

Union Township Board of Supervisors
Monthly Board Meeting
August 13, 2012

The Board of Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Linda Evans-Boren at 7:08 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, Carl DeiCas–Township Engineer Harold Ivery–Building Code Official, Peter Grieb–Code Enforcement Officer, Judy Taylor–Treasurer, Debra Nigon–Secretary.

Public Comment

None

Ed Frye delivered the Road Report. Mr. Frye discussed the issue of responsibility for PA One Calls on the 6" force main owned by Norfolk Southern in Jefferson Hills but under license agreement by Union Township. It was agreed that, by virtue of our license agreement, the Township should take responsibility for marking the lines. However, the concern is that the Township does not have as-built drawings for the pre-existing 6" force main which is being used by the Township as part of the Elrama sewerage system, or the railroad's 3" line which is part of the Jefferson Hills sewerage system and which may lie in close proximity to the 6" line. Mr. DeiCas said that he would contact the Engineering Department of Norfolk Southern to obtain permission for the Township to locate the pre-existing line(s). The solicitor requested the license agreement for legal review.

The Superintendent requested authorization to schedule a backhoe which is needed to repair the collapsed pipe responsible for a drainage issue in Elrama in the alley behind Davidson Avenue. During the time that the backhoe would be rented, he gave a list of other projects that could be completed to make efficient use of the rental time which included removing the playground slide and dome chamber from Brownsville Park, and spreading mulch. Mr. Parish also noted several other storm water inlets needing replacement.

Motion to authorize the Superintendent to schedule a backhoe to perform storm water repairs. Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Steve Parish
Roll call vote: Parish-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-Boren-yes, Tullai-yes, Cushey-yes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the general funds bills presented as of August 13, 2012 in the amount of \$67,012.87 as presented by the Treasurer, subject to being true and correct. Motion by Steve Parish, 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.

Debra Stogden, 20 Stout Street, Elrama, requested additional help from the Board of Supervisors regarding a rat infestation on and around her property. She has hired an exterminator but is still having problems. The Building Code official indicated that he had

notified the neighbor about the violations in regard to his garbage cans and the vehicles on his property and that the neighbor had indicated he would comply and would remove the car as quickly as possible. Mrs. Stogden confirmed that he had complied with putting lids on the garbage cans and was setting them in the back until garbage day but there was additional trash that did not fit into the cans. The Board said that the abandoned houses are being handled and the solicitor estimated that they would be demolished within 60 days.

Mr. DeiCas gave an update on the clearing of debris from Peter's Creek. The clearing of the debris was delayed because the contractor had determined that the Rankintown Road property owned by Mrs. Novak, for which the grant of license was obtained, could not be used for access by the heavy machinery due to the steep slope of the land. The contractor suggested access from the Allegheny Valley railroad property. Mr. DeiCas said that this caused some delay, but that the railroad did give permission for access to the debris, which they also would like to see removed, and they will also send a flagger. He has notified the contractor of the current status and is waiting for him to call back and schedule the work.

The situation with grading work continuing and increasing at Union Gardens following the denial of their recent re-zoning request was discussed. The Township recently received a copy of an Earth Disturbance Report from the DEP indicating that cement with re-bar was being used as fill. A review of the grading permit showed that the permit had not been modified from its original purpose which was for a minimum use driveway for a mobile home. The Building Code Official was requested to call Mr. and Mrs. Palliotta and find out what is the current intended use of the property and to provide that information to the solicitor. If necessary, the solicitor will write a cease and desist letter. The BCO was also requested to obtain whatever documentation is available from the Washington County Conservation District.

Landscaping of the municipal property was discussed. Two more quotes had been solicited and obtained since the last meeting. Since the previous quotes had been discussed at a public meeting on July 23, 2012, Ms. Evans-Boren said that this would put the Township in a position of liability should one of the latter contractors be selected. Since the solicitor advised that correcting this situation would entail developing specifications by a landscape designer and advertising for sealed bids, it was suggested that the landscape quotes be tabled. The solicitor advised that, according to 2nd Class Township Code, the scope of work must be consistent for all vendors, at least three vendors must be contacted, and accurate records must be kept for 3 years.

Motion to table landscape quotes.

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 comply with 2nd Class Township Code in regard to securing professional services, by having only office personnel solicit sealed quotations in accordance with the monetary guidelines set forth in the Code (currently services in excess of \$10,000 and less than \$18,500), so that the scope of work remains consistent and so that accurate records can be kept, with the understanding that Supervisors may contact applicable vendors and bring them to the attention of the Secretary or Treasurer so that they may submit a quote.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Andrew Tullai

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

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2012-02 the Act 1 of 1996 and Act 20 of 2003 as advertised.

Motion by Andrew Tullai, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

At the request of Mr. Makel, the Jordan Tax Service agreements were tabled pending a decision in a Washington County case which may affect the fee portion of the agreements.

The August 3, 2012, correspondence from WESA requesting a meeting be held in regard to their Act 537 Plan was discussed. The solicitor recommended that a meeting be held, but that Jefferson Hills should be included. The solicitor agreed to act as mediator between the parties at that meeting if necessary.

Motion to authorize the solicitor to send a letter to the DEP requesting a meeting between Union Township, West Elizabeth Sanitary Authority Board, the DEP, and Jefferson Hills Boro.

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 make application with the State Worker's Insurance Fund for worker's compensation insurance coverage for the Elrama Fire Department for an estimated \$14,573.00.

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 payment to HDH Group for assistance in applying to the State Worker's Insurance Fund for Elrama VFC worker's compensation insurance coverage in the amount of \$715.

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 send a letter to Penn Dot requesting installation of a Bus Stop Ahead Sign due to limited visibility according to the recommendation of the Road Superintendent.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

Board Approved: 9/10/12

Motion to accept the Findings, Observations, and Comments of the Department of Auditors, dated July 31, 2012, concerning the Non-Uniform Pension Plan.

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 table the issue letter requested in regard to the Findings, Observations and Comments of the Department of Auditors, dated July 31, 2012, for the Township Police Pension Plan until the solicitor has contacted the Office of the Auditor General.

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 Site Plan for Dollar General on State Route 88 subject to mylar being signed and approved and evidence of public sewerage, HOP permit, and all fees being paid.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Steve Parish

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

Motion to go to executive session for personnel reasons and possible litigation at 9:25 p.m.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Andrew Tullai

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

The Board returned at 9:44 p.m.

The solicitor indicated that the Board discussed personnel issues and Union Gardens.

Because of the lateness of the hour, the Budget Review Workshop was re-scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on August 27, 2012.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 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