

Union Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Board Meeting
November 10, 2014

The Board of Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Larry Spahr at 7:00 p.m. 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 Stephen Parish, Larry Spahr, Charles Trax, and Paul Chasko. Letters of interest are still being sought for the vacant Supervisor position. Also in attendance, Dennis Makel–Solicitor, Mr. Carl DeiCas–Township Engineer, Judy Taylor–Treasurer, Debra Nigon–Secretary, Harold Ivery–Building Code Official, and Peter Grieb–Code Enforcement Officer.

Mr. Spahr acknowledged with a few words our gratitude to all veterans and those currently serving in our military in honor of the upcoming Veteran’s Day holiday.

Public Comment

Mr. LaTorre, Boyka Plan, said that at 7:08 in the morning he is waking up to the sound of a jack hammer. He played a recording of those sounds for the Board. He said that he called on Friday to report the disturbance. Mr. LaTorre said that Tomko is jack hammering and crushing stone and appears to be digging into and taking down the whole hill and wanted to know what work he was authorized to perform. Mr. Makel would like to discuss a possible Ordinance with the Board in Executive Session which could be adopted to restrict construction from Monday to Saturday and at particular times of the day. Mr. Nebash, a resident attending the meeting, said that MSHA regulations would prohibit anyone from doing the type of work described without taking a three day certification course similar to the one he himself just completed.

Joanna Hohman, owner of an LLC that acquired 28 Davidson Avenue at auction, said that the property is the former site of an auto restoration shop, the ground is contaminated, and the DEP has a covenant saying that the site could only be used for a commercial use. The property is currently zoned residential. Also, she is currently in violation of a Township Ordinance for not cutting the grass. She no longer wants this property. There is currently about \$1000 dollars of property taxes due on the property. She said that she came to the meeting to make it known that she is willing to give this property plus cash to anyone who is interested in taking over ownership.

Departmental Reports

Police Report. Officer Schwartz delivered the police report for October. There were 60 shifts of work performed in Union Township which resulted in 6 arrests, 4 criminal complaints, and 2 non-traffic citations. There were no major incidents. The other statistics are detailed in the written report.

Mr. Parish mentioned an issue with lines and arrows on the roads needing to be re-painted in a couple of places near Giant Eagle. Mr. DeiCas will email the Penn Dot pavement regulations

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to the building as guidance to Mr. Banahasky for the re-painting of these lines and arrows. Mr. Parish noted that, in the future, release of bonds should not occur until lines are repainted.

Road Report: Mr. Albert Banahasky, Road Superintendent, provided his report on the activities of the Road Department. A written report was also provided to the Board. Mr. Banahasky said that two weeks ago he marked College Street extension. He said that he was disappointed that it was discussed at the last meeting, which he did not attend, prior to anyone talking to him. He said the crew is currently down to two people because one of the crew is in the hospital.

Mr. Parish said that he believes two road crew workers should be hired so that the crew is not always low on men. Mr. Spahr said that the Board understands the problem; however, experienced individuals are needed who can operate the equipment and so forth and that the resumes which have been collected will need to be reviewed.

Mr. Banahasky asked for permission to order carbide tipped steel blades for the new truck.

Motion to order one set of carbide tipped steel blades for the new trucks from Chemung at a cost of \$656.40.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Paul Chasko

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Spahr suggested to Mr. Banahasky that he and any crew member who requires more practice with any of the equipment spend time practicing at the Nike site with proper supervision and precautions.

Motion to approve general fund bills in the sum of \$25,695.49, as of November 20, 2014, as presented by the Treasurer, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Paul Chasko

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes. Motion carried.

The Microsoft Access Customization Quote was presented by Mr. Grieb. Carrie Fundy, the customization expert, attended to answer any questions. She confirmed that the software will belong to the Township and revision was made to the wording in the quote which had not been clear and a new copy was provided to the Board. Ms. Fundy also confirmed that the system will be able to provide the reporting data in the proper format through the new Washington County web portal.

A demo copy of the software will be available a couple weeks after work begins.

Motion to approve the quote of Carrie L. Fundy, dated October 16, 2014, in the sum of \$3,060 plus the optional conversion of old data at the standard hourly rate of \$85/hour.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Charles Trax

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes. Motion carried.

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Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 04-2014, known as the Jake Brake Ordinance.

Motion by Paul Chasko, Second by Charles Trax

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Banahasky will order signs in accordance with the institution of the new Jake Brake Ordinance. Officer Schwartz asked that SWRPD be made aware when the roads are posted.

Mr. DeiCas reported that a meeting has been scheduled with Emily Shade at the DEP on Thursday, November 13, 2014, at 1:00 p.m. to discuss the sewage issues in the Overlook area. Mr. Parish said that the leaks have been repaired in Mrs. Stich's driveway.

Mr. DeiCas spoke to Mr. Martik about the garage addition interior. His price would be about \$84/per square foot, and the quote is in the sum of \$35,000. The bid includes \$4,500 in cabinetry allowance which Mr. DeiCas said could be reduced. Removing the storage room, which was not in the original estimate, would also reduce the price. Mr. Spahr asked Jefferson Hills Ambulance whether they can use the space as it is. Mr. Gibson of Jefferson Hills Ambulance Service said that it is not possible for the service to currently use the space, but that the storage room can be revisited at some future date if it is cost prohibitive at this point.

