

Board Approved: November 23, 2015 with revision as noted.

Union Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Board Meeting
October 26, 2015

The Board of Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Larry Spahr at 7:07 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, and Peter Grieb–Code Enforcement Officer. Harold Ivery–Building Code Official did not attend. Mr. Carl DeiCas–Township Engineer did not attend.

Public Comment

Pete Guido, 125 Viarregio Way, thanked the solicitor for everything he has done to help Tuscan Estates residents in their situation with the developer and for attending the hearing with the magistrate. Mr. Guido said that there are some Ordinances from our website that he would like to discuss with the solicitor in relationship to the developer's bond. Mr. Guido provided the solicitor with some materials which he will review. He will get back to them by Tuesday. The developer has until November 2nd to remove the shed and materials that were subject to the hearing with the magistrate.

Motion to approve the Minutes of the September 28, 2015, Regular Board Meeting, as presented by the Secretary, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Charles Trax, Second by Steve Parish

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

Motion to approve the Minutes of the October 6, 2015, Budget Workshop as presented by the Secretary, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Ed Frye

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

Motion to approve the Minutes of the October 12, 2015, Regular Board Meeting as presented by the Secretary, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Charles Trax, Second by Paul Chasko

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

Motion to approve the Minutes of the October 20, 2015, Budget Workshop as presented by the Secretary, subject to being true and correct, with a correction to transpose the names of Mr. Frye and Mr. Chasko on the list of those either attending or not attending the meeting: Mr. Paul Chasko did attend and Mr. Ed Frye did not.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Paul Chasko

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

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Motion to approve Payroll #21 dated October 9, 2015, in the sum of \$10,730.33 as presented by the Treasurer, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Paul Chasko

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

Motion to approve Payroll #22 dated October 23, 2015, in the sum of \$10,056.35 as presented by the Treasurer, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Ed Frye

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

Motion to approve general fund bills in the sum of \$27,208.36, as of October 26, 2015, as presented by the Treasurer, subject to being true and correct.

Motion by Paul Chasko, Second by Ed Frye

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

At a prior meeting, a Motion was made for payment to Arbor Tree Service for 90% of the contract for work performed in Sections BCE&F; however, it was determined that the work was 100% complete in this section and payment could be paid in full (\$13,900.00) as soon as the confirmation of completion by Arbor Tree Service is returned.

In relationship to Brownsville Park parking lot, Mr. DeiCas said that it has come to his attention that the DCNR will have a webinar in January in regard to preparation of grant applications. The open period for grant applications is running until April. He suggested that the Township submit an application for the work at Brownsville Park. He will attend the webinar. Also, he will get the information to the Board if they would like to attend. Mr. Parish said that it has to be established where the location of the high pressure line is located. Mr. DeiCas will go look at it next week with Mr. Parish who has been trying to coordinate this with the engineer.

Mr. Parish mentioned to the police officer that at the intersection of Finleyville-Elrama Road, McChain Road and Stonechurch Road there is a stop sign missing which could cause an accident. The sign would have been on Finleyville-Elrama Road which is a state road. Lieutenant Loughner will check on the sign.

Paul Chasko said that the Finleyville Airport project for Sections BCE&F is done; however, the Aviation Bureau has identified additional trees. It was Mr. Spahr's opinion that the Township has done more than its share.

In regard to the Overlook Street Area Sewage Project, Mr. Makel established with Emily Shade that it is necessary to have a signed intermunicipal agreement before the Act 537 Plan can be submitted.

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Motion to approve the changes made by Union Township to the draft intermunicipal agreement of Union Township, South Park and Bethel Park and to submit the changes back to the solicitor at South Park.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Paul Chasko

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

In regard to Elrama sewerage collection, Mr. Makel said that the Township will not be signing the Delinquency Agreement with WESA. The Treasurer asked if WESA would be collecting delinquencies. Also, Paul Chasko asked the solicitor, if, per our agreement, whether we have to pay Jordan Tax Service all of what they are owed or allow them to continue collecting the delinquencies. The solicitor will look into the matter and get back to Mr. Chasko and the Board next week.

