

Union Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Board Meeting
August 22, 2016

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 Larry Spahr, Paul Chasko, Charles Trax, Heather Daerr and Deborah Sargent. Also in attendance: Gary Sweat–Solicitor, Jamie Harshman–Township Engineer, Judith Taylor–Treasurer/Asst Secretary, Harold Ivery–Building Code Official

Public Comment

Pete Guido, 125 Viareggio Way, requested to use the Township Board room for several meetings of the Tuscany Estates HOA as the clubhouse property has not yet been conveyed to them from Mr. Danielson.

Motion to authorize use of the Board room for HOA meetings on the third Wednesday of the month through the end of 2016; and possibly on Dec 3 or 10; and on January 18, 2017
Motion by Heather Daerr, Second by Deborah Sargent
Roll call vote: Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes, Sargent-yes, Daerr-yes. Motion carried.

Mary Vibostak, 19 Lake Drive, commented that Mr. Opferman had not completed the construction of the retaining wall at 3 Airport Road adjacent to her property. Mr. Ivery informed her that his permit was good until September, and that he would contact him to determine the status of the project.

Frank Latorre, 7 Boyka Drive, thanked Mr. Chasko for supplying the information on the airport that he requested. He also noted a number of junk vehicles parked on property on Rankintown Road contrasting with the new attractive Venetia bridge. Mr. LaTorre also requested that the zoning officer pay attention to the obligations and responsibilities that Mr. Tomko will assume when his new grading permit is issued by the Township.

Hal Brenig, 44 Finley Avenue, commented on the poor state of the property on Finleyville-Elrama Road that was damaged by fire and still not been completely rebuilt. He noted that there are vehicles parked in the front yard of the property. He also commented on the need to promote development in the Township.

Representatives of Sunoco Pipeline LP appeared before the Board to discuss the results of the meeting on August 26, 2016 with the Road Superintendent, the engineer and Board members concerning the repairs to Patterson Road. Sunoco is willing to pay for 50 percent of the cost of required repair work to replace three inches of base and 1 inch of wearing course. Mr. Harshman stated that the repair should consist of 5 inches of base and 1 1/2 inches of wearing course. Sunoco's position was that the repairs should be held until after

the installation of their 20-inch pipeline, however, Mr. Harshman felt that the repairs should be a pre-use upgrade of the road. There was also disagreement concerning Sunoco's plan for the upsizing of the storm water facilities previously installed by Sunoco at their access road, which is still directing stone and debris onto Patterson Road and into the Township's cross pipe during rainstorm events. Sunoco is requesting that the Township install a larger cross pipe at its own expense. Mr. Harshman and Sunoco representatives have scheduled a conference call on Friday, August 26, 2016 to continue the discussion.

Mr. Spahr commented that the minutes of the Board meetings have become too lengthy and should contain less discussion extraneous to the Board's decisions on agenda items.

Motion to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2016 regular Board meeting as presented by the secretary, subject to being true and correct

Motion by Heather Daerr, Second by Deborah Sargent

Roll call vote: Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes, Sargent-yes, Daerr-yes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Aug 8, 2016 regular Board meeting as presented by the secretary, subject to being true and correct

Motion by Deborah Sargent, Second by Heather Daerr

Roll call vote: Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes, Sargent-yes, Daerr-yes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Payroll #15 dated July 29, 2016 amount of \$10,369.48 as presented by the Treasurer/Asst Secretary subject to being true and correct

Motion by Heather Daerr, Second by Paul Chasko

Roll call vote: Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes, Sargent-yes, Daerr-yes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Payroll #16 dated August 12, 2016 in the amount of \$11,072.37 as presented by the Treasurer/Asst Secretary subject to being true and correct

Motion by Deborah Sargent, Second by Charles Trax

Roll call vote: Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes, Sargent-yes, Daerr-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Spahr requested that the Board consider purchase of a small tanker for spraying weed killer along the guiderails in next year's budget.

Departmental Reports

The Board asked Mr. Ivery to respond to a complaint from a resident, Karen Schwalm, concerning a blue trailer in poor repair on Chevy Chase Street that needs to be removed. She also noted an issue with a traffic light but the Board wasn't sure which light she was referring to, possibly the double traffic light on Brownsville Road Extension and Route 88, which Mr. Ivery will confirm.

Mr. Ivery reported that Maronda turned in building permits in order to begin the process for acquiring sewer taps for the final lots in the previously- approved phases at Tuscany Estates.

Mr. Ivery presented a request by the owner of 5100 Union Street for a waiver from complying with the requirements presented in the engineer's August 2, 2016 letter on the review of his grading plan, which the Board declined.

The Board discussed the letter from the attorney for Nick and Tammy DiLiscia, 115 Coal Bluff Road, stating the DiLiscia's may take action against the Township for damages sustained by the grading for the house construction of 20 Harvest Lane that he claims created a water run-off issue on his property. Mr. Ivery will give Mr. Sweat further information on this issue.

The engineer presented his written report. He noted the paving project cost was only slightly over the bid amount. The other open items had already been discussed.

The solicitor reported that Judge DiSalle, representing Finleyville Airport, requested some changes to the easement agreement between the Airport and the property owners for eliminating the remaining obstructive trees. The airport was concerned about their liability if the property owner refuses to allow the airport to remove the obstruction, and requested language that the property owner will bear the liability.

