

Union Township Board of Supervisors  
Monthly Board Meeting  
January 14, 2013

The Board of Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Linda Evans-Boren at 6:57 pm. The meeting was held at the Union Township Municipal Building, 3904 Finleyville-Elrama Road, Finleyville, PA. The pledge of allegiance was recited. Board Members in Attendance by roll call were Steve Parish, Larry Spahr, Linda Evans-Boren, Andrew Tullai and Brenda Cushey. Also in attendance, Dennis Makel-Solicitor, Judy Taylor-Treasurer, Debra Nigon-Secretary. Harold Ivery-Building Code Official and Peter Grieb-Code Enforcement Officer did not attend.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Departmental Reports

The Road Superintendent delivered the road report. There has been no headway in locating the lines on the railroad-owned property. The Road Superintendent mentioned that a salt shed is really needed as any salt left uncovered gets a thick hard crust which makes the salt lumpy and hard to work with, and clogs in the spreaders. He requested that we keep pushing in getting the Nike site turned over to the Township by the Army so that a salt shed can be built on that property.

Mr. Frye discussed repairs needed to the front end loader. Other equipment issues which he mentioned included the Sterling Truck which is out of production. The company will not be making parts in about 6 more years. He asked the Supervisors for a decision on what they would like to do about the truck since we may not be able to sell it when parts are no longer being made. The consensus of the Board was that so much wear and tear is put on the trucks that it is best to keep the Sterling as a backup truck and sell it for parts.

Mr. Frye said that there were some questions about our right-of-way being blocked on Ramage Avenue and, as a result, the Township Engineer was asked to look at the Townships right-of-way in the Elrama Plan of Lots. This confirmed that there is currently a vehicle in our right-of-way. The solicitor advised the Township to send a Notice, certified mail, telling the owner that they must remove it.

**Motion** to authorize the solicitor to send a letter to the Ramage Avenue property owner requesting removal of the vehicle in the Township's right of way.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-Boren-yes, Tullai-yes, Cushey-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Frye also said that half of the lights in the garage are not working and presented a quote for repair. Mr. Parish said that he would like other electrical contractors to be contacted. Mr.

*Board Approved: January 28, 2013*

Frye will contact as many vendors in the Township as possible that do electrical work and ask for quotes using the same specs as the quote provided today.

Mr. Frye said that the tools available in the Township garage is greatly lacking and presented quotes for a basic 540 piece Craftsman tool set and tool box and a set of Milwaukee cordless tools.

**Motion** to approve the tools purchases (prices approximated at: 540 Piece Craftsman tool set for \$940.49, Craftsman tool box for \$299.97, and Milwaukee wireless tools for \$1699.00) not to exceed \$3,000.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-Boren-yes, Tullai-yes, Cushey-yes. Motion carried.

The Road Superintendent was requested to get additional quotes for CO2 detectors and fire detection equipment for the building and garage.

**Motion** to approve the general funds bills presented as of January 14, 2013 in the amount of \$60, 294.13 as presented by the Treasurer, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Andrew Tullai, Second by Larry Spahr

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, but abstaining from anything to do with Finleyville Airport, Spahr-yes, Evans-Boren-yes, Tullai-yes, Cushey-yes. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the codification assessment which was received by the Township last week from General Code as part of the codification process of Township Ordinances. The Board must now decide how to respond to the questions and comments from General Code on our Ordinances, including the Burning Ordinance. Linda Evans-Boren proposed that a workshop be held to review the many comments, some of which are of a legal nature and others which require input from Zoning or the BCO.

**Motion** to schedule and advertise a Workshop to discuss the Codification Assessment and Burning Ordinance on Monday, January 28, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. and Monday, February 4, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-Boren-yes, Tullai-yes, Cushey-yes. Motion carried.

The Township Engineer provided an update on Courtney Hill Road and the possible use of the PennDot Turn-Back Program. Mr. DeiCas said that he and the Road Superintendent and a Supervisor met with the PennDot representative, Rick Skovensky, and viewed the road and improvements necessary. He has not yet heard back from Mr. Skovensky in regard to a determination by Penn Dot on what they would offer the Township for take over of the road and repair of the three slides which also exist on that road.

