

Budget

During his report for the end of the year, Dave Simko, fiscal officer of Sylvania Township, said he was again pleased with the effort of department managers and all township employees for keeping expenses down.

He noted that regulations and taxing formulas are used to determine what the township can expect in terms of income, but the area where the township can exert influence on the budget is the day-to-day attention to keeping control of costs.

In some years past, Mr. Simko noted, there had been tensions between the administration and others in the township, but in the last few years there has been a spirit of everyone working with a common purpose.

He said the change is due, in large part to the administration's policy of being completely transparent with employees and their group representatives.

The general fund this year had a surprise increase in revenue due to unexpected revenue from estate taxes. That is an income source which is no longer available, due to a change in state law.

The income resulted in the fund exceeding revenue estimates with a total of 130 percent. The road and bridge fund came in at 103 percent, with the police and fire funds each at 101 percent.

On the expense side, the general fund was at 82 percent, the road and bridge fund was at 80 percent, with the police at 94 percent and the fire account at 95 percent.

Mr. Simko said that the percentage numbers are not the result of over budgeting and that in fact department budgets had been cut at the beginning of the year.

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