

Union Township Board of Supervisors
Monthly Board Meeting
November 12, 2012

The Board of Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Linda Evans-Boren at 7:00 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 Larry Spahr, Linda Evans-Boren, and Brenda Cushey. Also in attendance, Harold Ivery—Building Code Official, Peter Grieb—Code Enforcement Officer, Carl DeiCas—Township Engineer, Dennis Makel—Solicitor, Judy Taylor—Treasurer, Debra Nigon—Secretary. Mr. Parish did not attend due to illness.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Departmental Reports

The Road Superintendent delivered the Road Report. Mr. Frye said that they are still back filling along the roads as a follow-up to the paving project. Work to locate the lines at the property leased by Norfolk Southern is still awaiting approval by Norfolk Southern for access to the site. The Township engineer said that the railroad may have to locate the lines for the Township since no access has been granted. Ms. Evans-Boren asked about the fire detection equipment that needs to be installed at the Municipal Building. Mr. Frye has contacted an electrician and requested a price. He will also obtain a price on installing the overhead projector. Mr. Spahr asked if the salt supply was sufficient and the response was affirmative. The solicitor was consulted on the Army's response to allowing the Township to place a salt shed on the property. The solicitor informed the Board that the request was denied and the Township will have to wait until after the property is conveyed.

Motion to approve the general funds bills presented as of November 12, 2012 in the amount of \$28,819.72 as presented by the Treasurer, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Larry Spahr

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

Motion to purchase a desktop PC for the Road Foreman and a laptop to be used by the Secretary in the Board Room for a total of \$1,167.04.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

Motion to purchase an Epson EX5210 XGA projector for \$549.99.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Larry Spahr

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

Motion to purchase a ceiling mount for the projector at a sum not to exceed \$150.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

Motion to purchase a projector cable at a sum not to exceed \$100.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

The insurance quotes from Kenneth Sloan, B&W, and Higbee Insurance were reviewed. The solicitor confirmed that all the companies were in the "A" category rating. He also suggested that a trailer be obtained to extend coverage to bridge any gap between brokers. The Treasurer indicated that Higbee had included Cyber Liability with their quotation which is not generally included in a liability package. The other two insurers had been contacted to provide a quote for the Cyber Liability as well. B&W said they could supply the coverage at a range of \$500 to \$1200 additional depending on which policy we would select. Even at the highest mark of that range the lowest bid was from B&W for coverage that appeared to be equitable to the coverage being offered by the other brokers.

Motion to purchase liability insurance from B&W Insurance, 1341 Washington Road, Washington, PA, including Cyber Liability for an additional \$500 to \$1200 based on selected coverage for \$15,299.00 per year with Township seeking purchase of a tail for any lapse of coverage.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

Motion to adopt the proposed 2013 Budget and advertise for final adoption at the Regular Board Meeting currently scheduled for December 10, 2012.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Larry Spahr

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

Mr. Spahr invited the public to look at the budget numbers and said that the Township is carrying over almost one million dollars from last year and that the auditors from Cypher & Cypher had stated that the Township was in an outstanding position going forward. The auditors also instructed the Township to start looking at funding projects of interest for 2013, which the Township has done in its decision to fund the entire Emergency Sub-Station Garage Addition Project if matching grant monies are not forthcoming. He also said that the Act 13 money will be used to support three additional police shifts per week.

The Township solicitor gave the Board his opinion on the current Burning Ordinance, stating that the ordinance needs updated and does not comply with DEP regulations. He asked the staff to locate in the files a copy of a Burning Ordinance which he had sent to the Township at some time in the recent past and distribute it to the Board of Supervisors for their review. The Board will review the Burning Ordinance at the next meeting.

In regard to redistricting of Ringgold School District, the Board discussed the current regional breakdown. Mr. Spahr discussed the political component which exists in the composition of the Board. There was no decision to pursue redistricting but the Board agreed to continue considering the idea.

Mr. DeiCas has been continuing to play phone tag with the Professor at California University, but Mr. DeiCas did confirm that the Professor is interested in hearing more about the possible internship.

