Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors

Budget Work Session

June 3, 2025

In Attendance:

Board of Supervisors: Chairman, Jennifer Herring, Vice-Chairman, Barbara N. Lyons, Dan Wood, Nancy Santacecilia and Judy Dixon.

Finance Committee: Eric Cornwell, Chairperson, Michael Ivcic, Vice-Chairman, and members, Christina Maida, and Jason Showmaker.

Township Staff: Township Manager, Stephanie Mason, Assistant Township Manager, Andrea Mergner, Finance Director, Ken Wallace, Assistant Finance Director, Anne Marie Dobson, Director of Operations, Dave Tomko, Director of Parks & Recreation, Karen Sweeney, Program Manager Cortnie Jones, Township Budget Analyst, Ed Ebenbach, and Police Chief Charles Zeigler.

Ms. Herring welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Ms. Dobson provided a summary of the 2024 budget highlights and presented the preliminary results of the 2024 operations.

Ms. Dobson presented the 2026 capital planning and discussed prior millage plans. She summarized the Townships current standing with debt services, grants and use of reserves.

The Board discussed offsite money which comes from developers and grants. Ms. Dobson stated that the grants create a cashflow constraints with the engineering and construction costs.

Ms. Santacecilia asked about the cost associated with the engineering for the county club trail and since the Township is taking a pause on trails, why is this one still listed. Mr. Tomko and Ms. Mason stated that the Township has an easement from the County Club.

Ms. Mason noted that the Township is sometimes awarded grants several years after the original application.

Mr. Tomko explained that while this was not done in the past, moving forward the Township will include a 20% escalation in project estimates as part of a cost escalation or inflation contingency.

Ms. Dobson stated that the Finance Department recommends the Township take a pause in capital spending and establish a long-term funding strategy. She noted that any capital projects not considered essential for safety could be deferred to 2027, allowing the Board time to evaluate priorities. She requested the Board's consensus on this approach. The Board expressed support for the recommendation. Additionally, she stated that the recommendation includes a mileage increases to fund capital in 2026.

Mr. Ivcic inquired about the interest rate. Mr. Wallace responded that the rate with PLGIT is between 5.35% and 5.5%. He added that the CD rate was similar, around 5.0% to 5.25%, which is why the Township's investments performed so well in 2024.

Ms. Santacecilia asked about cost analysis for the recreation center and if the Township has partners and programs.

Mr. Ebenbach stated that the Parks and Recreation Department presented a 2026–2029 plan to the Board outlining the cost and potential revenue sources.

Ms. Dobson stated that the Finance Department recommends formally closing the off-site fund through a resolution and aligning it with a financial policy for clearer discussions around overall revenues and expenses. The Board of Supervisors agreed with this approach.

Meeting adjourned at 6:04 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie J. Mason,

Secretary