

Special Meeting
Adoption of Ordinance No. 3-2019 – Repeal of Shenango Township Light Tax
December 12, 2019

A special meeting of the Shenango Township Board of Supervisors was held on Thursday, December 12, 2019, at 6:15 p.m. at the Shenango Township Municipal Building, with Supervisors Frank Augustine, Albert Burick, III, and Brandon Rishel present.

Present at the Meeting:

Bill Cheslock
Dan Bailey
John Colella

Barbara Thompson
Mike Doerfler

The purpose of the meeting was for the Adoption of Ordinance No. 3-2019, Repeal of the Shenango Township Light Tax.

The meeting was called to order and opened with a salute to the flag.

Solicitor Lou Perrotta asked if there was any public comment regarding Adoption of Ordinance No. 3-2019, Repeal of the Shenango Township Light Tax.

Mike Doerfler, Summerlin Drive, said he feels it is unfair for residents to comment until they hear what the ordinance is about. Mr. Rishel said it is just a hearing, they are not voting at this time.

Solicitor Lou Perrotta said the purpose of public comment is for residents to say whether they are for or not for the ordinance.

Mr. Rishel said the supervisors are proposing a 0.4 mill increase in property tax, which is \$40.00 for every \$100,000.00 of assessed property value. Mr. Rishel said the purpose is to work towards growth in the community, repeal township building fees for the year 2020, other than inspection fees. Solicitor Perrotta reminded everyone it is not on the agenda. Mr. Rishel said there has never been better road in the township than now and it came strictly from selling the sewer system.

Bill Cheslock, Old Princeton Road, said everyone uses all the roads and it is to make the community safer.

Mr. Rishel said the last time Shenango Township had a tax increase was 2010 and the supervisors are at this time asking for a 0.4 tax mill increase. The supervisors are planning to budget \$35,000.00 per year for lighting, beginning in 2020 with the first ten new lights, with a goal of lighting up every intersection with a stop sign.

Mr. Augustine said the roads also need to be maintained.

Dan Bailey, Edwin Drive, thanked the supervisors for their explanation and said he is convinced this the right thing to do and he supports this.

Mike Doerfler asked if the lights would be LED, to which the supervisors replied that it is mandated by the state. Mr. Doerfler asked if the township was familiar with Act 3129, to which the supervisors responded that they have done that with other lights in the township. Mr. Doerfler asked if the supervisors have talked about a performance contract. Solicitor Perrotta said there would be significant outlay for that. Mr. Doerfler said you may want to look into it, and he is now 100 percent for what the supervisors are doing.

Ms. Thompson asked if the residents will be reassessed in the near future. Mr. Rishel said that is up to the county.

John Colella, Old Pittsburgh Road, asked what a 0.4 mill tax increase would amount to yearly. Mr. Rishel said about \$150,000.00 per year, and the rest of the money would then be put back into the capital for road maintenance, and the plan at this time is to put up ten streetlights per year.

Dennis Sapanero, Fields Drive, said he is not opposed to pay more to make the community better.

Motion by Mr. Augustine second by Mr. Rishel to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.