

**Matamoras Borough Council & Westfall Township Supervisors Joint Board Meeting
Minutes**

15 Aug 2016

A joint meeting of the Matamoras Borough Council, Westfall Township Supervisors and the Eastern Pike Regional Police Commission was called to order at 1902 hrs., Monday, 15 Aug 16 by Joe Sain followed by a salute to the flag.

Present were Dee Losee, David Clark, Pete Sigreto, Kevin Rose, Mark Madsen, Tommy Greiner, Mayor Janet Clark, Secretary Robert Fitch, Lester Buchanan, Jerry Dotey, Bob Melvin, Paul Fischer, Secretary Jodi Hulse, Kevin Salvati, Barbara Gillette and Chief Chad Stewart. Absent was Bob Bostinto. There were approximately 2 members of the general public present.

There was no Public Comment

Joe Sain opened the meeting by asking the members present to review the budget material in front of them and formulate any questions.

Chief Stewart went over the proposed budget line by line with the group and gave explanations for increases in section of the budget as follows:

Police Services:

- Salaries increase as a result of individual contracts and the officers collective bargaining agreement
- Overtime increase was based on major crimes causing increases
- Training was increased to allow officers to attend more training and improve the overall professionalism of the force.
- Ammunition was increased due the increased costs and the delays associated with the purchase of ammo for training.
- Police Equipment was increased to allow for the replacement of 2 Tasers, purchase 2 more AR-15 rifles, purchase three sights for existing AR-15's and purchase Glock Lights for all duty handguns as well new holsters to accommodate the Glock Lights.

Mr. Melvin asked what was contained in the CBA for pay increases, 3/5% and how many officers were on the force at this time, 10 Full time as of 4 Sep 16 and 3 pt. Does equipment include the cost to replace vests, yes it does. Mr. Melvin asked if it was difficult to recruit officers and Chief Stewart said yes they are having a tough time, due to the national climate of distain for police officers.

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Vehicle Expenses: The chief noted that they remained about the same and there were no questions from the group.

Headquarters:

- Payroll expenses were overstated due to a typo and should be \$4,800 not \$8,500
- Office Equipment includes upgrades for various software and programs
- Telephone remained static because of a savings due to switching to VOIP. The department is purchasing cellular data packages for use with the new computers in each car so the telephone cost remains static.
- The line item Headquarters Maint. Reflects the cost to hire a cleaning service per the CBA.

Employee Benefits:

- Health Benefits reflect a projected increase; insurance company will not provide hard costs until renewal.
- Uniform Pension/457b/CBA these costs include a uniform allowance for the officers and longevity pay per the CBA.
- Conference, Dues, Membership, Lic. Fees show an increase because most of these cost were previously mistaken charged under other budget lines.

Recap for the proposed budget is as follows:

SUMMARY	2017 Proposed	2016	Delta	
			\$	%
Police Services	\$719,713.00	\$646,518.00	\$73,195.00	11%
Vehicle Expenses	\$66,425.00	\$70,000.00	\$(3,575.00)	-5%
Headquarters Expenses	\$84,440.00	\$78,679.00	\$5,761.00	7%
Employee Benefits	\$156,338.00	\$133,720.00	\$22,618.00	17%
Total	\$1,026,916.00	\$930,933.00	\$95,983.00	10%

Delta

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REVENUE	2017 Proposed	2016	\$	%
Westfall Township	\$495,506.00	\$438,476.00	\$57,030.00	13%
Matamoras Borough	\$439,411.00	\$400,566.00	\$38,845.00	10%
Reports, DV, NPS, Misc	\$25,000.00	\$20,500.00	\$4,500.00	22%
Fines	\$55,000.00	\$57,374.00	\$(2,374.00)	-4%
Grants	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$-	0%
Total Revenue	\$1,026,917.00	\$928,916.00	\$98,001.00	11%

Following the budget review supervisors Dotey, Buchanan and Melvin. Councilman Sain stated he supported the budget and felt it was reasonable.

There was a brief discussion about grant monies and how available they are at the current time. Chief Stewart explained to the group that grant monies have just about evaporated. Prior funding has moved to larger areas and the current administration has removed surplus military equipment availability for local police departments. Chief Stewart noted that since 2008, the department has received approximately \$500,000 in grants.

Supervisor Dotey commented on officer pay and the need to have a salary that allowed us to retain quality officers.

Supervisor Buchanan asked if the Borough had an engineering study done on the current police station and if so what was the plan to deal with the findings? Facilities Chair Greiner said the Borough is in the process of developing a plan to address the issues raised. There was further comment on Westfall's decision to move their DPW to an area behind the Township building so it would be safe from flooding.

Supervisor Melvin asked each board to go back to their meeting and develop comments on proposed budget to be presented at the next Police Commission meeting on 12 Sep 16.

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There being no further business or discussion, President Sain adjourned the meeting at 1946 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert J. Fitch
Borough Secretary

