

Union Township Board of Supervisors  
Regular Board Meeting  
October 12, 2015

The Board of Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Larry Spahr at 7:05 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, Paul Chasko, and Ed Frye. Also in attendance, Dennis Makel–Solicitor, Judy Taylor–Treasurer, Debra Nigon–Secretary, Harold Ivery–Building Code Official, and Peter Grieb–Code Enforcement Officer, were attending a conference out of town. Mr. Carl DeiCas–Township Engineer, did not attend.

Mr. Spahr opened the meeting with a statement regarding gun control which was a subject in the press recently due to recent shootings. He said that there was a home invasion just recently in Monongahela related to the drug issue and through his conversations with the Attorney General this drug related crime is pervasive and on the rise.

Public Comment

Mike Vibostak, 19 Lake Drive, complained about the Zoning Officer and a timely resolution to his complaints about a property at 3 Airport Road. His complaint was that two months had passed and the chickens are still out of control. Mr. Vibostak also complained that his own building permits related to a structure he built on his own property several years ago were reviewed by the Zoning Officer due to Mr. Vibostak's complaints to the DEP and the Zoning Officer about Mr. Opferman's property at 3 Airport Road. Mr. Vibostak said that he was not forwarded a copy of any report from the Washington County Conservation District. He will be calling the DEP this week.

Pete Guido, 135 Viareggio Way, asked if the developer had been cited repeatedly and it was confirmed by the solicitor that this was done. A hearing is scheduled for October 20, 2015 before the magistrate. Mr. Makel will forward to Mr. Guido with the Board's permission, which he received, a copy of the multiple citations. Also, Mr. Makel will check to see if there are any continuances of the hearing. Mr. Makel will attend the hearing and requested that Ms. Meek who took the pictures of the property and Mr. Guido both attend as well. Mr. Guido complained that the storm sewers at Tuscan Estates are clogged with dirt. He inquired as to whether someone could look at them, which the Township could not since they have never been adopted into the Township road system. Mr. Guido reported that the developer is currently working on the club house but not on the items which were in the specific complaints leading to the citations by the zoning officer and the resulting hearing at the magistrate, which are items that have not changed. Mr. Makel has still not received the construction schedule. Mr. Makel asked and received authorization from the Board to take legal action. Mrs. Stover, 125 Viareggio Way, asked whether the bond money could be used.

Vic Cilia, 2555 Route 88, commented at a meeting about six weeks ago regarding speeding on Route 88 and has returned to let the Board know that speeding on the road is still an issue. His

wife will not turn left into his driveway because she was almost hit twice and he knows of two others who also no longer will make a left off the road. Mr. Spahr informed the resident that speeding details were done in July and August, during which time, Route 88 was covered. Mr. Spahr will call the Chief tomorrow and request traffic details on Route 88 and Mingo Church Road which has also been a problem area. It was noted that due to recent tar and chipping of Route 88 by PennDot, lines will need to be re-painted to time speeders.

Jason Jaki asked whether any discussion took place at the last meeting in regard to the widening of the road into Brownsville Park. Mr. Spahr communicated that an issue surrounding the position of the road on the embankment and the proximity of high pressure gas lines requires having the 25 foot right-of-way marked for each of the three lines. Mr. DeiCas was identified as the individual who would need to mark out the right-of-way near the Brownsville Park entry road. Mr. Parish will call the engineer and request that he have the TEPPCO lines marked. Also, Mr. Parish and Mr. Mellor found that there is a spring coming out of the hillside and the water must be piped. A catch basin should also be installed. Mr. Jaki repeated a suggestion by the engineer that the road be widened with a turnaround at the bottom -- a project that could possibly be funded with Liquid Fuels. Mr. Jaki asked whether funds from the recreation board budget could be used for materials to facilitate the widening of the road.

#### Departmental Reports

The Police Report was given by Sergeant Pocsatko who read the police statistics for the prior month, including six arrests, three criminal complaints, and three non-traffic citations. Mr. Spahr asked if there is still drug related crime in the area. The Sergeant said that he made a couple of drug-related arrests last month so it not completely out of the area but that the drug issue has been reduced since they began serving in the Township.

Mr. Tom Mellor delivered the Road Report. Morgan Excavating has said that they will start paving on October 14. There is a sewer line sinking in Elrama. He coordinated with another Township who has a camera and they viewed the line; however, the problem could not be located. Mr. Mellor requested and received permission for the entire road crew to attend an LTAP class for half a day. He also said there was a request for a convex mirror at Brownsville and McChain. The complications of setting up a mirror and the liability to the Township were discussed by Mr. Banahasky. Mr. Mellor suggested cutting all the trees back which are on private property. No one has seen the owner for quite some time. Mr. Spahr instructed the crew to continue cutting brush back to reduce the hazardous situation caused by the brush.

