

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING
JANUARY 12, 2016

The monthly meeting of the Longswamp Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Longswamp Township Municipal Building, 1112 State Street, Longswamp Township, Mertztown, Pennsylvania, 7:00 p.m., prevailing time as previously advertised and posted.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG/ROLL CALL

Officials Present: Steve Wyka, Chairman; Michael Sacks, Vice Chairman; Randy Sicher, Supervisor; Jill Nagy, Esquire, representing the Solicitor; David Fatzinger, Treasurer; and Jennifer Wassell-Bonser, Secretary. Jill Smith, representing the Engineer was absent from the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Steve Wyka called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and announced the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of December 8, 2015 and the minutes of the January 4, 2016 Re-Organization Meeting would not take place. Draft copies of those minutes were available in the Meeting Hall.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Mike Sacks made a **motion** approving the Minutes of the regular meeting December 8, 2015 as presented; Randy Sicher seconded the motion. All in favor.

Mike Sacks made a **motion** approving the Minutes of the January 4, 2016 Township Board of Supervisors Annual Re-Organization Meeting as presented; Randy Sicher seconded the motion. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

The Township Treasurer reviewed the Treasurer's Report for the month of December, 2015 as presented for the Board of Supervisor's further review. The Treasurer's Report for the month of December, 2015 indicated \$690,738.15 total Township General Funds for the period; \$626,009.31 total Township Additional Funds for the period; for a total of \$1,316,747.46 in Total Account Funds for the period.

Mike Sacks made a **motion** accepting the Treasurer's Report for the month of December, 2015 subject to further audit; Randy Sicher seconded the motion. All in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Wyka announced the Board is looking to fill vacancies on the Township Zoning Hearing Board. Steve explained the Zoning Hearing Board needs one Member, as well as an Alternate Member to fill the current vacancies and that anyone interested may contact the Township Office.

It was also noted that the Board of Supervisors held an Executive Session prior to the meeting from approximately 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to discuss litigation issues.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Michael Dimon addressed the Board of Supervisors in relation to his concerns about well testing being conducted at Mt. Village Mobile Home Park. Mr. Dimon explained details about problems he has been experiencing with his well over the course of the past year and questioned if the recent testing being done at the Park may be affecting the well on his property. Mr. Dimon noted that he realized the Township was not aware of the recent round of testing being conducted at the mobile home park which may be indicative of prior testing conducted through-out the year without the Township's prior knowledge as well.

Chairman Wyka and Solicitor Nagy both confirmed that Mt. Village Mobile Home Park is required to have a permit for the work being done and confirmed that the Township Codes Enforcement Officer has contacted representatives of the Park. Jill Nagy also noted the importance that the Township receive well drilling/pumping test results as part of the permit approval process.

Chairman Wyka concluded by stating he will provide a point of contact at DEP for Mr. Dimon so he can follow-up with his questions related to the issues he is experiencing with his well.

The Board of Supervisors also provided clarification of the Township's Sewage Management Pumping cycles in response to a question posed by **Mr. Bruce Hall**.

ENGINEERING AND PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Resolution No. 2016-2, Accepting Professional Fee Schedule of Hanover Engineering Associates, Inc.

Mike Sacks made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2016-2, Accepting Professional Fee Schedule of Hanover Engineering Associates, Inc. for 2016; Randy Sicher seconded that motion. All in favor.

SEO REPORT

Chairman Wyka provided a general reminder for the good of the record that Cycle 1 of the Sewage Management Program is now in effect at this time.

LTL Consultants, Ltd. Report for Month of December, 2015

Chairman Wyka reviewed the activities as noted in the Sewage Enforcement Officer's Report for the month of December, 2015.

ZONING AND CODES ENFORCEMENT

LTL Consultants, Ltd. Report for November 30, 2015 to December 23, 2015

Chairman Wyka reviewed the activities as noted in the Zoning and Codes Enforcement Report for the period of November 30, 2015 to December 23, 2015.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Resolution No. 2016-4, Accepting Professional Fee Schedule of Summers Nagy Law Offices

The Township Solicitor noted there is no increase to the Fee Schedule for her services for 2016.

Act 537 Plan Consent Agreement Update

The Township Solicitor reviewed details of the Act 537 Plan Consent Agreement which expires January 21, 2016. Jill Nagy noted that in a recent meeting with DEP attended by representatives of LTL Consultants, herself and Steve Wyka, it was agreed that the Consent Agreement between the Township and DEP would be revised to include two phases. Jill explained the phases would include High Needs Area Cycle 1 (Phase 1) and High Needs Area Cycle 2 (Phase 2). Jill also explained Phase 1 will include new Act 537 Plan contents for consideration by DEP by October 21, 2016 and Phase 2's Plan would be required to be submitted by March 21, 2017. Jill explained the extension would provide time for completion of the pumping and site inspections to be submitted in addition to a response to DEP's previous rejection letter.

Mike Sacks made a **motion** authorizing the Chairman of the Board to sign a revised Consent Agreement between the Township and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection upon finalization; Randy Sicher seconded the motion. All in favor.

