TORCH LAKE TOWNSHIP

ANTRIM COUNTY, MICHIGAN

DRAFT MINUTES OF 2013-14 BUDGET HEARING

MARCH 23, 2013

COMMUNITY SERVICE BUILDING

TORCH LAKE TOWNSHIP

Present: Martel, Schultz, Goossen, Amos & Windiate

Absent: None

Audience: 9 + (2 non- resident)

1. Meeting convened at 9:00 AM followed by the pledge to the flag.
2. Public Hearing for 2013-14 Budgets was opened at 9:00 AM. Martel took the opportunity to thank the Board for their work with him on budgets. It was a good opportunity for conversation. He also mentioned that this is the first time there is a Road Fund Budget due to the voted levy of .25 mills.
3. General Fund: The building loan payment line has been increased, and the mortgage will now be paid monthly rather than with one annual payment. The Board will also look into possibly making an additional payment later in the year. The balance on the building is $244,350. Also $50,000 budgeted for playground equipment at the Day Park. A new line item has been dedicated to upcoming maintenance and repair for the CSB.
4. Fire Special Assessment District Fund: Money has been budgeted for a cross-trained EMS/Fire Fighter position, which will be created as an additional emergency employee to man the building from 6 am to 6 pm Monday through Friday. A job description still needs to be created and interviews will follow. The department continues to look into mutual aid with Central Lake and Milton Townships. There are plans to purchase a pickup truck and skid to handle smaller brush and grass fires, and can also be used to pull the new rescue boat.
5. EMS Special Assessment District Fund: Currently, the department cannot support the expense of an in-house ALS employee. We work with Elk Rapids and North Flight when an ALS intercept is needed. Ditlow is inviting surrounding EMS and Fire departments to meet to discuss ways we can work together more efficiently to serve the residents of our townships.
6. Liquor Fund: Monies in this fund can only be spent on liquor inspections.
7. Road Fund: In 2012 election, the voters approved a 5 year Road Fund of .25 mills. This year we will finish the crack fill and seal started last year. The fund balance that will carry over will be for repair of Birchview in 2014-15.
8. Public Hearing was closed at 9:50 AM.
9. Recess called until after Annual Meeting of Electors.
10. Meeting resumed at 10:48 AM.
11. There was no Public Comment.
12. Discussion/Action:
13. General Fund Budget: The **Motion** by Goossen to approve the 2013-14 GF Budget, as prepared, was seconded and passed 5-0.
14. Fire Fund Budget: The **Motion** by Goossen to approve the 2013-14 FF Budget, as prepared, with tax levy of .8 mills (.0008) was seconded and passed 5-0 roll call vote.
15. EMS Fund Budget: The **Motion** by Amos to approve the 2013-14 EMS Budget, as prepared, with tax levy of 1.45 mills (.00145) was seconded and passed 5-0 roll call vote.
16. Liquor Fund Budget: The **Motion** by Schultz to approve the 2013-14 Liquor Fund Budget, as prepared, was seconded and passed 5-0 roll call vote.
17. Road Fund Budget: The **Motion** by Goossen to approve the 2013-14 Road Fund Budget, as prepared, with a tax levy of .25 mills (.00025) was seconded and passed 5-0 roll call vote.
18. Board Commentary: Schultz asked about next year’s annual meeting date. It was decided it was acceptable to include it in the meeting date list created by the Board in December and can wait until then to determine the actual date. Martel again thanked the Board for their work with him on the Budget. Also, in regard to township government, it keeps government close to the people.
19. There was no Public Comment.
20. With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

These Minutes are respectfully submitted and are subject to approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Kathy S. Windiate

Township Clerk