

ECAC Meeting Minutes January 9, 2023

Present ECAC Attendees: Tom McGurk, Sarah Henry, Hal Ward (via Zoom), Pete Motel, Michael Novak, Alessandra Nicolas

Absent ECAC Members: Bob Winters

Township Staff: David Fiorenza

Present Board of Supervisors Liaison: Erik Unger

Called Meeting To Order- Tom McGurk

Regular Business

Consideration of November 14, 2022 Minutes- Approved, with minor corrections

Welcome New Member – Michael Novak

Schematic Design Discussion-

Costing of project has begun and reasoning was discussed. The numbers that were offered were \$20 million, with \$15.4 for the project itself. The original idea of contingency was a 10% variable to account for inflation. The actual variation provided was 25%.

The BOS felt that it would merit going back and analyzing different tranches of costs because the cost would be too high at that level. The supervisors also suggested revisiting prior contingency plans, and rethinking using existing office space given current market conditions.

Among the suggestions made were separating police administration and police operations, and asking for various iterations at different price points.

It was requested that HSA have a workshop to prioritize absolute needs vs wants, with police needs as primary driver. This will be presented at next week's BOS meeting, where approval will be sought for a date TBD for the workshop.

ECAC Projects 2023 – Alternative Revenue Sources

David Fiorenza identified several specific areas that could contribute to the general fund (EIT, Local Services Tax, occupation tax, per-capita tax, amusement tax, payment-in-lieu-of program) and also would make sense administratively. The goal is to be both fair and equitable, to be sensitive to bond rating considerations. David proposed requesting initiating a consulting firm to explore these contingencies. This was last done in 2009. This would not mean definitively implementing such taxes, but would fulfil the need to explore impacts. Also suggested was the need for a detailed communications effort to the public.

It was requested that the township would engage an external consulting organization to make recommendations, and the ECAC would explore options.

Fee In Lieu of Sidewalks – McMahon Report November 2018

David Fiorenza: McMahon findings report is believed to be reliable for continued use in budgeting.

Public Comment- None

Next regularly scheduled meeting is February 13 2023 at 6:15 PM

Conclusion & Adjournment