

Dafter Township Board

Special Budget Meeting Minutes

Supervisor: Bob Brown
Clerk: Jodi Hunter
Treasurer: Kareen Brown
Trustee: Robert "Bob" St. Peter
Trustee: Joyce Engelhardt

for
March 9, 2015
6:30 p.m.

Dafter Township Hall
2926 W. 10 Mile Road
Dafter, MI 49724

- Call to order

Present: Bob Brown, Jodi Hunter, Joyce Engelhardt, Bob St. Peter

Absent: Kareen Brown

- Pledge of Allegiance

Given by all in attendance

- Citizen's Comments

None

- Resolutions for 2015-2016 Salaries Attached

Bob Brown handed out and discussed the salary survey completed through the Michigan Township Associations that compares the salaries of Dafter Township to salaries at other similar size Townships. Comparison of the Deputy salaries indicates that our deputies were paid higher than other similar townships, but our Clerk and Treasurer are significantly lower than other Townships. Combining the Clerk and Treasurer with their respective deputies results in a total salary that is still lower than the average. Our Supervisor salary is lower than the average, and the Fire Chief is significantly lower than other townships. The remaining positions were very comparable to other similar size townships.

Discussion ensued about the process of developing the budget. Bob Brown, Jodi Hunter, Kareen Brown and Henry Lowes (Fire Chief) met for several hours to prepare a line item budget to determine necessary expenses for the upcoming year. A line item budget was prepared based on this meeting and subsequent discussions after obtaining pricing for various items.

Jodi Hunter presented a salary resolution to increase the Supervisor salary to \$10,800 from \$9,800. This increase is to bring the salary to what it was previous to former Supervisor Wayne Trepanier taking a voluntary salary decrease in previous years. This increase would result in a salary for Supervisor that is still significantly lower than the average for Townships of similar size. It was discussed that the only proposed salary increases were for the Supervisor and the Fire Chief and that all

other salaries would remain the same for the coming budget year. Jodi made a motion to approve the salary increase, Joyce seconded the motion. Roll call vote resulted in 3 yea's and 1 abstention. Motion passed.

Bob Brown discussed the proposed salary increase for the Fire Chief position from \$2,100 to \$4,500. Bob discussed that the Fire Chief has taken on much additional responsibility and is already paid significantly less than other Fire Chiefs. He is collecting insurance information, working on billing and budgets, and other additional responsibilities. Bob made a motion to approve the increase, Joyce supported. Role call vote resulted in a unanimous decision.

Bob presented a resolution to maintain all other salaries as previous year. Jodi made the motion, Bob St. Peter seconded. Role call vote resulted in a unanimous decision.

- Budget Proposed for the 2015 – 2016 Fiscal Year Attached

The budget was presented. It was discussed that the budget was prepared to assume that the proposed millage would pass in the August election. If the millage were not to pass, the budget would have to be adjusted resulting in the use of a significant portion of the reserves. The ambulance contract was included as proposed. Revenue sharing was estimated based on previous year numbers. Most revenues are based on estimated numbers. Expenditures are based on known upcoming actuals and estimates for other expenses.

Bob Brown discussed that he is working with Waste Management on the possibility of using some of the spoils from the road work in exchange for funds provided to the Township. This has not been finalized at this point.

Joyce asked for an explanation of the negative numbers. Jodi explained that the budget was balanced prior to obtaining information that the Township still owed nearly \$50,000 for two road projects that will be finished this year. This resulted in the budget running into a deficit of \$50,000 for this year which will need to be taken from the reserves.

Joyce made a motion to approve the budget. Bob St. Peter seconded the motion. Role call vote resulted in unanimous approval of the budget. Jodi made a motion to adjourn the budget meeting. Joyce supported.

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.