Mr. DeiCas reviewed a cost comparison on the Act 537 Plans of Jefferson Hills and WESA using the figures the engineer's themselves provided to the Township. The \$40 a month currently being spent on debt service we must continue to charge per residence. What is

variable is the current monthly treatment cost which is currently \$22.00 per month with a cost of \$5.75 for each additional 1000 gallons. Under the WESA upgrade proposal, we would still pay \$62 for 4000 gallons, \$67.75 for 5000 gallons and \$96.50 for 10,000 gallons. Under the Jefferson Hills Proposal (Clairton debt service still unknown), using \$3.25 as the number for treatment cost, the Township would be at \$65.54 for 1000 gallons, 4000 gallons for \$72.04, 5000 gallons for \$75.29, and 10,000 gallons for \$91.54. To those numbers you still need to add whatever debt service would be required for the Clairton upgrade. Based on the figures provided, with the Elrama customers being primarily low-end usage customers, it appears WESA is a better deal. However, if Jefferson Hills is successful in going to Clairton, we would need to build a line from Union Township (1.2 miles) down to WESA for a cost of approximately \$600,000-\$700,000 dollars, which would add another \$10 monthly to each bill. He suggested that the Board talk to Jefferson Hills and tell them why their plan is not the best deal for our customers so that they know that our intention is to stay with WESA. We also need Clairton's debt service numbers towards the expansion of that plant.

Ms. Evans-Boren requested that the staff get tentative dates for a second meeting with Jefferson Hills.

Mr. Cook addressed the Board about missed dates and deadlines for the sale of the property owned by Mary Parish to the Parish's buyer. He requested a tentative deadline and what would occur if that deadline is exceeded. Mr. Makel requested that Mr. Cook call him at 8:30 tomorrow morning to discuss the subject.

**Motion** to hire Cypher and Cypher to conduct the 2012 Audit.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Larry Spahr

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-Boren-yes, Tullai-yes, Cushey-yes. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the COSTARS salt purchase program. The Road Superintendent explained that the Township just took delivery of 300 tons of salt and the purchase commitment is at least 60%, which would mean that we would be committed to 900 ton of the 1500 ton contract. Mr. Parish said that we generally use 60% of the COSTARS contracted amount easily. Last year we took the minimum required. Per the Road Foreman, the Township currently has about 800 tons, including the 300 tons of new salt which was delivered and about half of the 1000 ton the Township had at the beginning of winter has been used.

**Motion** to approve order of 1500 tons of road salt using the COSTARS 2013-2014 program.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-Boren-yes, Tullai-yes, Cushey-yes. Motion carried.

A quote from Elite K-9 for a bullet proof vest for Kyros was discussed. It had come up at a Neighborhood Watch meeting where Kyros was in attendance that the canine had no vest for protection. Ms. Evans-Boren said that she would like the Township to buy the vest for the canine because at least four residents of the Neighborhood Watch group had said that the Township should pay for the vest when they found out that the canine had none. Mr. Parish

Board Approved: January 28, 2013

commented that the dog serves other municipalities and he didn't think that we should pay for the entire vest but that he would agree if each municipality paid their share.

**Motion** to purchase a bullet proof vest from Elite K-9 for the SWRPD canine officer in the sum of \$1021.90.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

Roll call vote: Parish-no, Spahr-yes, Evans-Boren-yes, Tullai-yes, Cushey-yes. Motion carried.

The engineer was consulted to see if we could get a discount on generator maintenance if the same contractor were to quote maintenance for both generators, the pump station and the building generator. The Treasurer will get a quote for the next meeting.

The Treasurer's notary license is expiring. Cost for on-line classes is under \$300. Should Ms. Taylor decide to maintain her notary license, it will be at her own cost for her own personal use. The cost to have the Secretary take on the responsibility for the Township would be \$59 plus E&O insurance and a bond together which is approximately \$300.

**Motion** to approve training for Debbie Nigon to take the classes to become a Notary Public including all fees, classes, insurance, and a bond, not to exceed \$400, for a four-year license.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Larry Spahr

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-Boren-yes, Tullai-yes, Cushey-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Spahr announced that Monongahela and Donora both have made Resolutions to reopen the Monongahela and Donora elementary schools.

**Motion** to go to Executive Session at 8:26 p.m. to discuss litigation involving the Finleyville Airport.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Larry Spahr

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-Boren-yes, Tullai-yes, Cushey-yes. Motion carried.

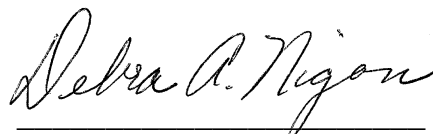
Mr. Parish did not attend executive session.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. The solicitor stated that they discussed the airport issue.

**Motion** to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Larry Spahr

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-Boren-yes, Tullai-yes, Cushey-yes. Motion carried.



Debra A. Nigon, Secretary