

Marshall Township 2024-20245 Proposed Budget Questions

NOTE: REPLY IS IN BOLD RED

1. Budget Note 4) Millage is 0.7928 vs 1.0 approved and Fire Millage is 1.4754 vs 1.5 approved because of the Headlee Amendment rollback or why? **REDUCTION IS DUE TO HEADLEE AND TRUTH IN TAXATION REQUIRED REDUCTIONS.**
2. Budget Note 7) 90% of permit fees goes to inspector contractors and 10% (plus admin fee) goes to the Township for Permit Officer (Paul Anderson). Is this a correct interpretation? **90 % of EACH PERMIT FEE GOES TO THE INSPECTOR. THE REMAINING 10% PLUS THE ADMINISTRATION FEE HELPS OFFSET COST OF EMPLOYER SHARE OF FICA, MEDICARE WORKERS' COMP AND LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR INSPECTORS AND PART OF THE SALARY PAID THE OFFICE MANAGER WHO ACTS AS THE PERMIT OFFICER, NOT PAUL ANDERSON.**
3. Budget Note 8) Do Board members get a \$60 per diem for attending MAEDA meetings? **BOARD MEMBERS RECEIVE A PER DIEM IF AUTHORIZED PER THE LANGUAGE OF NOTE 8. A MBOARD MEMBER WOULD RECEIVE A PER DIEM FOR ATTENDING A MAEDA MEETING IF THAT BOARD MEMBER OTHERWISE MET THE REQUIREMENTS OF NOTE 8.**
4. Budget Note 13) \$1,243,619 is in the Fire Equipment fund balance as of 3/31/24. Is this from years where no money was spent from the Fire Millage revenue? **THE FIRE MILLAGE, NOT THE FIRE EQUIPMENT FUND, HAS PROJECTED TO HAVE THE NOTED BALANCE DUE TO CONTEMPLATED FUTURE APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT PURCHASES.** This note says "The annual fire millage levy for 2024-25 will be added to the reserve in anticipation of the Fire Board approving the purchase of a replacement brush truck and pumper truck during the fiscal year." How is this related to the Fire Millage Use budget line item of \$264,378? **THE \$264,378, WILL BE ADDED TO THE PRIOR FUND BALANCE UNLESS THE BOARD APPROVES ANY MAJOR EXPENDITURE FROM THE CURRENT AMOUNT BEFORE 3-31-25. THE BUDGET, AS ADOPTED, DOES NOT CONTEMPLATE ANY SUCH EXPENDITURE.**
5. Budget Note 14) Fire equipment general fund balance was \$300,838 as of 3/31/24. How is this related to, if at all, budget line items Fire Department? **AS STATED IN THE LAST SENTENCE OF NOTE 14, NO EXPENSE IS CONTEMPLATED FROM THE \$300,838 IN THE 2024-25 BUDGET.** Is this \$258,915 for Fire Department salaries and any benefits or? **THE \$258,915 AMOUNT COVERS THE ANNUAL GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES OF THE DEPARTMENT INCLUDING SALARIES AND RELATED EXPENSES, MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS, EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT, INSURANCE, UTILITIES, APPARATUS OPERATIONAL EXPENSES, ANNUAL MEDICAL SCREENING FOR FIREFIGHTERS AND THE LIKE.**
6. Budget Note 15) \$35,000 Capital Outlay. What is planned beyond the \$10,00 for IT equipment. What IT equipment is planned? **AT THE CURRENT TIME NOTHING IS PLANNED. THE AMOUNT ACTS AS A RESERVE FOR ANYTHING NEEDED DURING THE YEAR, TYPICALLY FOR REPLACEMENT OF ANY FAILED EQUIPMENT. AS TO IT**

EQUIPMENT, SOME PRINTERS MAY NEED REPLACEMENT AND SERVERS AS DETERMINED BY OUR IT CONTRACTOR, VENTURE TECHNOLOGY.

