

Union Township Board of Supervisors  
Monthly Board Meeting  
November 28, 2012

The Board of Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Linda Evans-Boren at 7:02 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, Andrew Tullai and Brenda Cushey. Also in attendance, Peter Grieb- , Dennis Makel-Solicitor, Judy Taylor-Treasurer, Debra Nigon-Secretary. Mr. Parish did not attend due to illness.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

**Motion** to approve minutes of the Continued Budget Workshop on October 22, 2012, as presented by the Secretary, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Andrew Tullai, Second by Larry Spahr

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

**Motion** to approve minutes of the October 22, 2012, Regular Board Meeting, as presented by the Secretary, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

*Following the November 28, 2012, meeting, Ms. Cushey realized that she had been absent on October 22, 2012 and should have abstained from the vote. Motion still carries. The Minutes will be amended upon approval.*

**Motion** to approve minutes of the October 30, 2012, Continued Regular Board Meeting, as presented by the Secretary, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Andrew Tullai, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

**Motion** to approve minutes of the October 30, 2012, Continued Budget Workshop, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

**Motion** to approve minutes of the November 12, 2012, Regular Board Meeting, 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-abstain, Cushey-yes. Motion carried.

**Motion** to approve payroll #22 dated October 26, 2012 in the amount of \$9,591.18 as presented by the Treasurer, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Andrew Tullai

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

**Motion** to approve payroll #23 dated November 9, 2012 in the amount of \$9,824.38 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-yes, Cushey-yes. Motion carried.

**Motion** to approve payroll #24 dated November 23, 2012 in the amount of \$9,474.64 as presented by the Treasurer, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

### Departmental Reports

Chief Hartman and Officer Schwartz delivered the police report and gave a detailed briefing on the attempted robbery of the Finleyville Dairy Queen which occurred Saturday, November 26, 2012. They stated that an officer was on the scene just following the incident and that SWRPD worked around the clock to resolve this case which resulted in an arrest in two days. SWRPD officers spoke with several individuals who provided opinions as to the possible identity of the perpetrator and, ultimately, it was one of the possible suspects who was named that was arrested, but that it took much time and effort to provide sufficient evidence for a search warrant. Upon fleeing the scene, the suspect threw items and the weapon out of the car window. All of these items have been recovered by SWRPD, including the weapon which turned out to be a toy revolver. An arrest was made Tuesday afternoon. During the search of the home by seven (7) SWRPD officers, heroin was found and other weapons which are now marked as evidence. The Chief stated that the seven police officers used in the search were pulled from other areas and that a benefit of contracting with SWRPD is that they have access to officers who can be called in when the situation merits, as in this case, where the suspect was considered armed. In addition, Union Township will not be charged for the time of these additional officers.

The Chief read the other statistics for the month and added that residents are urged to visit <http://www.raidsonline.com> to see mapping of where incidents have occurred in the Township. They are also encouraged to sign up for Nixle alerts by texting SWRPD to 888777 (text

messaging rates may apply). Residents are also welcome to visit the SWRPD web page at <http://www.swrpd.us> and Facebook page (log onto Facebook and search for Southwest Reg Pd). The Chief said that they are very appreciative of the support they have received from the Union Township community.

*dan* | Linda Evans-Boren also invited residents to the Neighborhood Watch group which meets every second ~~Monday~~ ~~Wednesday~~ of the Month on St. Francis Drive in Finley Hall at 7:00 p.m. The Christmas Party will be held December 12, 2012 and members of Jefferson Hills EMS will attend as well as the Chief and other SWRPD staff, including Kyros, the new canine officer.

The Chief also quickly addressed the drug network investigation performed in Elrama involving juveniles working as drug couriers for adults in Allegheny County. The juveniles were given drugs as "payment" for their services. The Chief stated that there was no intention of letting this type of activity go on in Union Township and that SWRPD will not take a passive role and is committed to limiting illegal drug activity in the Township employing all legal means.

The Building Code Official gave his report and said that the issue of the shed in the front yard on a property bordering Route 88 has been held up as the resident stated that the DEP had indicated the shed could not be placed by the side of the house. M3 Appalachia expects to have an agreement ready next week. In terms of the Union Gardens site, everything that the owners had a permit to do has been completed and he believes a Cease and Desist Order should be issued by the Township or its solicitor which will instruct them to apply for a new permit for any anticipated grading work. It was agreed that Makel & Associates would issue the letter and copy the Building Code Official.

Mr. Furman stated that under Act 47 all permits were extended, but if the activities are not covered under the current permit, then the extension does not apply.