Mr. Sweat also reminded the Board that he supplied an overview for the Planning Commission and Zoning Office regarding possible adoption of the International Property Maintenance Code; and he inquired on the status of the proposed zoning ordinance amendment dealing with cell towers. Mr. Ivery intends to submit both of these items to the Planning Commission at their next meeting on September 22, 2016.

Mr. Sweat reported that he had spoken to Ron Cooper, solicitor for South Park, regarding DEP's concern the Overlook Street Sewer Project is not moving forward.

Motion to place the Overlook Street Intermunicipal Agreement on the agenda for approval at the September 12, 2016 Board meeting, and complete the Act 537 Plan to the required level of completion for submittal to the DEP

Motion by Heather Daerr, Second by Paul Chasko

Roll call vote: Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes, Sargent-yes, Daerr-yes. Motion carried.

Motion to pay general fund bills in the amount of \$42,983.82 as of August 22, 2016 as presented by the Treasurer/Asst Secretary subject to being true and correct

Motion by Charles Trax, Second by Deborah Sargent

Roll call vote: Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes, Sargent-yes, Daerr-yes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve payment to Morgan Excavating LLC for the 2016 Paving Project, in the total amount of \$136,610.01, with \$119,376.39 paid out of the Liquid Fuels Fund and \$17,233.62 paid out of the General Fund

Motion by Paul Chasko, Second by Deborah Sargent

Roll call vote: Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes, Sargent-yes, Daerr-yes. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the Local Share grant administration. Mr. Harshman advised that the Redevelopment Authority is prepared to handle the advertising, bid opening and contract administration. Those costs would then come out of the grant amount. The Township would not then need to sign a cooperation agreement with the Authority.

Motion to authorize the Washington County Redevelopment Authority to administer the Local Share grant for the Township's Union Valley flood control project for replacement of the Jason and Jack Street bridges

Motion by Paul Chasko, Second by Deborah Sargent

Roll call vote: Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes, Sargent-yes, Daerr-yes. Motion carried.

Terri Frahlich, 342 Mingo Church Road, appeared before the Board to urge public sewerage be pursued for the Mingo Circle/Mingo Church area. She also requested the Board consider a reduction in the amount of the escrow account, currently \$2000, required by the Township for a home mandated to install a sewage holding tank.

Motion to authorize the solicitor to review the Township's sewage holding tank application and agreement and required escrow amount

Motion by Heather Daerr, Second by Paul Chasko

Roll call vote: Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes, Sargent-yes, Daerr-yes. Motion carried.

The Board discussed applying for a small sewer grant for the Overlook Street Sewer Project area, and authorized the engineer to put together a financing scenario for a grant application. Mrs. Sargent will speak with Rich Cleveland to set up a meeting with him to discuss this possibility.

Motion to authorize signing of the Agreement between West Elizabeth Sanitary Authority and Union Township agreeing to adopt a local sewer use ordinance enforcing pre-treatment controls on any industrial users of the Elrama Sewerage System; and authorizing the solicitor to prepare the ordinance incorporating West Elizabeth Borough Ordinance No. 276 of 2015; and to advertise the ordinance for possible adoption on September 26, 2016

Motion by Charles Trax, Second by Heather Daerr

Roll call vote: Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes, Sargent-yes, Daerr-yes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the use of the soccer fields for the fall season by Ringgold Area Youth Soccer Association with continued use of the fields contingent on a signed lease agreement to be prepared by the solicitor

Motion by Charles Trax, Second by Deborah Sargent

Roll call vote: Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes, Sargent-yes, Daerr-yes. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the need to request letters of support from the Washington County Commissioners, Rep. Saccone and Sen. Bartolotta on the Elrama Brownfield property; and also the unpaid 2016 real estate taxes. The Board decided that the Treasurer will pay the Township tax, and Mr. Trax agreed to call Ringgold's solicitor Tim Berggren to request tax forgiveness from the school district.

Board Approved: September 26, 2016

Motion to reimburse the Ringgold High School Girls Soccer Team for the rental fee for use of the Brownsville Road park as requested by Ms Jackie Seiler

Motion by Paul Chasko, Second by Deborah Sargent

Roll call vote: Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes, Sargent-yes, Daerr-yes. Motion carried.

Ms. Daerr suggested that the contract for cleaning of the Township building be reconsidered by the Board. Mr. Spahr suggested she contact Chernicky Cleaning Service for a discussion of any changes she would like to make to the current contract. The Board agreed that Ms. Daerr will place an ad on Craigslist, and Ms. Sargent will place an ad in the Messenger.

Ms. Daerr supplied a copy of a job description for Township Manager to the Board members and Mr. Sweat for their review and consideration of the possibility of hiring a Township Manager.

The Washington County Association of Township Officials annual convention will be held on October 6, 2016 at the Doubletree in Meadowlands. Reservations need to be made by August 26, 2016 for any elected or appointed officials planning to attend.

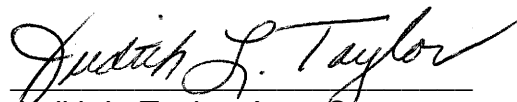
Mr. Spahr noted that the state had made plans to obtain federal grant funds to encourage redevelopment of closed coal-fired power plants, two of which are located in Union Township.

Motion to go to executive session to discuss personnel matters at 10:10 p.m.

Motion by Heather Daerr, Second by Charles Trax

Roll call vote: Spahr-yes, Trax-yes, Chasko-yes, Sargent-yes, Daerr-yes. Motion carried.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 10:55 p.m. and left the room immediately thereafter.


Judith L. Taylor, Asst. Secretary