

**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, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 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 May minutes. 2<sup>nd</sup> Fabrizio. All approved.

Treasurer's Report

\$352,985.41 total in bank accounts. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report pending audit by Fayash. 2<sup>nd</sup> Hosler. All approved.

Replies to last month's public questions -

No replies to last month's questions.

Public comment on agenda items only -

No public comment on agenda items.

Police Report -

May- Trash reported on Brockton Mountain Road, parking complaint/abandoned vehicle taken care of on Mine Street-vehicle is removed. Police assisted with putting no parking signs up for the street sweeping, criminal mischief in Tuscarora, burning complaint in Brockton, theft and a drug law violation that resulted in a seizure of a substantial amount of stolen items; guns and drugs and is still under investigation.

Road master Report-

Street sweeper has been out and cleaned all towns except Newkirk and Reevesdale; we apologize for that and we will try to see if we can get the street sweeper back to finish those roads; street sweeper has been broke down. Grass has been cut throughout the township and more needs to be cut and weed wacked.

Hosler questioned Fayash why he had to buy another walk behind lawn mower and a new weed wacker. Fayash stated that the lawn mower is a lot easier to use on the banks than the weed wacker. And the weed wacker that we have was used mostly for brush and the new one is smaller and a lot easier to handle. Hosler stated that it was \$700 to purchase the 2 products. Fayash stated that he purchased them due to it being easier and quicker for the worker.

Solicitors Report- Christopher Slusser

Only thing to report is at the last meeting there was discussion that he would provide a final copy of the ordinance that allows the fire departments to bill out for the services regarding the recent situation in January; that prompted us to prepare this ordinance. Slusser gave the Supervisors a copy of the ordinance he had drafted for their review. Slusser asked for the Supervisors authorization to advertise the ordinance in the paper to have it approved at the next meeting. Fayash made a motion to have Slusser advertise the ordinance in the newspaper for the authorizing the borough fire department to obtain reimbursement for the costs of materials expended and services rendered in fighting fires and rendering emergency service and emergency rescue services. 2<sup>nd</sup> Hosler. All approved.

Zoning Report- Paul Benulis

Since February, issued 15 permits total, 2 open and they are coming in steady and also having positive feedback on the rates. Benulis stated that he learned that when building a garage, there is no UCC required for anything under 1,000 sq ft. Benulis stated any questions you can give him a call.

### Committee Reports

Council of Government- met Wednesday May 25<sup>th</sup>, discussed the land bank and how it's on a separate committee now; Ringtown borough discussed that they changed to LED lights and that they are not as bright.

Tax Collection Committee- did not meet this month

Eastern Schuylkill Recreation Committee- did not meet this month

### Communications

Tamaqua Public Library is requesting a donation for the 2 summer reading programs. We do donate to the Tamaqua Library but that is only once a year and that is in October.

The Tuscarora Fire Company is requesting assistance in the process of closing 2 streets down for the upcoming Tuscarora Block party on Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>. The streets are Seneca Street and Mulberry Street. Fayash made a motion to allow the streets listed to be closed for the block party. 2<sup>nd</sup> Hosler. All approved.

### Old Business

We are waiting for the representative to come out to the office to collect the voided check and all completed paperwork to move forward with the PLGIT Procurement Card process.

There is a request to change all street lights to LED, saving approximately \$55 a month that has been tabled from the May meeting. Fayash stated he spoke with Christie from PPL with the concern of the lumens being a lot different. Discussion was made about the bulbs and the color difference and brightness. Fayash stated that the conversion would hold the same brightness. Hosler discussed the lumens and also the difference between the most recent bills and how much the difference would be due to the price of energy. Fayash made a motion to change all the lights to LED lights. More discussion was made regarding the pricing and kilowatts of LED lights. Hosler made a motion to table the subject until next month to do more research. 2<sup>nd</sup> Fabrizio. Fayash nay. Motion passed to table until next meeting. Fayash made a motion to make the 3 new lights that need to be installed to be LED to see how they are. No second. Motion not passed.

Review and approve Resolution 2016-1 for UCC codes, that was tabled from May meeting. Slusser stated that he wanted to review briefly the resolution. Slusser had gone through the price differences from the old resolution to the new one that needs to be approved. Slusser stated that if it is acceptable that he will advertise it for the next meeting, also that the Supervisors need to state now if they feel any changes need to be made.

### New Business

Fayash had gone to a meeting in May regarding the reimbursement process for Snowstorm Jonas. Fayash needs an approval to appoint someone as an agent to finish completing the paperwork. All Supervisors need to agree and sign but there needs to be one agent. Fayash made a motion that himself would be the signing agent to complete the paperwork. 2<sup>nd</sup> Hosler. All approved.

Paul Benulis had left the Supervisors know that this will be the last meeting that he will be recording and asked if the township would take over taping the meetings and post them online for residents who are not able to attend the meetings. A camera cost between \$200-\$300. Fayash stated that they will research some prices and add it to the agenda for next month.

There were 3 candidates for the maintenance position; one was a no show and one opted out of the position. There was only one left who wanted the position and that was Mark Buccieri. Fayash made a motion to hire Mark Buccieri as the township maintenance worker at \$15/hr to start and after 90 days, \$16/hr with the approval of the Supervisors. Employee will work 80 hours per pay period, additional hours worked will be added to comp time. Employee will receive a \$25 a month stipend for cell phone allowance, employee will also receive \$100 clothing allowance in January every year. Employee has

opted out of insurance coverage and will receive an additional \$5,000 for the year which will be in \$1,250 quarterly increments. Fayash again made a motion to hire Mark Buccieri as the Township Maintenance department. 2<sup>nd</sup> Fabrizio. All approved.