RECREATION REPORT

Chairman/Park and Recreation Director, Steve Wyka announced the January Park & Recreation Commission Meeting has been cancelled.

Chairman Wyka also announced a Jigsaw Puzzle Tournament is scheduled for Friday, January 15, 2016 in the downstairs Meeting Room of the Township Building. Steve added the doors for the event will open at 6:30 p.m. with the tournament scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Wyka informed the Board, as well as the audience in attendance, that damage recently occurred to a pavilion roof at Hunsicker's Grove from a dead tree that fell on it. Steve stated the Township Road Crew cut down several dead trees throughout the park around the pavilions in an effort to keep it from happening again in the future. Steve noted there are several large piles of cut wood at the Grove at this time. Steve reviewed the policy previously observed by the County which allowed County employees the opportunity to take any wood cut at the Grove. Steve questioned the Board's consideration of a policy which allows Township employees to have the first opportunity to the available wood and then put the remaining out to bid. Steve noted the proceeds could then be used to offset the cost of stocking fish at Hunsicker's Grove. The Board of Supervisors agreed and authorized the policy and noted that the park shall remain closed in order to keep the park free from vandalism and to deter people from taking the wood until it's removed from the property.

Mike Sacks made a **motion** authorizing a Township Policy allowing Township employees to have the first opportunity to harvested wood at Hunsicker's Grove prior to putting out to bid; Randy Sicher seconded the motion. All in favor.

ROADMASTER REPORT

Public Works Pick-Up Truck

Chairman Wyka informed the Board that the Township Public Works Department will need to utilize State Liquid Fuels funds to purchase a small track loader. Steve noted the cost is estimated to be approximately \$88,000.00 and confirmed the expense will not affect taxes since it will be covered through the Township's State Liquid Fuels Fund Account.

Mike Sacks made a **motion** authorizing the purchase of a small track loader from the State Liquid Fuels account at a cost of approximately \$88,000; Randy Sicher seconded the motion. All in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Appoint New Planning Commission Member

Mike Sacks made a **motion** to appoint Preston Boyer to the Township Planning Commission for a 4-year term ending 2019 due to the previous acceptance of Donald Siegfried's resignation from the Commission; Randy Sicher seconded that motion. All in favor.

Township Staff Perfect Attendance Awards for Year Ending 2015

Chairman Wyka announced Perfect Attendance Awards will be going to Township Staff Members Scott Miller, Lloyd Weller, and Erik Schweitzer for their perfect attendance at work throughout the year ending 2015. The Board recognized the Staff's achievement which entitles them to receive one additional day off with pay in accordance with the Township's Employee Manual Policy.

Employee Request to Carryover 2015 Comp/Vacation Hours into 2016 Vacation Hours

Mike Sacks made a **motion** to approve a request made by Township Employees to carryover accumulated 2015 comp and/or vacation hours to be applied into 2016 vacation hours in accordance with the Township's Employee Manual Policy; Randy Sicher seconded the motion. All in favor.

Approve and Sign Employees Comp Time Agreements for 2016

Mike Sacks made a **motion** to approve the Township Employees Over-Time and Comp Time Agreements for 2016 as submitted; Randy Sicher seconded the motion. All in favor.

Pennsylvania State Police

Pennsylvania State Police Trooper Vince DeAngelo addressed the Board of Supervisors and provided a year-end crime statistics report for the area. Trooper DeAngelo reported there were 607 calls for police service, noting that is 5% of the Department's total calls. Trooper DeAngelo also stated there were no overdose deaths in the Township but noted an increase in aggravated assaults, residential burglaries, and DUI's.

Chairman Wyka informed Trooper DeAngelo that a resident of the Township has relayed concerns about excessive speeding on Stone Avenue. Members of the audience also reported that speeding continues to be a problem on State Street in the vicinity of Walker Road and requested increased police presence in that area as well.

Mr. Dusty Knauss addressed the Board of Supervisors in relation to his concerns of people allowing their dogs to run loose at Hunsicker's Grove. Chairman Wyka stated six signs reading, "All Dogs Must Be On A Lease" are on order at this time for installation at the Grove. The Board agreed that if the signs don't correct the problem, then "No Dogs Allowed" signage will need to be installed.

Mr. Dusty Knauss also requested the Board's authorization to confront anyone on behalf of the Township who he believes is doing something wrong at Hunsicker's Grove. The Board of Supervisors stated they will seek the Township Solicitor's advice in response to anyone acting on behalf of the Township.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Mike Sacks made a **motion** to approve processing for payment, bills totaling \$156,969.09 and transfers totaling \$30,250.88 for the period of December 9, 2015 through January 12, 2016; Randy Sicher seconded that motion. All in favor.

Vote: Mike Sacks; Steve Wyka; Randy Sicher, Yes

ADJOURNMENT

Mike Sacks made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.; Randy Sicher seconded the motion. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer A. Wassell-Bonser
Township Secretary