

**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, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 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 October minutes. 2<sup>nd</sup> Fabrizio. All approved.

Treasurer's Report

\$353,121.24 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 –

Fayash answered Joseph Leskin's question regarding handicap fees from last meeting. Fayash stated that there is a fee for a handicap space which is \$100 for the initial installation of the parking space, then an additional \$60 per year after installation. There was discussion amongst the Board whether or not to change the resolution and also discussion on how many handicap signs and parking spots have been installed in the last year. Fayash questioned the board if they would like to waive the fees of the previously installed spots or enforce the fees. Slusser stated he feels that it should be enforced. Hosler made a motion to lower the annual fee for the handicap sign to \$40 per year, but still holds the \$100 installation fee. 2<sup>nd</sup> Fayash. All approved.

Public comment on agenda items only –

John Zubris, Brockton, questioned regarding what will happen to the residents that have just received a handicap sign. Fayash stated they will be billed the \$100 and the \$40 per year after that. Zubris stated that this is a big mistake.

Christine Verdier, Mary D, wanted to question regarding the October minutes and the zoning if anyone has been able to sit down with ESRP and how we are going to continue in the process and how we are going to recreate the maps for the zoning. Slusser stated that they are in the process of scheduling a meeting. Verdier questioned on how the board is going to deal with Ag Preservation, due to the coal companies are working to get into the area.

Police Report –

Fayash stated that the officers have been investigating the dumping, and have told the residents that if anyone sees anyone dumping to please get a license plate number as well as make of vehicle if possible. This will need to be brought to the attention of the officers. Hosler stated that the officers would also like to advise the residents that arrests are pending for criminal mischief that occurred in the township involving juveniles that the department responded to. Juveniles were caught and will be facing charges. Officers have also stressed to the residents to keep all doors locked on the vehicles. The police report has been given by Hosler and it states, phone assignment; criminal mischief; abandoned vehicle; ordinance violation; assist motorist; ordinance violation; traffic hazard; detail (other); criminal mischief; parking complaint; harassment; assist motorist; domestic; protection from abuse order; criminal mischief; animal complaint; furnishing alcohol to minors; information; traffic enforcement; atv/dirt bike; traffic enforcement; parking complaint; traffic enforcement; trespassing on private property; warrant service; and suspicious activity.

Road master Report-

All the paving and the milling is completed throughout the township. Fayash is looking for a tar buggy to seal the roads. The house on Sunny Drive that has been requested for grass maintenance has been completed.

### Solicitors Report- Christopher Slusser

Slusser announced that there was an executives session prior to the meeting regarding pending to threat litigation.

### Zoning Report- Paul Benulis

Benulis stated there has still been 25 permits since February, there has been 2 variance hearings and 1 is complete, the other is still ongoing. There is also a decision pending that if anyone would like to come it will be on Monday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30p. Benulis also wanted to comment on that there has been numerous inquires for construction that have needed variances and they have been withdrawn due to the cost.

### Committee Reports

Council of Government- meeting will be held on Novmeber 16<sup>th</sup>.

Tax Collection Committee- meeting will not be held until December.

Eastern Schuylkill Recreation Committee- meeting will be held on November 17<sup>th</sup>

### Communications

The Board has received a letter from Metrocast stating that the prices will be increasing as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

### Old Business

PLGIT Procurement Card is still in process.

The Secretary has reached out to multiple contractors in order to have the job completed, information was sent to all contractors inquiring. Fayash stated that the only one who had come back with an amount was Zawada Enterprises. Fayash stated that the cost for everything that was approved at last months meeting, including materials, came in at \$18,982.00. Hosler questioned if it was possible to have the amounts split due to it being through the same company. Fayash also added that the total cost of labor costs of concrete walls, floors and erecting building is \$18,382.00. Slusser stated that this must be put out to bid due to the amount. Slusser also explained that if a project is going to cost over the bid requirement amount, it must be advertised for public bid. More discussion was made on the requirements of constructing a project with totals that are over the bid requirement amount of \$19,400. Fayash made a motion to place the project out for sealed bids. 2<sup>nd</sup> Hosler. All approved.

### New Business

The Board received the Annual Budget draft for 2017 and had taken a moment to review it. Fayash made a motion to advertise the Annual Budget for 2017 in the newspaper. Hosler also added that the total revenues are \$476,581 and the total expenditures are \$449,155. 2<sup>nd</sup> Fabrizio. All approved.

