

Makanda Township Financial Planning Advisory Committee Meeting (FPAC)
Fire Station #2—Entrance from Giant City Road
APRIL 22, 2025
TIME: 4:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Members present:** Rollie Perkins, Debbie Stanley, Fred York, Josh Lipe, Jim Crane, Jill Adams, Dawn Crimson
3. **FPAC Comments/Announcements/Reports**
 - a. Date of next FPAC meeting
4. **Additions to the Agenda:**
5. **Approval of the Agenda – AFFIRMATION.**
6. **Public comments on Agenda items** [three minute time limit per speaker].
7. **Approval of Minutes of the February 18, 2025 FPAC Meeting – Discussion if needed, AFFIRMATION.**
 - a. Under 9.c.v. The final sentence read, “Fred thought the Capital Fund could contain 2.5 times the annual revenue.” Fred was not referring to Capital Funds but was referring to Township Funds (Town Fund, Fire Protection, etc.) The minutes will be changed to reflect Fred’s comment.
8. **Vote on Proposals:**
 - a. Proposal for date of FPAC meetings going forward
Summary:

In our inaugural meeting on October 15, 2024, it was decided that monthly meetings would be chosen on a month-to-month basis. A regular meeting date should be chosen.

Recommendation: The monthly FPAC meeting will be held on the third Tuesday of each month at 4 pm at Fire House #2.
 - b. Proposal to reorder the FPAC Agenda
Summary:
 1. The present agenda has placed FPAC Comments/Announcements/Reports as #3 on the agenda. This item will be used to continue topics from previous meetings that need work or clarification.
 2. Discussions, which could be lengthy, will take place before the agenda itself has been finalized through agenda items 4-6 (Additions to the agenda, Approval of the agenda, and Public comments on the agenda).**Recommendation:**

The present agenda item #3 will be moved below present agenda item #6, and the new order will be:

 - # 3 Additions to the agenda
 - #4 Approval of the agenda
 - #5 Public comments on agenda items
 - #6 FPAC Comments, etc.

9. Free Discussion Topics:

- a. Jill's discussion with Liz Stenson and Sara Lipe regarding a dedicated levy for the Fire Department
- b. Go over questions to Sara from our February 18, 2025 FPAC Meeting and her answers. See below (Please note that I did not receive answers from Clay Kolar.)
- c. What are the priorities for FPAC for the coming year?

10 Public Comments [three minute time limit per speaker]

11. Adjournment – AFFIRMATION.

Questions to Sara from February 18, 2025 meeting:

1. The Committee had a long discussion about the movement of funds from Town to Fire Protection and vice versa, Road and Bridge money to other town funds, creation of capital funds within Road and Bridge, and other questions regarding the movement of funds. Do you have a simplified answer or mechanism for these kind of transfers? Or rather, do you have a resource we could go to for these answers. The Committee believes we will need guidance on this in the future.
2. How is the incoming tax money apportioned to the Town and to the Fire Department? Is this automatic? Is it an ordinance of the Township that gets translated into the tax levy?
3. Does the Fire Department need Board approval, and/or Township Annual Meeting approval, to move any money into or out of the Fire Protection Capital Fund?
4. Are there any restrictions regarding a maximum balance to be held in any town funds? For example—can the Fire Protection account balance grow indefinitely if there were annual operating surpluses?
5. Would any Capital account balance limitations be affected by having a township policy as to what those funds are intended to cover in the future? (replacement roof, new apparatus, etc.)

Answers from Sara regarding questions from the February 18, 2025 meeting:

1. IL law allows govt bodies to set aside money for a large purchase that ordinarily wouldn't be accommodated in a normal year. See #3
2. The levies passed by the Board are sent to the County and the County apportions the levy among the property owners and estimated assessed valuation (EAV). The property tax collected by the County is then paid to the appropriate fund.
3. The board must declare a surplus in a fund with the purpose of transferring the surplus to another fund. Then the Town Meeting voters decide whether to approve that transfer. If the board doesn't declare a surplus, the Town Meeting voters don't get to decide.
4. IL law allows 2.5 times the amount of the average annual expenses using the previous 3 years to calculate the average in funds that collect property tax. That's why the IL legislature allows govt bodies to create Capital Funds, so that money can be accumulated for big ticket items/projects.
5. When Capital funds are created, the purpose, the amount to be raised (if known) and duration (if there's an end date) are to be identified. If that doesn't answer the question, then I don't understand the question.

