

**TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON  
SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING  
APRIL 17, 2019  
5:00 P.M.**

Council President Trueblood called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:**

Council Members: Elisabeth McCartney, Jason Allen, Donovan Gardner, Gaye Burton; Norma Trueblood; Mayor David Patriarca; Business Administrator, Dennis Gonzalez; and Township Clerk, Amy P. Cosnoski.

**PRESENTATION**

Mayor Patriarca presented the 2019 Budget for Council and advised on several points for this year's expectations including salary and wages and total debt. Noted he feels this is a responsible budget.

**DISCUSSION FOR 2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

Council President Trueblood thanked Administration for putting this presentation together and asked if Council had any questions or comments.

Councilman Allen thanked Administration for the presentation and asked about the Finance Department and the replacing of a resigned employee. Mr. Gonzalez advised that R. Hare who was hired as a temporary, is the replacement for that position but is in a different title. Councilman Allen asked if we would be backfilling the open position in the Tax Assessor's office. Mr. Gonzalez advised that they did budget the funds but are evaluating whether a full or part time position is warranted. Councilman Allen asked about the Tax Collector's office and the longevity and what this was. Mr. Gonzalez advised and explained the rates. Councilman Allen asked about the leaf pick up twice a year for residents and if that was a plan. Mr. Gonzalez advised that this was not included in the budget for this year. Mayor Patriarca advised that the Director of Public Works had prepared a report for a second leaf pick up and this will be given to Council and would cost approximately \$80,000.00 to do a second leaf pick up during the year and would cause an impact on other provided services as well. Mr. Gonzalez advised that they would have to reduce other services because a leaf pick up would require a number of employees to assist in the process stopping them from doing other things. Stated that they would potentially need an additional 4 employees throughout the year which would actually be a much larger cost. Councilman Gardner asked if the end of year surplus could be transferred to the next year for leaf pick up. Mr. Gonzalez advised that you could not transfer from one year to the next. Mayor Patriarca further explained the process. Further discussion ensued on the surplus and the budgeting process and how this would affect the tax levy. Councilman Allen noted that he had asked the question because he knew others had interest but admits he is not completely sold on the idea. Mr. Gonzalez further advised on the employees that would be doing the leaf pick up and the other services that would not be done. Councilwoman McCartney commented on the second leaf pick up and what the current hours are for leaf drop off. Mayor Patriarca advised the hours are 4 days a week and then a half day on Saturday. Councilman Gardner asked about having 1 late night a week for closing the yard. Mr. Gonzalez advised that we are allowed to do that with 1 part-time employee and this could be looked at as an option.

Councilwoman McCartney asked about the solid waste and what the tipping fees are. Mr. Gonzalez advised that this is the County Landfill and explained the process. Councilwoman McCartney asked what the local tax covers. Mr. Gonzalez explained how the taxes are broken down. Councilwoman McCartney asked if the taxes would be changing this year for any of the other entities. Mr. Gonzalez advised that the County, County Library Commission and the School District have their own timetable to establish the tax levy that they require for their services and that typically we are first in establishing our tax rate and then they follow. Mr. Gonzalez then further explained the process.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:07 p.m.

*Note: The Regular Council Meeting started directly after this Special Meeting with a short break in between. The Public Hearing was held as the first item of the Regular Meeting.*

Respectfully submitted,

Amy P. Cosnoski, RMC, Township Clerk