The Board wanted to discuss the purchasing of a SUV vehicle. Fabrizio stated Mark called and found a 1994 Jeep Grand Cherokee for \$500. Mark had looked through the vehicle and took it for a ride and everything seems fine. Fabrizio stated he would like for Chief DiMarco to still look at it to see if it will pass inspection. Hosler made a motion to scrap the old jeep. 2<sup>nd</sup> Fabrizio. All approved. Fabrizio made a motion to purchase the new jeep for \$500 pending Chief DiMarco checking over the vehicle. 2<sup>nd</sup> Hosler. All approved.

Fayash stated that he needs to change his vote to be abstained on the jeep due to the jeep is his brothers.

### Public Comment

John Zubris, Brockton, questioned the Solicitor on how far back the township will go on the people who have requested handicap signs. The Solicitor stated that they will look back on the permits that were given internally and go from there. Zubris also stated that the old jeep should be put out for bid for someone to purchase it. Fayash and Hosler both stated that the jeep is in rough shape. Zubris also

questioned what the new jeep will be used for. Fayash stated to run errands due to they are using the GMC for that right now and only getting 6/7 miles to the gallon.

Christine Verdier, Mary D, questioned if anyone from the township maintenance department attended the winter maintenance training session that she had spoke about 2 months prior. Fayash stated no, not that he is aware of. Verdier also mentioned that the American flag at the ball field is a disgrace and would like the township to remove it and depose of it properly, also mentioned it is located right in the middle of the two fields. Fayash stated that they will purchase another one. Verdier stated that in regards to the township getting additional police officers and were told that it would expand the hours of coverage, wanted to know if the Board is aware that the police officers have continuously had 2 officers on at a time. Verdier stated that she understands for training purposes in the beginning but there has been multiple times in a month after that. Verdier stated that it does not seem we are getting more hours of coverage with the added officers but more of having officers together in the car. Fayash stated he is aware of it, Hosler stated that he is aware of the situation now. Verdier questioned if we are getting the 40 hours a week of coverage that the township was told. Verdier stated it should be something the Board looks into to see if we are getting 40 hours of coverage and not 40 hours of their paid time. Fayash stated that there was an explanation from Chief DiMarco on the reasoning why there are more than 2 officers on together. Slusser also explained that in professional policing that the standard is to have multiple officers on for the protection of the officers. Solicitor stated he feels that the Board made the decision for the additional police officer for the protection of the township. Verdier also stated that on page 29 of the township news regarding a mailbox policy and getting into the winter, this year is going to be one of the first years that many of the residents in the township now have mailboxes in front of their home and wanted to know what the Board's policy will be if the plow truck plows over one of the mailboxes. Verdier stated she is asking as a precaution and wanted the board to think about a procedure due to the residents having this as the first year with mailboxes. Fayash stated that a lot of residents have had them within the last 2 years. Verdier wanted to know if one is knocked over, what is the policy.

John Zubris, Brockton, wanted to know how Verdier is getting all of her information about the township. The Secretary answered a Right to Know request. Zubris questioned if he is able to see her Right to Know requests and Fayash answered that he would need a Right to Know request to see her Right to Know requests.

Jessica Tirpak, Tuscarora, wanted to know when the garbage on Old 209 is going to be picked up. Fayash stated hopefully this week. Tirpak stated that it is now getting ripped open and is looking terrible. Fayash stated that the police officers were looking through the bags to find a lead on where the garbage is coming from which is the reasoning for the garbage to be ripped open.

Paul Benulis, Brockton, wanted to commend the Board on the road work as well as pursuing changes to the zoning variance due to it being very strict and feels that it was made for a new community and not a township made up of small towns. Benulis stated that it is great to see the Board taking steps to change it into something that makes more sense for the community and he personally appreciates it. Benulis stated he remembers when there was no police reports and he appreciates the work that the officers are doing in the township and it is nice to have a report on what they are doing. Benulis also had a comment from a fellow resident regarding the Emerick Street sign in Brockton is either down or missing and requested that it would be replaced. Benulis lastly wanted to comment regarding LED street lights that Middleport has recently changed to LED lights and wanted to state that Middleport's lights look great. Benulis also stated that he feels it would be well worth the small additional cost to have the LED lights in the township and stated to possibly have the Board revisit the LED street lights due to the safety of the township.

Christine Verdier, Mary D, regarding the Annual Budget wanted to know if it is a Right to Know request or if it is open for public inspection. Slusser stated it is open for public inspection. Verdier also wanted to know if she was able to retrieve copies of the Budget. Slusser stated that it would be \$.25

per page. Verdier also requested to have a code enforcement report as well as have it added to the agenda.

John Zubris, Brockton, stated that if Verdier wanted copies she is going to have to pay the \$.10 or whatever the cost is for them. Fayash stated she is aware of the cost and that the price goes for everyone.

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

Adjourned

Attest: Natasha Tyson