

Minutes – Shields Township Board of Trustees  
Special Budget Workshop Meeting November 17, 2022

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STATE OF ILLINOIS, )  
Lake County,        )  
Town of Shields    )        SS.

THE TOWN BOARD OF SHIELDS TOWNSHIP held a Special Budget Workshop Meeting on November 17, 2022, at 5:45 p.m.

<b>PRESENT</b>	Jeff Urso	Supervisor
	Tammy Bryan	Clerk
	Brady Andersen	Town Trustee
	Matt Garrity	Town Trustee
	David Weil	Town Trustee
	Kathryn Walker-Eich	Town Trustee

- I. **Meeting Called to Order** - Supervisor Urso called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call** – All present.
- III. **Public Comment** – None
- IV. **FY2023-2024 Budget Workshop** –
  - a. **Road District** – Mr. Rogers – Next year’s expenditures – recommendation max levy, road district will always be underfunded – raising the average taxpayer about 1 dollar or less. It is grossly underfunded to keep up with things. May have large Band-Aids to help with that issue going forward.
  - b. **Levy** – 4.99 max before lockbox, if you are at 5% you have to put a notice in the paper in case if anyone contests, do not need the hearing before the hearing. CPI is about 8%. Do we know of any other township – everyone is about 4.99.
  - c. Do our numbers make sense for us? In our budget. Some things, from salaries, moved to staff, legal went up, roadside – our equipment is dated, the some roads are down to gravel. The midsize truck 99, large 05 pickup is 04. This should have been dealt with over the past 15 years, but ideas to lengthen for trucks over the next 3-5 years, some repairs, about 30K over all 3 trucks to extend maybe another 5 years. Do we want to rebuild our road district or sub-out? We need to discuss and look at.  
We do too much landscaping, grass-cutting in the summer, we do lawns and do not need to, we need to send letters over the winter, and address those properties and only mow what we need to know. Will have bid packet and published in paper to the areas in mowing season, which is 35 weeks and can mow 18 week, every other on these

properties. Work release program in the county, public service hours, can get some of them, we can take advantage of using them. That is an option to sub out. We have 1 ft employee and 2 other individuals, we can call in 1 day at a time for part time work. This would take Rob out of mowing schedule. We would not need to change out mower or buy gas. This could change the district. Andre Osbourne and has mechanical skills and maybe some repairs, so we don't have to pay higher rates, he was able to replace and fix them. Charlie Wilson, retired and plows part time along with Andre. The area between the property line and township road, I can call township and state I don't want to mow, and the township can mow it. Most homeowners will, on Safford and Birch, owned by a county employee, refuses to mow. We can create an ordinance, but we can try to amicably talk to homeowner to take care of their own and maintain from property line and the road. The states attorney refuses to prosecute. Green Ave has always been maintained, points of intersections that is under the townships prevue. Quadrants were placed out to bid and done much more price efficient if we price it out. And then let rob do more productive things instead of lawns.

The max on the roadside is 4.99%- Road is under 1 levy, is different on how you can move monies around.

Warren Dixon proposal- need to address all properties including land next year.

He did all the reviews, about 325 res appeals, Warren has a form taxpayer fills out and between Karl, Lisette and Warren. Taxpayer complains taxes are too high. Scott Helton puts value on them, the value of them home is okay, it's the taxes is what they are protesting. After reviewed, nobody bothered to appeal, they were glad they had proper value of the residence.

Permitting, some townships are over a year behind, Warren Dixon is set up, better than county, and he has everything to review and the amount of fieldwork we do now is minimal – which is a big help to the office, as a second opinion which helps. We are equalizing on a yearly basis instead of quad. North Chicago, by previous assessors, did not assess the proper values and Assessor Helton did a good job over the years.

Discount if paid contracting invoice: 3 year contract, we can engage in a 3 year contract. Proposal is per year average 78,867, if we did 2 installments of 150 + 86, if pay annually, 109,2 each year. Trustee Walker-Eich asked Why front end loading on the contract, maybe make a counter offer to Warren Dixon? We have fiduciary responsibility to our taxpayers. He would be getting everything more upfront. The final year, there would be no payment, it could go south. Maybe front load, each year, not 2 years upfront. In contract also bring up Scott Helton if he retires, do we have 156 cash we do have in coffers. –Just for discussion. Try to get spread out a little better. When is his contract up? Get a quadrennial with options.

The roads are the driving force.

Based on 2022 max levy 4.99% increase CPI estimated \$66,379.14 increase, 2022 extension would be \$1,399,000 estimate.

- V. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Urso. Motion to adjourn Trustee Garrity, second motion Trustee Walker-Eich, Meeting adjourned.