

**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, March 6, 2017, at 7 P. M. in the Municipal Building. Those present included Charles Hosler, Charles Fayash and Frank Fabrizio. The Pledge of the Allegiance was recited.

Hosler made a motion to approve the February Regular Meeting Minutes. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved.

Treasurer's Report

\$241,158.28 total in bank accounts. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report pending audit by Fayash; 2nd Hosler. All approved.

Fayash stated problem with Payroll reconciling. Fayash asked if township should get Rich in to fix problem before audit. Hosler stated he would try to figure out the problem first.

Replies to last month's public questions -

Fayash stated the total for the year was \$3,257.13 over budget.

Fabrizio was in contact with the Middleport Mayor regarding the agreement they have LED lights. A sheet was available breaking down information on the lights they have now.

Public comment on agenda items only -

None

Police Report –

February: Chief DiMarco stated officers received 24 calls. Chief DiMarco stated Sergeant Stanell made four arrests from Joe Hutta burglary with \$56,000 worth of merchandise stolen. Hosler questioned the call from Sugarloaf. Chief DiMarco explained because the company is based out of Sugarloaf with regards to the mining theft, but confirmed the incident was in the township.

Chief DiMarco addressed speeding problem in Newkirk. After speaking with the supervisors, Chief DiMarco suggested replacing the smaller 25mph signs with larger 25mph signs coming into Newkirk. Also wants to add a speed warning sign and watch children sign. The smaller 25mph signs would be moved to within the town of Newkirk. Chief DiMarco stated the speeding is occurring at all different times of the day. Chief DiMarco presented a quote to supervisors for \$456.00 for the new signs not including an end reduced speed sign and poles for the smaller signs. Hosler made a motion to purchase the new signs. 2nd Fayash. Fayash questioned if lines are already painted in Newkirk. DiMarco stated yes, but he plans to also make new lines on Lehigh Street. Hosler questioned if police had gotten anyone speeding in this area. Hosler stated if police nailed a few people in this area, it would act as a deterrent. DiMarco stated it is necessary for police to see 150 ft. Hosler suggested possibly placing a marked pole in addition to the lines. DiMarco stated we also have the unmarked vehicle now. No Code Enforcement to report.

Road master Report-

Fayash previously asked the board to get coal patch. Hosler approved. The township got coal patch and began filling in the potholes. Other items: replaced radiator in newer jeep, water pump in red jeep, and fixed plow unit on international. Fayash stated transmission will need to be rebuilt or replaced on the international in the future. Fayash stated salt shed is complete. Fayash asked the board to get prices on jersey barriers to separate salt mixture from antiskid.

Solicitors Report-

The balance of \$4,286.97 from the Material Dynamics settlement was disbursed to the Schuylkill County Fire School. There is an annual fee already established in 2008 for the handicap parking sign.

Zoning Report-

Paul Benulis is resigning as zoning officer at the end of March.

Paul Benulis stated there was an application about cell phone tower that had an inquiry the previous month. Benulis stated there were four other inquiries. One resulted in an onsite visit. Two were transferred into applications. Benulis stated he would assist in the turnover of the zoning officer position and thanked the board for decreasing the permit fee.

Committee Reports

Council of Government— Committee did not meet.

Recreation Committee—Committee did not meet.

Tax Collection Committee—Committee did not meet.

Communications

EMC Insurance notified township of property deductible increase to \$500. HA Thomson Company will meet and discuss this on March 14, 2017 at 10 am.

MetroCast is lowering the township building's level of internet service to 10Mb/s with their courtesy package.

Schuykill Keep it Pretty has its Spring 2017 Cleanup April 6-9. Registration due by March 20, 2017.

Tuscarora Fire Company has sent us a list of planned events.

Old Business

None

New Business

Fayash made a motion to renew salt contract and purchase 140ton through Costars. It was noted that the township need only purchase 60% of that or 40% over that. 2nd Hosler. All approved.

Public Comment

Mary VanPelt, Brockton, asked if township would be using a street sweeper again like last year?

Fayash entertained a motion to get a street sweeper to use cleaning streets of township. Hosler wanted to check on the cost involved first.

John Zubris, Brockton, wanted to thank Police Officers for their presence in township and Paul Benulis for his service as zoning officer.

Joe Leskin, Brockton, stated the antiskid the township is using is the dirtiest he has seen. Fayash revisited the discussion from the previous meeting regarding mixtures. Leskin questioned about a PA system for the public to hear discussions. Fayash does support the idea. Leskin asked the board to install a PA system in this room. PA system tabled for discussion at next meeting. Leskin stated the amount of speed happening on Valley Street 24hrs a day is a problem. Leskin questioned why there are no speeding tickets issued in township. Chief DiMarco explained people see the police car and they cannot by state law use radar. Chief DiMarco stated it was not a matter of fining people for speeding, but a matter of deterrence. Leskin stated the previous police officer got people for speeding on Valley Street and chased cars along with quads. Chief DiMarco stated the police do not chase quads because of litigation matters. Leskin argued with Chief DiMarco. Hosler questioned Chief DiMarco about chasing quads even if they are on the township road. Chief DiMarco stated it was not worth litigation for issuing a citation for a quad being on a township road. Leskin and Chief DiMarco discussed vehicles and ATVs and their registrations with the state. Chief DiMarco questioned Atty. Baranko about how many other police departments have policies regarding chasing ATVs? Atty. Baranko stated many other police departments do have these policies because of the exposure aspect. Chief DiMarco stressed safety. Atty. Baranko stated it is a policy of pursuit. Leskin argued that the police are refusing to stop the ATVs on the road. Chief DiMarco stated the police make an attempt to stop and identify, but not to chase them.

John Zubris, Brockton, stated the only time he hears the ATVs coming through is sometimes on the weekend and late at night around 12 – 1am. Zubris does not see them during the day.

Paul Benulis, Brockton, wanted to thank Frank Fabrizio for getting the information on the LED lights. Benulis concludes it is not a one for one swap. LED light on paper is less illuminating, but visually Benulis disagrees. Benulis asked if there had been any additional discussion on any cost benefits or cost incurred? Hosler stated it would cost more. Benulis asked if that was trying to match lumens to lumens. Hosler stated that was using their numbers with our cost per kilowatt. Hosler stated it would cost \$50 more per month. Fayash stated it made no sense to add the lower kilowatt with getting charged more. Benulis explained that's how they make the cost up, they are paying for the light and installation. Benulis thought it was 20% more, few cents per kilowatt. Benulis asked if the board would discuss this further. Hosler stated the cost per fixture was more for the LED. The township pays a set fee for the lights and then pays Direct Energy for the power to power the lights. The township pays 2¢ a kilowatt. PPL charges 7½ ¢. Hosler stated if the township uses their numbers, the township would save; but if the township uses our numbers, the township would spend more money. Fayash suggested putting it on the ballot to see what the people want. Benulis stated the \$50per month/\$600per year cost compared to other expenditures such as the salt shed may be justified.

Fayash made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 2nd Hosler. All approved.

Adjourned

Attest: Colleen Barrett