

THE WOODVILLE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE'S PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2023 TOWNSHIP BUDGET - July 6, 2022

This public hearing of the Woodville Township Trustees was held on July 6, 2022 to adopt the Township's 2023 Budget. Those in attendance: Trustees: Chairman Paul Runion, Bill Hammer, and Ken Green, Fiscal Officer Lori Kepus, Road Supervisor Jim Busdiecker, Fire Chief Tim Schnitker, Assistant Fire Chief Dave Miller, Zoning Inspector Steve Michaelis, One Energy CEO Jereme Kent along with Bower Sarra, Meredith Wirth, and Bobbi Covington.

Trustee Runion called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Fiscal Officer Lori Kepus and Trustee Bill Hammer presented an overview of their calculations for the township's 2023 budget.

The township's budget process generates the township's 1st official certificate of estimated resources and that is what limits the amount of appropriations that the Trustees can set for the coming year. Overall, we're a very financially sound township.

Kepus said that the economy is experiencing an inflation. The most significant loss of revenue that the township continues to suffer is the loss of interest revenue as rates bottomed out during the pandemic and are very slowly recovering. Prices remain very high. The cost for just the basic necessities like natural gas, electric, garbage disposal, gasoline and diesel fuel have more than doubled causing the budget to reflect those increases.

Expenditures for 2023 are anticipated to remain fairly steady. 2023 will see the purchase of a new Sutphen pumper truck for the fire department at an approximate cost of \$652,929. A large down payment was made on the truck when it was ordered late last year, but supply chain issues have caused a delay in delivery.

An application for an Issue II road repaving project on TR 14 will be put together this year and will hopefully be awarded to the township in 2023. The Trustees plan to pave at least one additional road in 2023. An infrastructure project at the fire station including sewer, drainage, plumbing, electrical work, and lighting will be completed in 2022.

The Trustees will look at further expansion of the EMS quarters in 2023. In October, 2021, the Trustees purchased a new Horton ambulance in the amount of \$264,996, but due to supply chain issues, the new ambulance will not arrive until at least 2023. The contract with Sandusky County EMS expires this year and will be renegotiated in the coming months. The 5.7 mill levy that was passed by voters in 2018 for EMS service will again be reduced in collections to 3.9 mills.

Westwood Cemetery will also be expanded in the next few years as there are not many plots left. The township owns the property behind the cemetery to the woods.

In 2020, the Township received \$89,663 in Coronavirus Relief Funds (CARES Act). Over the period of 2021 and 2022, the township received an additional \$130,100 in funding from the federal government for the American Recovery Act.

The State of Ohio Department of Taxation has settled an appeal from the NEXUS pipeline. NEXUS had asked for a decrease in valuation of their pipeline. The NEXUS pipeline was anticipated to pay over \$500,000 a year in property taxes. The agreement that has been reached is for NEXUS to pay 68% of their originally stated valuation. The agreement will not be in effect for a few months yet.

Listed below are the final projections for 2023:

2023 BUDGET	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Unencumbered
	Carryover Balance	Revenue	Expenses	Balance
General Fund	383,372.82	115,850.00	136,667.00	362,555.82
Motor Vehicle License Tax	43,361.78	15,200.00	3,000.00	55,561.78
Gasoline Tax	111,226.59	135,500.00	81,800.00	164,926.59
Road & Bridge Fund	297,473.97	200,500.00	191,330.50	306,643.47
Cemetery Fund	201,779.92	61,488.00	79,700.00	183,567.92
EMS Fund	646,934.76	399,500.00	596,600.00	449,834.76
Fire Levy Fund	339,680.53	274,000.00	512,130.50	101,550.03
Permissive License Tax	64,912.17	10,100.00	-	75,012.17
Coronavirus Local Recovery (ARP)	65,050.41	65,050.00	-	130,100.41
TOTALS	2,153,792.95	1,277,188.00	1,601,228.00	1,829,752.95

There were no comments from the public.

Trustee Hammer made a motion to approve the 2023 township budget as presented above. Trustee Green seconded. All answered yes to roll call. Motion passed. Kepus will file the township budget with the county auditor by the July 20th deadline.

At 7:10 p.m., with no further business, Trustee Hammer moved for adjournment. Trustee Runion seconded. This public budget hearing was held in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code's Sunshine Law.