

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

The Regular meeting of the Supervisors of Schuylkill Township was held on Monday, July 11th, at 7 P. M. in the Municipal Building. Those present included Charles Fayash, Charles Hosler and Frank Fabrizio. The Pledge of the Allegiance was recited.

Hosler made a motion to approve the June minutes. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved.

Treasurer's Report

\$390,466.74 total in bank accounts. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report pending audit by Fayash. 2nd Hosler. All approved.

Replies to last month's public questions -

No replies to last month's questions.

Public comment on agenda items only -

Joseph Leskin, Brockton, asked what is on the agenda that he is able to have questions on.

Bridget Leskin, Brockton, questioned if he has a question regarding something not on the agenda, that he needs to wait until public comment at the end of the meeting. Fayash stated yes.

Police Report -

June- 2 vehicle break-ins in Brockton, both were unlocked, Chief DiMarco stressed to everyone to please lock their vehicles-they are taking change, sunglasses or whatever they can get their hands on. Harassment call in Brockton; traffic contact was made in Mary D, where a citation was issued and the vehicle was towed; investigating theft of electrical services in Mary D; speeding in Mary D by the ball fields and the stop sign by Catawissa St. and Sanderson St.; drug law violation in Brockton being investigated by Officer Stanell; harassment on Valley St. in Brockton; another harassment in Brockton resulting in citation; harassment in Tuscarora resulting in juvenile being reprimanded by his parents; ATV complaint in Reevesdale and warning was given by Officer Stanell. Chief DiMarco stated that they put speed lines out at the intersections of 209, they are going to put more on Catawissa Street in Tuscarora as well as Valley Street in Brockton, within the next 2 weeks. Lines will also be put by the old Pit Stop in Mary D. There was also a background check on an employee in the township. Chief DiMarco stated that the officers are going to have to handle some code enforcement issues. So if anyone has any code enforcement issues to let them know. There was an issue in Mary D, where it is unfit and unlivable and theft of electrical services so they will be handling that case. Residents on Valley Street were also notified of condemnation for not having running water.

Chief DiMarco had discussed last month about providing police services to Middleport Borough. There is an agreement drawn up and it is contingent on the Supervisors approval this evening and also the Mayor and Council of Middleport approving it on their end. This will not take away any patrol hours in the township it will actually add hours up to 40 hours a week between both municipalities and they are looking to hire another officer to fill the shifts. Chief DiMarco wanted to hire a previous detective of Florida as well as a part time officer of Tamaqua, Peter Sandler. He has all of his training and certifications that are needed, he just needs a badge and uniform. Chief DiMarco had asked the Board to review the agreement. Attorney Joe Baranko explained more in detail on the agreement and also the workman's comp to have correct coverage.

Joseph Leskin, spoke out questioning if the public is able to see the agreement before it is voted on.

Hosler made a motion to approve the agreement contingent on the liability and workman's comp coverage. 2nd Fayash. All approved.

Chief DiMarco stated next order would be to hire another officer. Hosler stated it would be better to wait until the agreement is set up. Chief DiMarco also wanted to ask to have the authority to do code enforcement due to a lot of it needs to be done. He stated he is willing to do it and it will be separate from his police duties, as needed. These will include high grass/weeds, condemning houses, etc. Hosler made a motion to have Chief DiMarco as code enforcement officer as needed. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved.

Road master Report-

Filled pot holes; grass and weeds were cut; GMC is apart and needs parts for the rear; and also got the roller running.

Solicitors Report- Joseph Baranko

Emergency Service Ordinance was drafted and some verbiage was changed and it will be advertised this month and have it on the agenda for approval at next month's meeting. The UCC fee schedule Resolution has been prepared and presented and also the Middleport Agreement has already been addressed.

Zoning Report- Paul Benulis

Permits are continuing to come in but at a slow rate. Again, if anyone has any questions to give him a call.

Committee Reports

Council of Government- committee did not meet.

Tax Collection Committee- committee did not meet.

Eastern Schuylkill Recreation Committee- committee did not meet.

Communications

The Tuscarora Fire Company will be holding their annual block party on Saturday, July 30th. Streets were approved to be closed for the event. Closed streets will be Mulberry Street and Seneca Street.

Old Business

PLGIT Procurement Card process, the secretary had called the representative again to have him come out and collect the completed paperwork as well as the voided check.

Fayash had contacted Harry Devine regarding the township changing all the street lights to LED's that has been tabled from the June meeting. Harry had met with the Supervisors and discussed everything with the conversion. Fayash had stated that changing would be an additional \$35, Hosler stated it would be an additional \$46 a month due to the price of kilowatt. Fayash stated that we would only be benefiting to changing to them to be green (efficient). There was more discussion on possibly doing them later on in the future. Hosler made a motion to stay with the high pressure sodium. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved.

Approval needed for Resolution 2016-1 for UCC Code fees that were tabled from June's meeting. Hosler made a motion to approve Resolution 2016-1 for UCC Code fees. 2nd Fayash. All approved.

Approval needed for Ordinance 1-2016 which is authorizing the Borough Fire Department to obtain Reimbursement. Fayash stated it will be advertised this month and will need to be approved next month.

The Supervisors have already reviewed and discussed the Intermunicipal Agreement for patrolling between Schuylkill Township and Middleport.