7. Budget Note 17) Budget includes \$9000 for 911 service. Does the County Dispatch Authority millage not cover this cost 100% **NO. A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION RESULTED FROM THE MILLAGE APPROVED, BUT NOT 100% FUNDING.**
8. Budget Note 19) \$460,893 unassigned general fund balance as of 3/31/24. \$282,337 will be used for the road projects described. Has the County approved the matching funds? **WE HAVE RECEIVED APPROVAL FOR BOTH PROJECTS SUBMITTED.** Also, how does this related to the budget line item for Streets/Drains of \$289,337? **AS STATED IN NOTE 10, \$7,000 OF THE AMOUNT IS FOR DRAIN AT LARGE AS DETERMINED BY THE WATER RESOURCES COMMISSIONER. THE REMAINDER OF \$282,337 IS FOR THE TWO APPROVED ROAD PROJECTS.** Does this mean more road work is planned for 2025 from this budget? **NO** If so, what roads?
9. Budget Note 21) Is the \$7,500 county drain assessment for the Country Hills / Highfield drain required due to the developer mistake and if so, how long do we have to pay this fee? **THE LAST AT LARGE DRAIN ASSESSMENT FOR COUNTRY HILLS WAS IN THE 2020 TAX YEAR. THE 223 ASSESSMENT WAS FOR MAINTENANCE WORK DONE FOR THE SQUAW CREEK WOODS AND CONLEY DRAIN DISTRICTS. THIS VARIES EACH YEAR DEPENDING ON MAINTENANCE WORK DONE BY THE WATER RESOURCES COMMISSIONER. THE TOWNSHIP IS AFFECTED BY A NUMBER OF DRAIN DISTRICTS.**
10. Budget Note 23) Who is the contracted company for website maintenance? **THE TOWNSHIP HAS UTILIZED DR. IT NINJA OF MARSHALL** Is this person or company related to any member of the Marshall Township Board? **THIS FIRM WAS ORIGINALLY RETAINED IN 2017 AND, AT THE TIME, I INDICATED TO THE BOARD, WHEN THE FORMER CLERK RECOMMENDED THE COMPANY, THAT MY SON IS A PRINCIPAL IN THE COMPANY AND THEN ABSTAINED FROM VOTING AS A MATTER OF APPEARANCE RATHER THAN ACTUAL CONFLICT.**
11. Budget Note 25 What is the 3rd party service that we pay \$4000 for payroll function? **PAYCHEX** Is this for the Clerk or the Treasurer? **IT IS FOR THE TOWNSHIP CHARGED TO THE CLERK'S BUDGET FOR THE 2024-25 BUDGET YEAR.** What is the service? **BASED ON MONTHLY DATA INPUT BY THE CLERK THE COMPANY SOFTWARE HANDLES PAYCHECK COMPUTATION, EFT PAYMENTS TO EMPLOYEES AND MOST FEDERAL AND STATE RECORD KEEPING RELATED TO PAYROLL INCLUDING MANDATORY REPORTING. THIS INCLUDES COMPUTATION AND GENERATION OF ANNUAL W-2 FORMS.** How does this \$10,000 for digitizing records align with the amount in Budget Note 27? **IT IS FOR LOCAL PART TIME CLERICAL ASSISTANCE FOR INPUTTING DOCUMENTS AS MAY BE NEEDED DEPENDING ON THE SYSTEM ULTIMATELY CHOSEN. THAT EXPENSE AS**

WELL AS THE OVERALL COST OF THE SYSTEM WOULD BE PAID FROM ARPA FUNDS.

12. Budget Note 27) Why is \$20,000 required to be paid to the County Sherrif for typical patrolling based on residents' complaints? **AS EXPLAINED AT THE MEETING, THIS WOULD BE FOR ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT. THE SHETRIF RECEIVES LIMITED FUNDS FROM THE COUNTY FOR TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT AND PATROLLING. THIS WOULD SUPPLEMENT THAT.** Will residents have any input into the electronic pubic notfication system, sound and video/streaming system designs? **I ASSUME YOU MEAN PUBLIC. PUBLIC COMMENT IS WELCOMED BY THE BOARD ON ANY DECISION MADE BY THE BOARD INCLUDING THESE ITEMS.**
13. Budget line Permits/License – what was the large 2023-24 amount due to? **PERMIT FEES CHARGED FOR THE COMMERCIAL SOLAR PROJECT.**
14. Budget line Other/Grants \$302,630 – Where is this from? **FEDERAL ARPA FUNDS** Doe it fund a specific expenditure item? **SEE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT PROVISION 27.**

Glenn Kowalske, March 18, 2024

REPLIES IN BOLD RED BY JEFF ALBAUGH, TOWNSHIP BUDGET OFFICER