

HANOVER TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

July 16, 2025
6:00 P.M.

Present: Councilmen Heimbecker, Lawlor, Paulus, Rossi, Woolley; Melissa Wehr; Audrey Anderson; Josef Fragnito

Absent: 0

Attendance: 1

Courtesy of the Floor: None

New Business: Public Hearing Five-Year Capital Program 2026-2030 (Review and Discussion)

The Township Manager opened the Public Hearing. She, Staff and Engineer got together and projected the next five years and put together the Five-Year Capital Program for the years 2026-2030. At this time, she reviewed the highlights.

Sinkhole/Miscellaneous Stormwater Projects. For 2026, we are projecting to appropriate \$175,000. We are looking at a few projects, including stormwater sewer lining on Upper Lloyd Street, MS4-related expenses, and some unanticipated costs which are explained on the accompanying documentation included with the Capital Program.

For the years 2027-2030, we will hold off on the MS4 projects until we receive what we need from DEP. We don't have anything projected for this time frame until we receive more direction from DEP regarding what the MS4 requirements.

Traffic Congestion and Improvements. We are looking to appropriate \$200,000 from the General Fund for this program. The projects include year 2 LPR cameras, replace two LED speed limit signs, traffic signal box and general traffic signal upgrades and any unanticipated costs.

Future Roads and Construction. We are projecting to appropriate \$500,000 for 2026 through 2030. In 2026, our projects include Grove Road reconstruction adding storm sewer cold in place recycling and curbing projected the project at \$1,500,000. There is a little cushion in there for unanticipated costs. With this project, we are adding curbing, however, we stopped the curbing when you get up to the eastern end of Grove Road on the northern side where the repair garage is located because it is very open there with them coming in and out. The Public Works Supervisor and Engineer walked it and thought it best to keep it open.

Catastrophe Fund. We are projecting to appropriate \$25,000 for the year 2026 and also years 2027 through 2030. This is a unique program. If we don't spend anything out of this Program in three consecutive years, then we have to drain the account for that and take it down to zero and start it over the next year with whatever amount Council projects

they want to put in there. Currently, as of today, we have \$561,000 in this Program. At the end of the year, I will need direction from Council what we want to start Catastrophe at over the next year. My recommendation is that I would not want to take it down to zero. I don't think we have to put \$561,000 back into it. We do need to make a decision what to start with. Keep in mind it is Catastrophe. If something happens, you want to have the funds there. I think \$400,000-\$500,000 is a comfortable number to put in this Program for next year. Council agreed to start this Program over at \$250,000 for 2026.

Township Parks. We are projecting to appropriate \$150,000 over the next five years. For 2026, the projects we have are the D&L Trail Grant until it is completed, replacing the split rail fence and retaining wall at Canal Park, basketball court and pickleball court at Sherwood Park which we have grant funds for, a gazebo and fence at Sherwood Park and any unanticipated costs that may arise.

Fire Apparatus. We are keeping with the appropriation of \$243,295 over the next five years. I included for the projects is the replacement of the radios. Council decided to go with the five-year program through the County with a zero percent interest rate.

Public Works Vehicle Replacement. We are projecting to appropriate \$200,000 for the year 2026 and \$150,000 for years 2027 through 2030. The planned purchases in 2026 include two riding lawn mowers and any unanticipated costs that would arise. From 2027 through 2030, we are looking to replace the backhoe, street sweeper and a utility truck. I am looking to Council for guidance as to what they would like to see for replacing vehicles in the future for budgeting purposes.

Building Maintenance. For year 2026, we are projecting to appropriate \$525,000 and for years 2027 through 2030 \$300,000 into the Municipal Building Maintenance Fund. For 2026, our projects include upgrading the phone system, replace two doors and hardware at the Postal Road facility, retaining wall landscaping here at the Township Building, upgrading the gate at the Postal Rd. facility, LED lighting upgrades here at the Township Building. I will look into possibly obtaining a grant to cover the costs of the LED upgrades.

Sewer. For 2026 through 2030, we are projecting appropriating \$500,000 into the Sewer system funds. Projects planned for 2026 include pump station upgrades at Station 3, lining of the existing sanitary sewer line on Marcon Blvd. and Airport Road and some unanticipated costs to the sewer system.

Water. We are projecting to appropriate \$250,000 in 2026 with \$150,000 for the years 2027 through 2030. For 2026, our projects include the insulation of two main line water isolation valves on Airport Road and any other unanticipated costs.

The Chairman closed the Public Hearing for the Capital Program.

Courtesy of the Floor:

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa A. Wehr
Township Manager