**Motion** to approve general fund bills in the sum of \$109,617.67 as prepared by the Treasurer, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Charles Trax

Roll call vote: Parish-yes, but abstaining from anything involving the Finleyville Airport, Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes, Frye-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Mellor requested and received permission to meet with Carl and Veronica Bennett at KLH Engineers in regard to their help or guidance in meeting MS4 stormwater requirements and the mapping of outfalls. He would like to have a meeting here at the Township building to go over

the Township's options and what KLH would propose in regard to the best way to meet requirements. He was asked to let the Board know when the meeting would occur.

The Overlook Sewerage meeting was attended by Mr. Makel, Ms. Taylor and Mr. Chasko. Mr. Makel has since called Dale Mills who referred him to Emily Shade who he has not yet been able to reach regarding the necessity of having an agreement in place with the other municipalities before the Township can submit an Act 537 Plan. Ms. Taylor explained that last week there were several issues with the Local Share application prepared by Mr. DeiCas including questions about the Act 537, and some totals didn't match. Mr. DeiCas was to make changes and submit them by email to Rob Phillips or would drop the originals in the mail. Ms. Taylor said she did receive a couple copies of some of the revised pages and she is assuming these were sent to the LSA committee. Since we do not have our Act 537 approved, the odds are reduced that the grant will be awarded. Mr. Makel will contact Emily Shade about what agreements are necessary tomorrow.

Paul Chasko updated the Board on the stump removal project, the first contract for Sections BCE&F is 90% done. Currently the contractor is working in Area A. He would like to seed in the Spring; however Mr. Chasko said this raises questions of payment should the work be delayed until completion in the spring.

**Motion** to pay 90% (\$12,510.00) of the contract amount to Arbor Tree Specialists for completion of the work outlined in the RFP for Sections BCE&F, with seeding of the area, and any other identified remaining contract items to be completed before final payment is issued. Motion by Paul Chasko, Second by Ed Frye  
Roll call vote: Parish-abstain, Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes, Frye-yes. Motion carried.

Ms. Taylor asked that, to avoid confusion, completion of the project and any terms surrounding project completion be put in writing and signed by both the contractor and the Township as to what specifically needs to be finished before the final check is issued. Mr. Chasko will obtain this signature when the contractor is due into the Township on Wednesday. He asked that the secretary notify him when he arrives so that a current status can be obtained.

Paul Chasko reported that the meeting with Sidelines Tree Service was held. The representatives from Sidelines said what the Board was proposing seemed reasonable; however, now they have backtracked and proposed a reduction of \$750 only. Mr. Makel suggested to them in their conversation today that they put their request in writing to the Board.

The recent PennDot Bureau of Aviation airport inspection revealed that some re-growth may be a problem on the Tomko property. The Zoning Officer will follow up on this issue.

Ed Frye said that it was his understanding that WESA would allow the Township to handle the delinquent portion of collections concerning liens. Mr. Makel will verify that this is correct.

**Motion** to renew the 2016 Police Service Agreement as presented by Southwest Regional Police Department

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Charles Trax

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

Patterson Road needs work which should be repaired by Sunoco who had bonded the road. Mr. DeiCas had videotaped Patterson Road prior to placement of the bond. Chester Engineers still has that video. Sunoco extended the bond. Mr. DeiCas was requested to re-video the road and has not yet done that. Mr. Makel will call Chester Engineers in regard to obtaining the video in their possession tomorrow. The Felix easement drawing is still outstanding as well.

The Fall Road Inspection was scheduled for October 17, however, Mr. Parish took an opportunity to review them last week with Mr. Mellor and Mr. Banahasky. Mr. Mellor's report was included with the Board's materials.

Citizen's Bank has notified the Township that they have done a restructuring of sorts and will be moving the Township to a municipal revenue government account. Ms. Taylor said that the new account will assess fees on checks deposited, checks cashed, and other fees which are not presently being charged. The fees represent a substantial increase estimated at approximately \$800 per year. They say the Township will be moved to this new account due to the required collateralization of government accounts. The Board requested the Treasurer to do a study to see what the proposed total fees would have been in 2014 and 2015 under this new type of account. Mr. Frye suggested that WESBANCO be contacted to come back in and make a proposal to the Board. The Township was moved to the new municipal account on October 1<sup>st</sup> and the new fee rates and amounts will be able to be observed.

A reminder was given to the Board that the Pension Manager from PNC will be here October 27, 2015, at 11:30 a.m. to discuss the pension account should they wish to attend.

**Motion** authorizing attendance by Mr. Mellor and any interested Board member to attend the LED Streetlight Meeting being held on October 21, 2015.

Motion by Charles Trax, Second by Ed Frye

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

There was no Executive Session.

**Motion** to adjourn at 8:32 p.m.

Motion by Paul Chasko, Second by Ed Frye

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

  
Debra A. Nigon, Secretary