

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
DECEMBER 15, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Roma called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:03 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 (arrived at 7:13pm), 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 eleven (11) 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 NOVEMBER 17, 2016

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by James Roma to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2016 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 December 15, 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 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss litigation.

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collectors Report for the month of November 2016:

Real Estate Tax	\$ 3,532.22
Interim Tax	\$ 251.72
Hydrant Tax	\$ 35.13
Light Tax	\$ 94.60
Per Capita Tax	\$ 456.50
Total	\$ 4,370.17

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

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. Brochon noted the semi-annual Corrective Action Plan is being prepared for submittal to DEP before the December 31st deadline.

Supervisor Moyer asked the status of 120 Wilt Road property which was sold at Sheriff Sale. Mr. Becker stated he would look into the matter and report back.

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

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

- Mr. Weber reported a review letter was issued for the Weller-Guest Subdivision Plan. This Plan will be reviewed by the Planning Commission at their January meeting.
- Traffic signal specs and bid package are nearly complete. LTL is recommending the project be bid with PennBid. Mr. Weber is hoping to put the project out for bid in January.

Public Comment:

Connie Cordova asked what the status is of the solar light at Stauffer Road. Mr. Sichler is working with PADOT.

Laura Pagotto asked if Mr. Weber checked into the second crosswalk for Spring Valley Village. Mr. Weber indicated he did look at it and will provide a plan to the township.

Supervisor Gehman arrived at this point during the meeting.

SOLICITOR

None

SUPERVISORS UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Barto Road traffic signal update – update has already been provided.
- Anthony’s Mill Road bridge update – the bridge has been removed and all work has been completed adjacent to Forgdale Road. The turn-around could not be paved at the end of Anthony’s Mill Road due to the change in weather. The area was stabilized and work will be completed in the spring.
- Recycling Contract – the Township Manager advertised the township is seeking bids to handle our recycling material; three responses were received. Mr. Sichler would like to extend the current contract until the end of January. A motion was made by Ernest Gehman and seconded by David Moyer extending the current contract with Cogle’s Recycling Inc. through January 31, 2017. **No comments received.**

All ayes

SUPERVISORS NEW BUSINESS

- A motion was made by Ernest Gehman, seconded by David Moyer to adopt Resolution 2016-25, adopting the 2017 Operating Budget for Washington Township, totaling \$6,142,689. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by James Roma adopting Resolution 2016-26 fixing the tax rate on real property for the fiscal year 2017 at 2.7 mills.

Public Comment:

Ms. Pagotto asked if this is a tax increase. Mr. Sichler indicated it is the same rate as last year.

All ayes

- A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by James Roma adopting Resolution 2016-27 setting the Act 511 taxes for 2017 at the following rates;

LST	\$52.00
Per Capita	\$10.00
Real Estate Transfer	1%
Earned Income	1%
Amusement	10%

No comments received.

All ayes

- A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Ernest Gehman adopting Resolution 2016-28 levying assessments for 2017 for the maintenance of electric lighting in the Hillside Acres, Perkiomen Creek Farms II, Victoria Village, Cubbler Court and Bally Hi Lots 3 & 4. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Ernest Gehman authorizing the County of Berks Information Systems Dept. to print the County/Municipal Tax Bills for 2017 and to include all municipal levies, as requested by the taxing district on the same bill with the county taxes which is sent to taxpayers in early

spring, and to subsequently bill back a portion of the expenses for the printing and mailing of the tax bills. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- Request received from Mr. & Mrs. Robert Auchenbach to waive the requirement of buffer trees on their new building lot located at 2428 Old Route 100. Mr. Auchenbach indicated there is already a full line of trees along the property line. In addition, the neighbor who built a home in April with the same requirement has not planted the trees. The Township Engineer will go out to look at the property and the Board will make a decision at the next meeting.
- Texas Eastern Transmission notice of filing General Permit Application (GP-11) with the Pennsylvania Dept. of Environmental Protection for emergency pipeline work. The Township has the opportunity to provide comments by January 4, 2017 on how the application fits with our zoning, planning and ordinances. This work has already been completed.
- A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Ernest Gehman amending the 2017 Schedule of Meetings changing the Reorganization meeting date from January 9, 2017 to January 3, 2017. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- A motion was made by James Roma, seconded by David Moyer authorizing LTL Consultants to initiate the bidding process for roof work on the Public Works building and the Waste Water Treatment Plant. **No comments received.**

All ayes

SUBDIVISION EXTENSIONS

None

SUBDIVISIONS/PLANNING

None

COMMUNICATIONS

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board of Supervisors will hold the annual organizational meeting on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

The next WTMA (water) meeting will be held on Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

The next board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Roma thanked all township staff for their service this year.

Engineer Rosenthal announced this was his last meeting and will be handing over the reins to Brian Brochon. Mr. Rosenthal will be retiring in January but will remain with Gilmore & Assoc. on a part-time basis.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Ernest Gehman to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m. **No public comment received.**

All ayes

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Sichler
Township Manager/Secretary