

HANOVER TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

October 15, 2025
6:00 P.M.

Present: Councilmen Lawlor, Rossi, Woolley, Paulus; Kevin Chimics, P.E.;
Melissa A. Wehr; Josef Fragnito; Audrey Anderson

Absent: Heimbecker

Attendance: 1

Courtesy of the Floor: None

New Business:

1. Public Hearing – Proposed 2026 Operating, Capital, Liquid Fuels, Water and Sewer Budgets (Review and Discussion)

Chairman opened the Public Hearing.

Manager reviewed the highlights of the Proposed 2026 Budgets as follows:

Liquid Fuels - this is the State Allocation and the turnback monies for the Revenue. Street Lighting is paid out of this fund. We are projecting a net of approximately \$6,000.

Water Fund – remains relatively the same. Expenditures are slightly higher than in 2025. We put an extra \$100,000 into Capital Reserve for projects and we increased the amount of the LCA Water Rentals for \$25,000.

Sewer Fund - the Beginning Balance is slightly less. Utilities we increased slightly because of some costs rising as well as the rising costs of material and supplies. Equipment is starting to get old. We added an extra \$5,000 to make sure that we are covering any unexpected expenses.

Capital Reserve Fund - We are projecting a Beginning Balance of \$1,700,000. The proposed changes are as follows hitting on the highlights.

Sinkholes/Storm Water Projects. We originally proposed \$175,000. We would like to increase it to \$425,000. We had Future Roads at \$700,000 and would like it increased to \$1,200,000. These two changes adds \$1,000,000 to Capital Funds. We anticipate doing the storm water sewer lining for sinkholes under this project and the reconstruction of Grove Road. Public Works Vehicles originally was at \$50,000. We would like to increase this to \$150,000. We are looking to replace one of the pickup trucks next year due to the number of repairs it has needed.

General Fund - One notable change is with the Local Services Tax. The prediction from our Tax Collector, Berkheimer Associates, increases it by \$25,000 from this year, which falls under our Revenue. Everything else this year is roughly around the same cost. We predicted \$2,500,000 for Business Privilege Tax, we have exceeded that amount at this time. We kept it a conservative number for the future not knowing what it will bring in.

In Bank Interest, this year we projected \$30,000 and next year we are decreasing it to \$25,000. We've included the D&L and Sherwood Park Grants under here as well.

We increased the Subdivision and Land Development filing projections coming in due to a couple larger projects happening.

Investments on Interest are being increased by approximately \$15,000 due to PLGIT which is doing very well in comparison to the bank.

Dividends. Based upon what we received this year, its up slightly higher. The Traffic Signal reimbursement is slightly lower bringing it more in line with what was being spent over the last couple years.

Council Salaries was increased based on where it will go after elections with the referendum. Only three Council members out of the five will be eligible for the increase depending on the outcome of the referendum at elections. The remaining two members will have to wait until their election cycle starts again in 2028.

General Engineering was increased slightly due to the proposed Sherwood Park renovations.

Fire-Building Material & Maintenance was increased slightly due to the age of the building.

Recreation-Maintenance was increased from \$50,000 to \$60,000 to keep up with the maintenance due to things getting older and more expensive. Utilities was increased slightly due to rising costs.

Misc-Employee Health/Dent/Vision slightly increased due to family life changes that have occurred and we will be adding one new employee.

Misc-Contingencies was increased from \$80,224.96 to \$91,781.94.

Manager mentioned that she and staff has put in a lot of thought, effort and time to present this Budget as a balanced Budget with no tax increase. It is interesting to note that today we are proposing an \$8,800,000 Budget when back in 1988, the Budget was at \$734,510 and the rate of the mileage was 2 mills. We are presently only at an 1/8th of a mill to date and doing more with less. Tax bills for the Township for 2025 there are 595 tax bills going out. In face value of the local tax bills we collect \$46,561.37. Most of the funds we receive is from the Business Privilege Tax, LST and EIT taxes. Out of the 595 tax bills, 161 are commercial and 434 are residential.

At this time, employee salaries were discussed. It was proposed that employee salaries would be increased from 2.5% to 4.0% as requested by the Manager.

Courtesy of the Floor: None.

Chairman closed the Public Hearing.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa A. Wehr
Township Manager