

Several township officials to get raises

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BEDFORD TOWNSHIP COMPENSATION COMMISSION DETERMINATIONS

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEMBERS (PAID VIA GENERAL FUND)

Position	Percent increase	Current salary	Annual increase	Effective 7/1/15	Annual increase	Effective 7/1/16
Supervisor	1.7%/year	\$67,496.00	\$1,147.43	\$68,643.43	\$1,166.94	\$69,810.37
Clerk	2%/year	\$63,650.00	\$1,273.00	\$64,923.00	\$1,298.46	\$66,221.46
Treasurer	2%/year	\$63,650.00	\$1,273.00	\$64,923.00	\$1,298.46	\$66,221.46
Trustees (4)	1.7%/year	\$12,359.00	\$210.10	\$12,569.10	\$213.67	\$12,782.77
Trustees total		\$49,436.00	\$840.40	\$50,279.40	\$854.68	\$51,131.08
Total cost		\$244,232.00	\$4,533.83	\$248,765.83	\$4,618.54	\$253,384.37

Several Bedford Township officials will be receiving raises for the next two years.

The township clerk and treasurer will see a 2 percent salary increase while the supervisor and trustees will see a 1.7 percent increase as determined by the Bedford Township Compensation Commission during its Feb. 8 meeting.

Currently, both the clerk and treasurer make \$63,650 and on July 1, it will be raised to \$64,923.46 and to \$66,221.46 in July, 2016. The supervisor's salary will increase from \$67,496 to \$68,643.43 in July to \$69,810.37 next year. The four township trustees get paid \$12,359 and

their pay will increase to \$12,569.10 in July to \$12,782.77.

The salaries were increased based on inflation since 2008 (when the last two-year raise was granted), the salaries of officials in townships of similar size, such as Ypsilanti Township, and state equalized value to name a few factors. The committee will give a presen-

tation during the April 7 meeting to explain how it determined the raises.

Supervisor Greg Stewart said this modest raise is needed to attract qualified and passionate people to government.

"Quite frankly there are more jobs that pay more money and take up less time," Mr. Stewart

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said. "It's about attracting people that come and see this as a civic duty to be a part of this. There's just an absolute misunderstanding of the complexity and value of the positions that are being held here."

Not all township officials were happy with the raise and Trustee Nancy Tienvieri attempted to reverse the committee's decision by introducing a resolution to reject it during the March 3 township board meeting. To reject the decision, the resolution needed five of seven votes to pass.

"I believe we did get candidates for supervisor, treasurer, clerk, trustee at the salary you're provided," Ms. Tienvieri said. "We get nearly \$13,000 a year, I think that's a good salary and it's more than any other township board in this county."

The resolution failed

COMPENSATION COMMISSION DETERMINATIONS

PARK BOARD MEMBERS (PAID VIA PARK FUND)

Position	Current salary	Annual increase	Effective 7/1/15	Annual increase	Effective 7/1/16
Chairman	\$1,453.14	\$75	\$1,528.14	\$75	\$1,603.14
Secretary	\$1,453.14	\$75	\$1,528.14	\$75	\$1,603.14
Treasurer	\$1,453.14	\$75	\$1,528.14	\$75	\$1,603.14
Trustees (2)	\$974.48	\$75	\$1,049.48	\$75	\$1,124.48
Trustees total	\$1,948.96	\$150	\$2,098.96	\$150	\$2,248.96
Total cost	\$6,308.38	\$375	\$6,683.38	\$375	\$7,058.38

5-2, with Trustee Paul Pirrone also voting in favor of the rejection along with Ms. Tienvieri.

As part of the compensation committee's decision, all park board members will receive a \$75 raise for the next two years as well.

The park board's chairman, secretary and treasurer's salaries will increase from \$1,435.14 to \$1,528.14 to \$1,603.14. The two trustees will have a raise from \$974.48 to \$1,049.48 to \$1,124.48.

By 2016, the total cost from the general fund, where the board members' salaries come from, will go up \$9,152.37 to \$253,384.37 while the cost from the park fund will increase \$750 to \$7,058.38, which Mr. Stewart said was feasible.

"It's not about me ... it's about the position," Mr.

Stewart said of the necessity of the raises.

"This position needs to be compensated so it attracts good people in the future. If that isn't me then that's fine, but whoever comes after me deserves that same understanding that there is value on their time and their efforts," he said.