The Supervisors discussed the fact that no additional information from Donora had been provided to the Township in regard to costs for demolition of the homes on 14 and 16 Stout Street and there was no response yet to a request for a sample agreement for solicitor review. It was agreed that pursuing demolition with Donora may take more time than what the Township had expected.

Motion to have the Township engineer submit specs for 14 and 16 Stout Street and to advertise the specs for bid with proposals due December 10, 2012 by 4:00 p.m.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Larry Spahr

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

Motion to advertise that Union Township intends to use a CPA to perform the 2012 Audit.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

Motion to advertise for Letters of Interest for the Position of Auditor.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

In regard to the lines on the property owned by Norfolk Southern which the Township leases as part of its Elrama sewerage system, it was agreed that the solicitor will try to reach Congressman Tim Murphy in regard to getting the lines located.

Mr. Canastrale, owner of the Mathies Mine property, and his engineer, Hiram Ribblett, addressed the Board in regard to using Penn Dot's Turnback program to fund improvements to Courtney Hill Road, SR 1065, to eliminate flooding issues. There are pumps on the property which must pump water to eliminate flooding of the road during heavy rain. He would like to eliminate the flooding issue by acting as contractor and re-routing the portion of road with the flooding issues and re-directing the flow of water through other grading and construction measures. His engineer showed the plans, which are currently being reviewed by the DEP, to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Canastrale had contacted Penn Dot and was told that the approval for this work would take some time but that he should consult the Township regarding using the Turnback Program.

Through the Penn Dot Turnback Program the construction costs could be reimbursed to Mr. Canastrale and the entire road would be "turned back" to the Township, becoming a Township road as opposed to a state road. There was some discussion involving a slide and other issues which may exist on Courtney Hill Road. It was decided that the Township engineer, Carl DeiCas, would review the plans and make a site visit to assess other issues with the road and would write a report for the Township. All interested Supervisors were invited to attend the site visit which is tentatively scheduled for next week.

Motion to adopt a Resolution, No. 2012-11, A Resolution of the Board Of Supervisors of the Township of Union, Washington County, Pennsylvania Defining and Classifying Its Governmental Fund Balances and Establishing Policies and Procedures in Regard to Expenditure Thereof in Accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

Appointments to the PCSA Board were discussed. It was decided that the current PCSA Representative, Joe Benedetti, would be sent a request for a Letter of Interest for reappointment.

In regard to the Jefferson Hills Act 537 Plan, the Township engineer said that Gateway Engineers, the engineering firm representing Jefferson Hills, provided a total project cost of \$10 million dollars. Our portion of the project cost would be \$1,080,000. The flow figures obtained from WESA by Right-to-Know request estimated Union Townships flow to be 700,000 gallons per month. Jefferson Hills estimates a cost of \$2 per gallon treatment cost at Clairton Municipal Authority. Mr. DeiCas will run the numbers to determine savings on reduced treatment cost with the additional financing which would be necessary, while taking into consideration the current fixed costs of the Township and report back to the Board. The Treasurer was requested to schedule a fact-finding meeting with WESA for December 3, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Motion to authorize the Treasurer and Secretary to attend Quickbooks Webinars to be held on January 16, 2012, and January 23, 2012 at a cost of \$50 dollars.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Larry Spahr

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

Motion to donate \$5000 each to the Elrama Volunteer Fire Department and Finleyville Fire Department from the Local Share Account funds.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

Ms. Heather Daer, 6187 Route 88, asked Ms. Evans-Boren to confirm that her platform was based on re-instituting a police force and asked the Board to consider whether increased commercial development could help fund the police. Ms. Evans-Boren said that her platform

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was on regionalization of police services and that is what the Township had obtained. She also said that the Township cannot currently afford its own full-time police force and that many similarly sized municipalities are facing the same reality. Ms. Evans-Boren and Mr. Spahr said that more tax revenue could be created in the Township through increased residential development than through commercial enterprise. However, Ms Evans-Boren confirmed to Ms. Daer at her request that she supports all type of development, but that every situation has its own considerations.

No executive session was held.

Motion to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

Debra A. Nigon, Secretary