Mr. Makel said that he researched issues involving change orders relative to the garage interior. He said that a change order has to be incidental to the original bid. The garage addition structure was \$334,000 dollars. No office space interior was in the bid for the rough building addition. Since the interior work is over \$19,100, which is the bid threshold, the interior project will have to be bid out. Mr. Spahr requested that the engineer prepare the drawings for advertisement. Mr. Gibson explained that Comcast has been at the municipal building to begin work on the necessary internet connections. Mr. Gibson said that having the proper connections in place for the radios and internet would enable Jefferson Hills Ambulance to occupy the premises during the daylight hours. After interior construction, the service can occupy the addition space 24/7. Mr. Spahr asked if there were any objections to Jefferson Hills continuing in the process of getting their internet, radio connections, antennas and other such connectivity and communication equipment in place while the drawings are prepared and interior work is advertised and commenced. There were no objections.

Motion to authorize the engineer to prepare specs for the Garage Addition Interior Improvements Project with alternates for cabinetry and a storage room.

Motion by Charles Trax, Second by Steve Parish

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Makel mentioned the slide repair project on the property of Mr. Corace. Mr. DeiCas said that there is a contractor doing a drainage project in the area who has flag men and the proper equipment for this job. Per the Board's direction, Mr. DeiCas will obtain a quote from the contractor and poll the Board as to whether the Township should contract with them for this drainage issue as well.

Coal Bluff road was discussed. Mr. DeiCas said that, now that the leaves are down, there are additional areas which are really noticeable where sliding is again occurring outside of the

current project area. These areas need material removed from up above the road so that it is not a hazard. Also there is another slide beginning in between those which will need to be dealt with in the future. Mr. DeiCas said that this will be an on-going problem and, either the Township will need to continue investing in this area, or will need to consider making it a one lane road. Mr. Spahr mentioned that it might behoove the Township to close that road or a portion of the road. Mr. DeiCas said that this may be an option the Township must consider in the long run, which would mean closing the middle section where no homes are present and most of the sliding is taking place.

Mr. Spahr mentioned that some excellent resumes were collected for the Road Superintendent position and said that the individuals who have applied have various experience operating equipment. One of the applicants said that he would consider a position on the road crew as well. Mr. Spahr asked if the Board wanted to set up a Workshop to review the resumes. The Board will review the resumes in an executive session the evening of November 17, 2014, on which date a Budget Workshop is also scheduled.

Motion to approve the 2015 Police Services Agreement for 112 hours, fourteen 8-hour shifts per week, at standard rate of \$50 per hour.

Motion by Charles Trax, Second by Steve Parish

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Ivery mentioned that a new house will be constructed on Harvest Lane off of Coal Bluff. He said that the application fee is paid, he has the bond in hand, and has a signed heavy hauling agreement.

Motion to approve the heavy hauling agreement of Strnisha Excavating relative to the building of the new home off Harvest Lane.

Motion by Charles Trax, Second by Steve Parish

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve donations of \$5,000 each to Elrama Fire Department and Finleyville VFD from the Local Share Account.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Charles Trax

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes. Motion carried.

dan | **Motion** to reappoint John [Partezano-Partezana](#) to Planning Commission retroactive to March 3, 2014 for a four-year term.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Charles Trax

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes. Motion carried.

Reminders were provided for the Budget Workshop on November 17, 2014, at 6:30 p.m., during which time the Board will also review the resumes for Road Superintendent in Executive Session. Also a reminder was made for the Tuscany Estates resident meeting scheduled for November 19 at 7:00 p.m.

It was noted that Grossetto Drive in Tuscany Estates needs to have guide rails installed as soon as possible to remedy a safety issue. The installation by the Township would be a

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temporary safety measure until such time as construction continues on that road. One of the Tuscany Estates residents in attendance at the meeting will obtain the names and contact information of the property owners on either side of the street where that street ends so the Township can move forward. The solicitor will petition the court for payment/reimbursement of these costs if necessary.

Mr. Ivery mentioned that there is a small packet of information he received from Washington County Sewage Council asking each Township to adopt resolutions relative to planning modules. He said that the resolution is intended to address the order of inspections and paper work ensuring that an Occupancy Permit is not issued prior to sewage being finalized. Washington County Sewage Council (WCSC) wants put in the loop in regard to inspections and permits. He will provide this packet to the Board for their consideration along with a sample resolution which he is waiting to receive from the WCSC.

Motion to go to Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. to discuss litigation.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Charles Trax

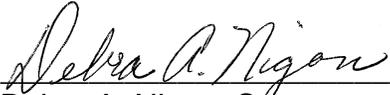
Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes . Motion carried.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:48 p.m. The solicitor said they discussed litigation regarding Tomko.

Motion to adjourn at 8:49 p.m.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Charles Trax

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes. Motion carried.


Debra A. Nigon, Secretary