The Township Engineer did not provide a report as he was absent due to a family emergency.

Ms. Dorsen stated that there was no report from the Recreation Board. The solicitor had no report except for what would be discussed in Executive Session.

**Motion** to approve the general funds bills presented as of November 28, 2012 in the amount of \$32,691.29 as presented by the Treasurer, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Andrew Tullai, Second by Larry Spahr

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

Mr. Spahr referenced that the Teamsters HealthCare Coverage will be going up 9.5%.

**Motion** to adopt the Resolution Adopting a Comprehensive Plan for Union Township In The County Of Washington, PA which jointly adopts the comprehensive plan dated September 12, 2012, as it pertains to Union Township and Carroll Township.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

It was noted that all the comments that were made on the Joint Comprehensive Plan will be a matter of record and can be used in any considerations for zoning and can be incorporated in the next plan. Work on the next plan will begin in a couple years as it is recommended to update the plan every ten years. Mr. Andrew Tullai will put the Plan and comments on the website and the Planning Commission and Zoning Hearing Board will be sent copies once Carroll Township adopts the plan and the finalized copy is sent to the Township with the draft status removed.

Mr. Spahr mentioned that the comments contained a recommendation for a street light at Trax Farm and Route 88. This situation would involve a Penn Dot traffic study and installation of a traffic light and construction of a turning lane, work which is generally contracted out by Penn Dot. The Township is then responsible for the cost for maintenance of the light.

Revision to the Township Burning Ordinance was discussed. The Building Code Official instructed the Board that both Ordinances 27 and 70 have to be looked at together when comparing our current requirements with anything new. Discussion was tabled and it was decided that a Workshop may need to be held at the beginning of the year to discuss the issues involved further.

Redistricting of the Ringgold School Board was discussed briefly. Mr. Spahr was not confident that redistricting would resolve the issues as he believes that potential political associations and alliances which cross township borders may negate the benefits of representation by population. Nonetheless, he stated that Union Township and Finleyville are growing; whereas some of the other areas in the RGSD are decreasing in size. Gayle Cotterman, visitor from Nottingham Township, said that residents of Union Township need to start attending Ringgold School District Meetings in the same numbers and with as much interest as residents from the southern part of RGSD. Mr. Tullai made note that he would like to move forward with redistricting.

**Motion** to appoint Joe Benedetti as representative to the Peters Creek Sanitary Authority for a five-year term beginning January 1, 2013 and ending January 1, 2018.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

**Motion** to appoint Paul Chasko to the Zoning Hearing Board for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2013 and ending January 1, 2016.

Motion by Andrew Tullai, Second by Larry Spahr

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

**Motion** to appoint Audrey Dorsen to the Recreation Board for a five-year term beginning January 1, 2013 and ending January 1, 2018.

Motion by Andrew Tullai, Second by Larry Spahr

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

**Motion** to modify the Motion for the November 12, 2012 computer purchase by an additional \$32.50 due to models no longer being available and closest available models being ordered.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Larry Spahr

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

The Budget Resolution recommended by PSATS will be reviewed by Township counsel for the next meeting.

**Motion** to advertise the Reorganization Meeting for January 7, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

**Motion** to advertise the Board of Auditors Meeting for January 8, 2013, time to be determined.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

**Motion** to advertise for Letters of Interest for the Board of Auditors Position.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

**Motion** to advertise the first Regular Board Meeting of 2013 for January 14, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Larry Spahr

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

**Motion** to re-enact Ordinance #1-2007 ½% Realty Transfer Tax for year 2013.

Motion by Andrew Tullai, Second by Larry Spahr

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

*Board Approved with revision: January 28, 2013*

**Motion** to re-enact the Mechanical and Electronic Devices Tax for year 2013.

Motion by Andrew Tullai, Second by Brenda Cushey

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

**Motion** to go into Executive Session of purposes of discussing litigation and personnel issues at 8:37 p.m.

Motion by Brenda Cushey, Second by Andrew Tullai

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

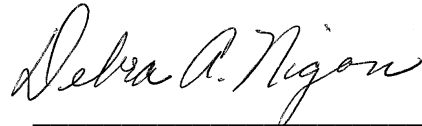
The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:00 p.m. The solicitor stated that they discussed potential existing litigation.

Mary Jo Yunkin addressed the Board and asked about a condition on Union and College Avenue which she believes is hazardous involving a vehicle which she believes is impairing visibility. The Board said that they would have a police officer view the situation.

**Motion** to adjourn at 9:04 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.



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Debra A. Nigon, Secretary