

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
OCTOBER 27, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Roma called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00 p.m., at the Washington Township Municipal Building. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Supervisors, Ernest Gehman, David Moyer, James Roma, Township Manager, Richard Sichler; Solicitor, Daniel Becker, Esquire; John Weber representing LTL Consultants, Stuart Rosenthal & Brian Brochon, Gilmore & Assoc., Staff member, Susan Brown and approximately six (6) residents in attendance.

Absent:

TAPING OF MEETING

The meeting was recorded as an aid in the preparation of the minutes. It was noted no one other than township staff was taping the meeting this evening.

SPECIAL REQUESTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2016

A motion was made by Ernest Gehman and seconded by David Moyer to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2016 meeting as prepared. **No public comment received.**

All ayes

TOWNSHIP REPORTS

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by James Roma to approve the payment of all bills for the General Fund, Highway Aid Fund, Recreation Fund, Street Light Fund, Traffic Impact Fund, Sewer Fund and Building Escrow Funds up to and inclusive of October 27, 2016, and to file the treasurer's report for audit. **No public comment received.**

All ayes

Chairman Roma announced an Executive Session was held this evening, October 27, 2016, to discuss litigation matters.

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collectors Report for the month of August 2016:

Real Estate Tax	\$ 537.87
Interim Tax	\$ 41.11
Per Capita Tax	\$ 527.00
Amusement Tax	<u>\$ 5,770.24</u>
Total	\$ 6,876.22

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

A copy of the EBFD Report is enclosed.

ZONING/SEO REPORT

Reports are enclosed.

SEWER ENGINEER'S REPORT

A copy of the Sewer Engineer's Report is enclosed.

A copy of the EEMA O & M Report is enclosed.

- Mr. Rosenthal reported the PA Small Water & Sewer Grant Application will be filed tomorrow.
- The sewer work at Bally Springs Phase II is complete and tested and awaiting the final video inspection.

Supervisor Moyer questioned how the collection process works as well as penalty and interest charges.

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

A copy of the Township Engineer's Report is enclosed.

- A new Subdivision Plan was submitted this month for a lot line adjustment. This will require a Planning Commission meeting in November.
- Bally Springs Phase I eighteen (18) month maintenance period which will expire at the end of November. Mr. Weber, along with the Township Roadmaster and Township Manager, conducted an inspection in Phase I and found things to be in good shape. There were a few issues which the Developer will take care of prior to November 23rd.
- Hillcrest and Robin Hill Road projects are complete. Everything went well and the Contractors bill has been received which came in \$4,517 less than the contract price. Mr. Sichler also indicated the line painting will be done before winter.

Public Comment:

Laura Pagotto, asked if there is a possibility of the township installing an additional crosswalk on Stauffer Road.

A motion was made by Ernest Gehman and seconded by David Moyer authorizing LTL Consultants to review the Spring Valley Village Subdivision Plan for potential additional crosswalk and signage. **No comments received.**

All ayes

SOLICITOR

A motion was made by Ernest Gehman and seconded by David Moyer authorizing the Solicitor to proceed with litigation against Butter Valley Meadows. **No comments received.**

All ayes

SUPERVISORS UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Barto Road traffic signal update – PADOT has approved the plans but still waiting on is to finalize various documents. The project will be bid in January.
- Anthony’s Mill Road bridge update – there has been no activity to date.
- 2016 Township road projects – The FDR projects scheduled for Robin Hill Road and Hillcrest Road are complete and line painting will take place later in the fall. The oil and chip project has also been completed.
- 2017 Budget meeting was held and there have been some additional items that have been investigated since that meeting with respect to the salary structure. Also, there has been discussion about the restructure of the intersection at Old Route 100 and Barto Road. A revised budget was distributed for review.

Public Comment:

David Starns, suggested the sewer revenue number is ultra conservative and that number should be the best number it can possibly be. Mr. Sichler explained that line item is going to be split into two, one for current revenue and the other will be for ARB collections.

Supervisor Moyer asked about employee salaries. Mr. Sichler provided a hand-out showing the past history of pay increases for all employees. Mr. Moyer stated if there are going to be raises given to the employees then all raises should be for the same amount. Mr. Gehman agreed that all employees should be given the same amount however Mr. Gehman stated we need to watch how much we give because the cost of insurance went up and the employees are not paying what I am paying where I work. Mr. Gehman stated we can’t keep giving raises and not have the employees give anything back. Mr. Moyer stated the employees are a team and one employee is not worth more than another. Mr. Gehman would like an executive session to discuss further.

- Recycling Contract – Mr. Sichler is still gathering information to ensure we receive competitive bids.
- Road Signage Contract – Washington Township is the host for this contract in conjunction with the Berks County Cooperative Purchasing Council. Road

signage is now available through Co-Stars which is a state purchasing agency. Mr. Sichler is reviewing to see if this contact is still necessary.

SUPERVISORS NEW BUSINESS

- Sewer account #687 is requesting a waiver of the late fee of \$38.12. There was no motion to rescind the late fee – the request is denied.
- A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Ernest Gehman providing a letter of support for Bally Boroughs PA Small Water & Sewer Grant Letter for a new water tank. **No comment received.**

All ayes

SUBDIVISION EXTENSIONS

None

SUBDIVISIONS/PLANNING

None

COMMUNICATIONS

- Copy of the ARB Delinquent Account Report
- Copy of Board & Committee vacancies

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, November 17, 2016 at 7:00 pm. This will be one week early due to the Thanksgiving Day Holiday.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Ernest Gehman to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. **No public comment received.**

All ayes

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Sichler
Township Manager/Secretary