There was a plan in Newkirk for a subdivision and it has gone through the planning board and also the county and has come to the township to be approved. Hosler made a motion to approve the subdivision for Daniel Farber. 2<sup>nd</sup> Fayash. All approved.

The Supervisors are to discuss and approve the Fair Housing Resolution which is letting it be known to all persons of Schuylkill Township that discrimination in the sale, rental, leasing, financing of housing or land to be used for construction of housing, or in the provision of brokerage services because of race, color, religion, ancestry, sex, national origin, familial status, handicap is prohibited by Title VIII of the Civil Right Act of 1968. Hosler made a motion to approve the Fair Housing Resolution. 2<sup>nd</sup> Fabrizio. All approved.

Chief DiMarco had stated that during the meeting in January he had requested to use the funds from the police budget. Chief DiMarco applied for a grant to pay for the lettering on the police car, but it will take awhile for it to go through and be approved. Chief DiMarco requested to have the funds to pay for the car lettering, clothing and also the computer system that needed to be put in the police officer's office. Chief DiMarco also wanted to mention that there was money put aside for a camera system for the police car, so there is no extra money being used. Fayash made a motion to pay the police officers 3 balances that include the car lettering, clothing and computer system. 2<sup>nd</sup> Hosler. All approved.

Chief DiMarco also discussed with the Supervisors that the Borough of Middleport is in need of patrolling. They are looking to increase the hours from 30/week to 40/week, and hiring a 3<sup>rd</sup> person to split the hours between all three. Middleport is paying the township \$25,000 per year or the Borough will decide the amount if we sign a 6 month contract. Middleport Borough would not be responsible for insurance, salaries, fuel, flares, uniforms, anything, our township will be paying all services. Chief DiMarco had spoken with Slusser regarding this and it seems to be happening more within the area. John Leshko, the mayor of Middleport discussed more on how the process will be working as far as the hours the officers will be working and how the township will still remain the main office for the officers.

A gentleman questioned how much money is budgeted for the police officers through our township? Fayash answered that the police officers budget in the township is \$30,000 and Middleport would be paying an extra \$25,000. More discussion was made regarding the amount of money that would be spent on fuel and insurance if combined with Middleport.

Christine Verdier, Mary D, stated that with the intermunicipal agreements, to take into consideration workman's comp. She stated it is a big complaint when it comes to intermunicipal agreements and we should find a way to incorporate that information into the contract.

Fayash made a motion to allow the Solicitor to pursue the intermunicipal agreement for the police coverage for Middleport. 2<sup>nd</sup> Hosler. All approved. Hosler mentioned it is also pending due to the Middleport meeting is the first Tuesday of the month for them to discuss at their meeting.

#### Public Comment

Leonard Buchinsky, Mary D, wanted to find out if he could buy some land. Fayash and Natasha had discussed what the courthouse stated as far as selling land within the township. Slusser also added that we would have to advertise if we were to sell any land. Buchinsky stated that he was here last month and wanted to know how long it takes to buy land. Fayash stated it would have to be advertised and there would have to be a bid on it. After back and forth discussion on buying and selling land, Hosler made a motion to not sell any land until further research is done. 2<sup>nd</sup> Fayash. All approved.

Mary Van Pelt, Brockton, wanted to thank Fayash for street sweeping. Also wanted to state that there are people who park outside, that block the street and if there would be an emergency, no emergency vehicles would be able to come in and if someone had to leave they would not be able to get out. Fayash stated to take the complaint to the officers. Van Pelt wanted to add that we may need a little outside help regarding the conversion to LED lights and stated that it is very dark by her house in Brockton and wanted to bring that to the Supervisors attention.

Joe Chamoun, Tuscarora, wanted to state that he had complained about his neighbor and her construction last month and no one came out to do anything about it yet and wanted to know why. Chief DiMarco stated that he was there but the woman was not home. Chief DiMarco took the residents number and said he will discuss the issue in more detail in his office after the meeting.

Christine Verdier, Mary D, wanted to know regarding last month's minutes stating that the DEP situation was being taken care of and wanted to know how it is being taken care of. Fayash stated he spoke with Stephanie Lubinsky and she gave him a list of what needed to be completed and had them completed. Verdier also wanted to suggest that with the disgruntlement between the Board and the policies on what items can be bought or not, that there should be a limit on how much can be spent on an item before it is brought to the Board's attention before purchasing. Verdier also questioned if any more discussion or research has been made regarding her question from 2 months ago with Paul Benulis and his variance. Slusser and Fayash both stated that it is a closed case. Fayash also added that the permit was approved by the Board. Verdier had given Slusser a 2<sup>nd</sup> copy of the information that was provided to the township regarding his variance.

Paul Benulis, Brockton, wanted to give a thank you for the street sweeping as well. Wanted to also discuss why the length of time it is taking to approve the LED light conversion. Benulis stated that he shows no legitimate reason why not to approve the street lights.

John Zubris, Brockton, thanking Paul Benulis for taping the meetings and stated that he hopes the Supervisors will approve a camera so other residents are able to continue to watch the meetings.

Mary Van Pelt, Brockton, wanted to add that she did not mention the street light issue because she wants a street light; she just wanted to make the Board aware.

John Zubris, Brockton, wanted to mention that they are worried about the money for the street lights and also the purchasing of a camera but they were not worried about spending \$40,000 on a new police car. Hosler stated that they needed a police car.

Paul Benulis, Brockton, stated that Hosler may not see benefit in buying a camera but there is a lot of residents that are not able to make it due to work, disabilities, etc. Benulis asked the Board to please put the residents first when deciding on whether or not to purchase a camera.

Fayash made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup> Hosler.

Adjourned

Attest: Natasha Tyson