New Business

Fabrizio had checked for cameras and the prices range between \$229 and \$800. Fabrizio had received an anonymous phone call on Friday, July 8th asking for the prices on the cameras. This anonymous person would like to purchase the camera and Fabrizio stated that he would bring it to the Board first. Fabrizio stated that if Paul releases the passwords, he will upload the videos to YouTube. Fayash made a motion to approve the video camera to record all township meetings through an anonymous buyer. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved.

Approval is needed to renew the Direct Energy contract. Hosler made a motion to approve the contract from Direct Energy. 2nd Fayash. All approved.

Public Comment

Bridget Leskin, Brockton, wanted to complain about the speeding on Valley Street in front of her home and wants something to be done. Leskin also stated she has a camera system that watches all the speeding. Chief DiMarco stated that we would be able to look into posting 2 signs that the entire length of Valley Street is under a speed zone. Chief DiMarco also stated that this will be addressed.

Joseph Leskin, Brockton, also stated that he is also concerned about the speeding going through town. Leskin also stated he was concerned on what they voted on. Fayash stated that it is open to the public and he is able to see it. Chief DiMarco also stated that he is able to see the contract that there is nothing that is secretive. Chief DiMarco just explained more on what the agreement was for due to the residents not being at the last meeting. Leskin also was concerned about the workman's comp and the liability on the township. More discussion was made that more and more municipalities are doing this. Leskin had stated he has never heard of any of our fireman collecting from the insurance due to an injury at a fire.

Ryan Slane, Tuscarora Fire Co., stated regarding the workman's comp, that it is provided by the township and the fire company also has a fireman's relief insurance in the event of an injury. Leskin questioned if an officer gets hurt, is Middleport going to pay for the fees of their earnings or is it just an amount. Slane stated that it depends on the workman's comp policy that you would get up to 60% of your salary and then the fireman's relief picks up the balance.

Christine Verdier, Mary D, stated that this was also something she was concerned about when she brought it up last month. Verdier stated that in a case where we are only in a contract with Middleport for 1 year, they pay us the \$25,000 and one of our officers has an incident and is on workman's comp, our rates will remain an increase for up to 4 years due to that claim. Attorney Baranko explained the workman's comp policy and other municipalities that have done this agreement as well.

Leskin also stated regarding to the township changing to LED lights, that other towns are changing back due to the brightness of the light.

Christine Verdier, Mary D, wanted to welcome Natasha back and also congratulations on the birth of her daughter. Wanted to also thank Hosler for bringing up the cost savings or lack of at the last meeting and tabling for more information to be held on the LED's. Verdier also stated that it was important that the Supervisors were able to meet with someone to discuss the numbers on the LED lights. Verdier noticed on Back Street that there was parking on both sides and questioned if there was an ordinance in effect for parking on Back Street, that if there were to be an emergency vehicle, they would not be able to go through. Verdier questioned if there were any plans for road projects this year due to we are in July. Also stated if anything is going to be done with the salt shed due to it already being July as well. Fayash stated that they will be looking at the roads this month and seeing what needs to be fixed and also checking to see how much we have to spend on roads. Fayash also stated that the insurance had awarded the salt shed to Zawada at about approximately \$12,000.

Gary Feathers, Tuscarora, wanted to thank Frank and Tony for the job they are doing on Old 209 and that the activity has been reduced.

Billy Zahora, Mary D, questioned about the citation that was to be given to his neighbors at 65 Sunny Drive for not cutting their grass. Zahora wanted to add about the garbage in the basement that is starting to produce mold. Chief DiMarco stated that due to him being Code Enforcement Officer now, he is able to give out a citation. With the extent of the issues at this home, the township will end up cutting the grass and boarding the home up. Chief DiMarco and Attorney Baranko have discussed the Code Enforcement regulations as well as the Property Maintenance Code for the township and what can be done. There is also an ongoing investigation on the electrical services to the home.

Mary Van Pelt, Brockton, wanted to question why at every meeting, some people can talk out and nothing is done. Van Pelt stated every one should be treated alike. Chief DiMarco apologized that he had kept the conversation going. Van Pelt also stated that this has happened long before now and they all need to be treated equal due to they are all residents of the township.

John Zubris, Brockton, stated that since Verdier knows so much about the Code Enforcement laws, that they should make her the Code Enforcement Officer.

Ryan Slane, Tuscarora Fire Co., questioned about the process and what has already been done to be reimbursed for the fire in January that had happened at the wax factory. Other towns and municipalities are out of their foam and are waiting on our township to reimburse them so they are able to purchase more foam. Attorney Baranko stated that he will be staying on top of it but it may end up in litigation. Slane also stated that he would like to be involved in the communication of this due to him being the assistant manager the day of the fire. Jessica Tirpak stated who the actual owner of the property was and Attorney Baranko stated that he would like the address of the property owner to properly send a letter to him as well.

Joseph Leskin, Brockton, questioned if the township is going to look into the workman's comp insurance. Hosler stated that the agreement was approved contingent on the workman's comp. Leskin also questioned that with the camera being purchased anonymously, who is going to operate the camera during the meetings. Fabrizio stated he is going to operate the camera. Leskin questioned if there will be any pay for this, Supervisors stated no.

Mary Van Pelt, Brockton, wanted to state that there are people that are still yelling out. Van Pelt also wanted to state that during a fire on Valley Street that we did not have an ariel truck and Tamaqua had supplied theirs and risking their fireman on our roofs, that we are complaining if someone is going to get hurt and that we are going to be responsible. Van Pelt feels that if someone gets hurt in Brockton when they are from Tamaqua, that we should be responsible.

Fayash & Hosler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 2nd Fabrizio.

Adjourned

Attest: Natasha Tyson