

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SCHUYLKILL TOWNSHIP
75 WALNUT STREET
MARY-D, PA 17952**

The Regular meeting of the Supervisors of Schuylkill Township was held immediately after the reorganization meeting on Tuesday, January 2nd, 2018 in the Municipal Building. Those present included Charles Fayash, Charles Hosler, and Frank Fabrizio. The Pledge of the Allegiance was recited prior to the Reorganization meeting.

Charles Hosler made a motion to approve the December Minutes. 2nd Fayash. All approved.

Treasurer's Report

\$296,421.73 total in bank accounts. Charles Fayash made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report pending audit. 2nd Hosler. All approved.

Public comment on agenda items only –John Bashago, Tuscarora, questioned if township has any ordinance on a shooting range or discharging weapons. Bashago expressed concerns about the shooting in town for safety reasons and potential damage to homes. Magnani, stated the hunting code was 150 yards minimum from an occupied dwelling and Magnani stated you are not allowed to discharge your weapon in township, borough, or city in your backyard unless it is for defense purposes.

Police Report – total of 24 calls including loss property, parking complaints, ordinance violation, abandoned vehicle, traffic enforcements, thefts from vehicle, civil complaints, traffic hazard, animal complaint, vehicle fire, information calls, assist motorist, suspicious activity, hit and run accident, warrant service.

Code Enforcement Report - none

Road master Report- Fayash stated the international is running. GMC is making a clunking noise; it may be transfer case or the rear. Fayash stated that salt will need to be ordered.

Solicitors Report-Slusser stated that the board could discuss the Tuscarora waterline account in executive session.

Zoning Report- 15 permits were issued in 2017. The most recent permit was issued for a detached garage at 410 Green Street in Brockton.

Committee Reports

Council of Government- Committee did not meet

Eastern Schuylkill Recreation Committee- Committee did meet and they are looking for a Director

Tax Collection Committee- did meet but we did not have a representative present

Communications: Mary D Fire Company sent a letter thanking township for donation and a copy of the insurance invoice they applied it to (a quarterly premium). Tuscarora Fire Company sent a letter thanking township for donation and a copy of the insurance invoice and proof of payment. ESRC sent a letter updating current happenings. Alfred Benesch & Company sent letter of commitment along with rate information.

Old Business

New Business- Hosler made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-1 for Berkheimer to appoint Secretary/Treasurer as authorized representative dismissing Resolution 2017-2 appointing the Chairman as authorized representative. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved. A donation was made to the Tamaqua Public Library in

the amount of \$500.00. The 2% garbage commission check was issued to Colleen Barrett for \$1,799.66 on the \$89,983.21 collected from 2/2/17-12/13/17. Approval for payment for the mileage expense for Charles Fayash for the County Convention held on October 18, 2017 in the amount of \$6.42. Fabrizio made a motion to pay the mileage expense to Charles Fayash in the amount of \$6.42. 2nd Hosler. All approved. Tuscarora Waterline Overage was discussed with Blythe Township. They were willing to put up \$15,000 towards the unpaid amount due. The township has to make a decision regarding if we were to match that amount and offer the construction company a combined total of \$30,000 towards the unpaid amount due. Slusser suggested the board discuss it in executive session due to the potential litigation involved. Letter from the Governor's office regarding the balance due to Penndot for the HOP permits. Barrett stated that she spoke with Billett (assistant counsel for the Governor's office) and explained the situation and asked for the deadline to be extended. This matter would also be discussed in executive session. Correspondence from John Blickley regarding the 2018 Municipal/County Emergency Operations Plan. The Municipal Promulgation Page needs to be officially approved; Resolution 2018-2. Barrett stated that the letter stated that the Schuylkill County Board of Commissioners approved a plan for the county and now it is time for the local elected officials to approve the plan on behalf of our municipality. No additional information was provided except for the letter stating that the municipalities would receive a copy of the plan once all municipalities approved the plan. Fayash asked how is the board supposed to approve the plan if we don't know what's in the plan. Deadline on the approval is March 1st. Fayash made a motion to table until next meeting. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved. Registration for PSATS Convention opens in January. Need approval for registering supervisors and Secretary/Treasurer. Need approval to register Secretary/Treasurer for the Secretary luncheon and for lodging, meals, and mileage during the convention. Barrett stated lodging with another Secretary would be approximately \$16.00 less than if the township would pay for mileage to and from the convention daily. Hosler made a motion approve lodging, meals, and mileage for Secretary/Treasurer for the convention. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved. Fayash made a motion to purchase a copy of the Sunshine Law Handbook form PSATS for \$15.00. 2nd Hosler. All approved. Hosler stated as he reads it HB1620 is stripping the municipalities of any recourse. Barrett stated the hearing on this matter is scheduled for January 9th. Slusser stated that HB1620 is stripping municipalities of any input regarding the wireless facilities in our township. Hosler made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-2 opposing HB1620 (wireless facilities). 2nd Fabrizio. All approved.

Public Comment

Rich Magnani, Brockton, questioned if the township passed on voting no regarding allowing the possibility of casinos being brought into the township. Fayash stated the township did not vote against the casinos because if they did decide to bring one to the township it would bring in revenue to the township. Magnani expressed concerns over crime that the casinos would bring to the area.

John Bashago, Tuscarora, questioned HB1620's limitations. Slusser stated it was regarding wireless facilities such as towers. Bashago, a member of the zoning board, questioned Paul Benulis' decision to bypass the zoning board and give a zoning permit to an applicant that had an adjacent lot but the adjacent lot did not have a permanent structure on it first. Bashago stated that was not his decision to make, if there is an existing lot with no permanent principal housing structure on it you cannot put a shed or garage on the lot according to the zoning law. The zoning board has never denied a variance because they want more construction etc. Bashago expressed concerned that now that Benulis did it for one person, others will expect the same and that is not how the law is written; 1526 page 7. Fayash asked if there ever was a structure on the lot previously. Bashago did not know. Fayash stated that if so they would be grandfathered in without getting a variance. Bashago expressed his concern on Benulis setting a precedent for future applicants by bypassing the variance requirements.

Fayash made a motion to go into executive session. Executive session ended.
Fayash made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 2nd Hosler. All approved.

Adjourned

Attest: Colleen Barrett

