**TORCH LAKE TOWNSHIIP**

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE FY 2022-23 BUDGETS AND THE ANNUAL MEETING**

**Tuesday, March 15, 2022**

**Community Service Building**

Present: B. Cook, S. Schultz, K. Windiate, J. Merchant

Absent: A. Martel

Others: None

Recording Secretary: Veronica Beitner

Attendance: 39

Full viewing of Hearing can be located on the website or streamed on YouTube Channel.

**1. Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance** by B. Cook at 6:00 pm

(M/S) B. Cook/J. Merchant motion to open the Public Hearing at 6:02 pm. No Discussion. Passed 4-0. Review of Budget process presented by Supervisor Cook. Torch Lake Township receives 14 cents of every dollar collected. Balance of 86 cents goes outside of the Township. Focus on larger areas of expenses over $5,000, cash flow and concerns for anticipated high costing expenses reviewed. Road projects and related costs reviewed in depth. Revenue down in part to licensing and permits down as prior figures included application fees from Torchport Airpark were significant previous year. Day Park revenue down as well as Cemetery plots. Fire Fund will be up as well as taxes. Fire Chief challenged to obtain a $15,000 grant as many opportunities available. Ambulance fund impacted in the positive due to ALS Certification. Director Bertram also challenged to obtain grant funding. Comp and benefits as related to various aspects of Budget detailed.

**2. Public Hearings for FY 2022-23 Township Budgets:**

A. Township General Fund Budget for FY 2022-2023: Review of Financial Overview provided by Supervisor Cook. Extensive review with corresponding handouts provided. Cash Flow reviewed with significant changes highlighted. Road maintenance repair projects reviewed in addition to ongoing work. Anticipated concerns and budgets addressed. Road Budget possesses significant negative results should Millage not be passed. Opportunity to use COVID money if needed in areas such as the Road Fund.

B. Fire Special Assessment District Fund Budget and Millage levy for FY 2022-2023 – 1 Mill for FY 4.1.22 to 3.31.23

C. Ambulance Special Assessment District Fund Budget and Millage levy for FY 2022-2023 1.85 Mill for FY 4.1.22 to 3.31.23.

D. Road Budget FY 2022-2023: Note that this Budget begins in the red. Proposed rate of 1 Mill for FY 2022-2023 based upon the vote of the citizens. FY 4.1.22 to 3.31.23.

E. State Liquor Fund Budget for FY 2022-2023: Proposed budget reviewed. No Millage attached.

F. Torch Bay Nature Preserve Fund 2022-2023: Proposed budget reviewed. No Millage attached.

3. Close Budget Hearings: (M/S) B. Cook/S. Schultz Motion to close the Budget Hearing. No Discussion. Passed 4-0.

4. Public Comment: T. Stillings, S. Golden Beach Dr spoke to Salary Changes of 4%. R. Bishop, Wood Special Dr. spoke to Budget concerns and state of overall economy. Highlights the salary increases in today’s financial climate. J. Kulka – San Marino Trail thanks Supervisor Cook for his budget presentation and clear handouts. Spoke to Budget concerns when deficits anticipated. M. Friend – Royal View spoke to Trustee and Clerk Salary. Requests clarification for Trustees salaries being voted on together. Requests clarification of employee’s listed under the Clerk’s office which includes the Deputy Clerk and Recording Secretary.

(M/S) J. Merchant/K. Windiate Motion to close the Budget Hearing at 6:38 pm.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Veronica Beitner and subject to approval at the next scheduled meeting.