

Union Township Board of Supervisors
Monthly Board Meeting
July 9, 2012

The Board of Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Linda Evans-Boren at 7:07 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 Stephen Parish, Larry Spahr, Linda Evans-Boren, Andrew Tullai and Brenda Cushey. Also in attendance, Dennis Makel–Solicitor, Harold Ivery–Building Code Official, Peter Grieb–Code Enforcement Officer, Judy Taylor–Treasurer, Debra Nigon–Secretary.

Public Comment

Karen Arlet, 6215 Brownsville Rd. Ext., addressed the Board in regard to the closing of Ringgold Middle School and the reopening of the Monongahela Elementary and Donora Elementary buildings. She stated that she had gathered as many numbers as possible from what was available to the public regarding the costs to accomplish this plan and had created a financial analysis based on an estimate of 28.5 million, which splits the difference between the original estimate received by the school district of 33 million and a subsequent stripped-down cost of 24 million. Using the 28.5 number, she estimated that the taxpayers would lose 3 mil in savings and would suffer a 3 mil increase in operating costs. Ms. Arlet made several requests of the Board: (1) that the Township request an injunction requiring a thirty-year study to prove that the School Board's decision is not financially beneficial to the Township on the basis that the Township stands to lose revenue due to possible decreased property values and decreased home development, and (2) to help residents create a Charter School system. The solicitor suggested that perhaps a public meeting should be held for all concerned citizens and advised Ms. Arlet to have any legal counsel which had been obtained by the residents contact him.

Motion to authorize the solicitor to research filing an injunction in regard to the closing of Finley Middle School.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Andrew Tullai

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

Ms Deborah Stogden, 22 Stout Street, Elrama, voiced complaints about rats which she believes are being drawn to her home by her neighbor's garbage which is being left out all week with no lids on the cans and that there are too many people residing in the home causing issues with parking as well. She also stated that the abandoned homes in the immediate area give harbor to snakes and rats. She was instructed to meet with the Code Enforcement Officer so that an investigation into possible code violations could begin. The BCO was also instructed to obtain the names and addresses of the owners and any lien holders of the abandoned properties. The Treasurer informed the solicitor that one owner had already expressed interest in surrendering her title to the Township. The solicitor requested the Building Code Official to provide a report on the condition of the properties for 14 and 16 Stout Street.

Motion to approve the general funds bills presented as of July 9, 2012 in the amount of \$38,579.54 as presented by the Treasurer, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Andrew Tullai, Second by Brenda Cushey

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, but abstaining from any bills involving Finleyville Airport, Spahr-yes, Evans-Boren-yes, Tullai-yes, Cushey-yes. Motion carried.

The road report was delivered by the Superintendent who reviewed the activities of the road crew since the last update. He also mentioned the quotes obtained for materials needed for future road crew activities as well as repairs and updates to the municipal building which are to be reviewed later on the Agenda for today's meeting.

Motion to go to Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. to discuss the Union Gardens Re-Zoning Request decision.

Motion by Andrew Tullai, Second by Larry Spahr

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

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:10 p.m.

The solicitor stated that the Board discussed issues only related to zoning relative to the Union Gardens Hearing.

Motion to adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law by the Union Township Board of Supervisors deciding not to re-zone parcels 640-002-00-00-0002-00 and 640-003-00-00-0004-00 as requested before the Union Township Board of Supervisors at the public hearing held on June 4, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

Motion by Andrew Tullai, Second by Larry Spahr

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

Motion to award the 2012 Paving Project to Morgan Excavating in the sum of \$270,996.40.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Larry Spahr

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

Motion to advertise the Per Capita Ordinance prepared by the Solicitor for adoption at the Regular Board Meeting to be held on August 27, 2012.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Larry Spahr

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

Motion to award the billing services contract for Elrama Sewage to Jordan Tax Service with the delinquency rate being increased from a 30-day delinquency rate to a 60-day delinquency rate.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Larry Spahr

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

Motion to advertise the Act 20 Ordinance for adoption at the first meeting of the Board on August 13, 2012 with the revision of a fee schedule being attached which could be amended by Resolution if needed.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

Motion to authorize the solicitor to draft and advertise a Dangerous Structure Ordinance.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Larry Spahr

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

Motion to approve the purchase and installation from Rich Cox Construction of a new steel door for the garage, with steel framing, panic hardware, and a 3'x5' window, in the sum of \$2,175.00.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Andrew Tullai

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

Motion to approve the purchase of electrical services from JS Services, per estimate #2950, in the sum of \$1,939.20, for wiring work in the municipal building and garage.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Andrew Tullai

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

Motion to approve quote for purchase and installation of kitchen fixtures, plumbing, two new refrigerators for the office building and garage, delivered, in the amount of \$1,765.36, with purchase of miscellaneous screws and parts, not to exceed \$1800.00.

Motion by Andrew Tullai, Second by Larry Spahr

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

Motion to approve the purchase of four Uniden two-way waterproof radios for road crew use, in lime or yellow, for approximately \$79.99 each from Home Depot.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

Ms. Cushey requested that the road crew review a drainage issue at the driveway entrance of the homes at 44 and 46 McChain Road,

Board Approved: 7/23/12

Chairperson, Linda Evans-Boren, gave a warning about two supposed canvassers who are saying they represent First Energy and West Penn Power and are requesting residents to show them a copy of their bill. Ms. Diane Holden of First Energy confirmed that these canvassers are not working for First Energy. Chief Hartmann requested that residents call 911 and report the canvassers. It is suspected that these individuals may be collecting personal information from the bill which may be used in identity theft.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Larry Spahr

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

Debra A. Nigon, Secretary