

Patterson Township Board of Commissioners

Work Session

Monday, December 11, 2023 4:00 p.m.

Attendants:

Commissioner Wagoner

Commissioner Kristian

Commissioner Bartoe

Commissioner Kretschman

Township Secretary Milnes

Chief Stanislawski

Will Hammer

Denise Simone- Mockenhaupt (Via Phone)

Items discussed:

- Commissioner Wagoner advised the Board of Commissioners of Commissioner Inman's passing on December 5, 2023. Brief discussion on the process for filling the vacancy was held.
- Denise Simone from Mockenhaupt presented the benefits package from Municipal Benefit Services. Denise advised that the quote she provided is for 11 months, February 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024. She advised that due to timing she is not able to offer a January 1 start date. Discussion occurred regarding the pricing structure for each plan. She advised that Highmark follows the Blue Cross Blue Shield network outside of Pennsylvania and internationally and UPMC follows the Cigna Network outside of Pennsylvania and internationally for in-network coverage and billing purposes. Chief Stanislawski asked for clarification regarding the out-of-pocket maximums. Denise advised that the current medical plan has no out-of-pocket maximum for the employee and/or family, however, the proposed plan would limit the maximum amount that the employee and/or family would have to pay for services not covered under the plan, copays, and prescription copays. Both the current plan and the proposed plan have no deductibles for in-network providers. Commissioner Kristian asked about what type of Trust the new plan would be in and was advised that this is a trust which includes municipalities, municipal authorities, and other government employees. Denise will provide a breakdown of how future rates will be calculated. There was also a brief discussion regarding the provided proposals for Vision and Dental coverage.
- Commissioner Wagoner advised that all Commissioners and 2 incoming Commissioners were provided with a copy of the legal update regarding amending the agenda.
- Commissioner Wagoner advised that she will be joining the team for the holiday decorating contest.
- Commissioner Wagoner advised that the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer pay has not been increased in 10 years, as such she will be presenting a resolution at the monthly

meeting with a suggested increase – a brief discussion occurred with regard to duties of Treasurer and the value in increasing this salary line.

- Commissioner Wagoner advised that former employee, Rick Smith's, daughter passed; she noted the viewing times for those in attendance.
- Commissioner Kretschman advised that salaries for the Public Works Department are under those in neighboring municipalities, he advised that he would like to make a recommendation to increase wages for this department – discussion occurred. Commissioner Kretschman advised he would be making the following recommendation at the meeting: to increase the foreman's rate of pay by \$1/hour upon completion of the LTAP approved training program and an additional increase if \$1/hour upon certification as a waste water system operator. Commissioner Kretschman advised he would also like to look at long term scale for longevity for this department. Commissioner Wagoner advised that all positions should be looked at with the position in mind and not the individual who is currently holding the position.
- Commissioner Kristian advised that he will be seeking quotes to have the carpets in the Office and Police Department cleaned. He will provide a recommendation to the Board once the quotes have been received.
- Commissioner Bartoe reviewed his agenda items and advised that there will be a third reading of the budget at Thursday's monthly meeting.
- Commissioner Wagoner asked about the status of Ross Hill Road. Commissioner Kretschman advised that he has spoke with representatives from Beaver Falls and was advised that the determination was made that the cause of the accidents was operator error, however they are looking into ways to improve the road; due to current weather conditions, this has been placed on hold until spring. Commissioner Kretschman advised that he did have the Public Works Department purchase a "Road Closed Ahead" sign to be placed at the back of the car wash parking lot.
- Meeting ended at 6:33 p.m.

End of Meeting