurer confirmed that a millage increase to 2.0 for the Fire Department could be supported in the budget.

Discussion of other staffing needs in the various departments followed. In particular, the Planning department, with the departure of Brian VanDenBrand, will need to look at replacing him. It was suggested by several Board member that the budget needs to support additional staff time to address various planning initiatives (e.g., the Ordinance rewrite, the Purchase of Development Rights program, new Ordinance language, Winery issues, etc.). These initiatives have not gained traction this past year because of all the litigation (much of which fell on the Planning Department in the procurement of documents both "FOIA"ed and requested by our own attorneys). It was generally agreed that the Planning Department needed more staff support to assist the Planner, as did Assessing.

The Treasurer stated that he expected a minimal increase overall in FY2018-19 budget as it approaches finalization today.

b. Escrow accounts.

No discussion of escrow accounts took place

7. **Adjournment** The meeting was adjourned at 10:26 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne M. Westphal, Clerk