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Forks Township supervisors approve 20 percent raise for Zoning Hearing Board attorney Michael Shay

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By TONY NAUROTH

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FORKS TWP. | The township approved a 20 percent raise for the township Zoning Hearing Board attorney, township Manager Richard Schnaedter said Friday.

Solicitor Michael Shay had been earning \$100 an hour when he asked for an increase for this year. His rate for 2009 will be \$120 an hour.

During their Jan. 5 reorganization meeting, supervisors couldn't agree on whether to raise Shay's pay to equal the rate of \$145 per hour paid to their own board's solicitor, Karl Kline.

The vote was a 2-2 tie, with one supervisor absent.

During the discussion preceding the vote, Supervisor Bonnie Nicholas argued, "I like Michael Shay, but I can't see giving him that large an increase when we've increased the tax rate for the residents."

Schnaedter said the board chose a middle road in approving the \$120-an-hour fee.

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