Ms. Taylor noted that the change in billing may catch Elrama residents off-guard and suggested a mailing to alert customers what will be changing. Ms. Taylor will create a draft to notify the customers what will be occurring.

PennDot did not give approval for Union Township to post Jake Brake signs due to safety issues and the grade being too steep. Residents have complained about the noise from Jake brakes; however, the Township did not receive the necessary approval by PennDot.

Mr. DeiCas and the solicitor spoke to the issue of Chester Engineers not releasing documents. Chester Engineers is requesting the signing of two License Agreements which were in the Board's packets for the meeting – one agreement requiring the engineer's signature, and another between the municipality and Chester Engineers only. Mr. DeiCas said that other municipalities have had him sign the agreement; nonetheless, it has taken months for them to receive documents and there are still other documents outstanding. The most important documents he said to pursue were the Zoning Map and the Road Map which are electronic and are not being released and anything involving Patterson Road as well as any documents from former Township engineers that were passed along to Mr. DeiCas. These would include documents from Kim Gales and Joe Ferraro who supplied to Mr. DeiCas boxes of information relative to the Township. The Township does have Elrama sewage as-built documents. Mr. DeiCas informed the Board that, in December, the Chester Engineers office will be closing. Mr. DeiCas stressed that the solicitor should pursue obtaining documents before the office is closed. Mr. Makel instructed the Board that every year a new contract with the engineer will have to be adopted to eliminate a situation like this occurring again.

Motion to enter into a licensing agreement between Union Township and Chester Engineers with the provision that Chester Engineers submits electronic versions of the zoning map, road map, videos, and video related to Patterson Road, and any and all documents produced by Ferraro Engineering and Kim Gales Engineering that are currently in the possession of Chester Engineers forthwith with the Township utilizing its police force to obtain said documents if necessary.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Paul Chasko

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

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In regard to Citizen's Bank, Ms. Taylor supplied an estimate of what the cost would have been if Citizen's Bank had initiated the same changes in 2014 to our account. It was determined that in 2014, the cost would have been an additional \$712 in fees; in 2015, approximately an additional \$650 would have been charged so far this year. Ms. Taylor will talk face-to-face with someone at Citizen's to see if the Township could be put into a different account. She suggested investigating Wesbanco and perhaps other banks suggested by the Board in the meantime. It may be an option to get a check scanner that we could use to send our checks electronically which would still have fees associated with them, but may reduce the total fees owed. The Treasurer was requested to call several banks and ask for a written proposal.

Mr. Parish went to the LED Street Light meeting held by First Energy and told the Board that there is an application which could be filled out to allow for LED Street Light replacement which would commit the Township to a ten-year agreement. Only twelve lights could be done at a time at no cost. However, any modifications or changes to a streetlight which are requested would incur costs. It could be several years before 12 lights are changed as First Energy has 58,000 street lights in Washington County. LED lighting is more efficient and would represent a cost savings of 40-60%.

Motion to adopt a resolution No. 11 of 2015 acknowledging the work, dedication and effort of Matthew J. Metrovich, Boy Scout Troop 1452, on accomplishing and achieving the Rank of Eagle Scout.

Motion by Steve Parish, Second by Charles Trax

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

Mr. Kovscek, 167 McChain Road, contacted the Township requesting a waiver for garbage pick-up. He avers he has no garbage. However, our ordinance makes no provision for any waiver. Every residence is required to have garbage pick-up. The solicitor was requested to draft a letter to Mr. Kovscek outlining the requirements of our ordinance.

Motion authorizing any Township official to participate in a webinar at a cost of \$30 being held on November 5, 2015 from noon to 1:30 p.m. relative to Reed v. Town of Gilbert and the impact to sign ordinances.

Motion by Ed Frye, Second by Steve Parish

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

There was no Executive Session.

Motion to adjourn at 8:14 p.m.

Motion by Charles Trax, Second by Ed Frye

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


Debra A. Nigon, Secretary