

Board of Supervisors

MINUTES

September 14, 2010

Jim Brownlow, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisors Present: Karen Bedics, Jim Brownlow, Barbara Lindtner, Volker Oakey and Rob Zisko.

Also present: Sandy Everitt, Secretary/Treasurer; Mark Laudenslager, Police Chief; and Rich Schilling, Township Manager.

The Board held an executive session prior to this meeting to discuss property acquisition.

Approval of Minutes

Karen Bedics **moved** to adopt the minutes of August 24, 2010. Volker Oakey **seconded**; Rob Zisko **abstained**. The motion **carried**.

Bills for Approval

Barbara Lindtner **moved** to approve the following bills paid from August 24 – September 14, 2010.

1. General Fund	\$ 29,619.81	4. Subdivision & Escrow	\$ 67.94
2. Liquid Fuels	\$ 41,166.45	5. Open Space	\$ 5,050.00
3. Highway Capital Improvement	\$ 80.00	6. Farmers Market	\$ 548.00

Volker Oakey **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

Public Comments on Agenda Items – None

Public Hearing

Ordinance to establish the maximum speed limit on certain local highways within Springfield Township at twenty-five (25) M.P.H. and prescribing penalties for the violation of this ordinance – Passing this ordinance will make it possible to establish 25 MPH speed limits on qualifying roads in the future by Resolution.

Barbara Lindtner **moved** to pass Ordinance 159. Rob Zisko **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

Presentation

Springtown Water Authority Update - Ken Simmons, Dick Cernok, Ray Janus, Allen Kugler and Aimee Douglas were in attendance representing the Authority. Mr. Simmons presented the board a flyer that was distributed to customers with their water bill. Mr. Cernok reviewed completed maintenance to the system, noting that the next projects that need to be completed are to connect a line from Lower Saucon Road to the firehouse in order to have two sources of water and replacing of some mains to the required four-inch size.

Ms. Douglas stated that they have increased their fees nominally. She noted that a \$12 per quarter per home fee has been set for the Springtown hydrants that are now in place and functioning. Having these hydrants near the homes should result in a fire insurance savings to customers which would offset this annual \$48 charge. In addition, residential and commercial use rates are now billed differently. There was discussion regarding projects to be completed and possible grant applications.

Ray Janus reported that chlorine levels have improved and water quality is good. Residents have been helping collect lead and copper samples. The springs have dried up from the drought, and have been power washed and disinfected. They will go back online after we receive rain. Line flushing will take place this week and the authority plans to flush lines two times each year.

The board thanked the Authority for their hard work, noting that all of the officers on the Water Authority are volunteers.

Governmental Matters

1. PSATS legislation update- The Board discussed a PSATS article regarding legislation aimed at forcing consolidation of municipalities, towns and boroughs into a county-based government system.

Old Business

1. Switch to Keystone Collections Group for EIT Collection – A draft resolution will be on the next agenda for adoption to switch from Palisades School District to Keystone Collections Group beginning January 1, 2011, for collection of Earned Income Taxes.

2. Recreation RFP's – Mr. Schilling and Ms. Lindtner reviewed nine RFP's received for the recreation plan and met with the top consultant firms. Mr. Schilling and Ms. Lindtner recommended that the Board appoint Toole Planning, which reduced their price to \$19,966.00. Mr. Schilling suggested that the Board utilize the Special Fees Fund to cover this expense so that the Parks & Recreation Plan could be completed during the current lull in development.

Karen Bedics **moved** to appoint Toole Planning as the consultant to assist the township in Completing the Parks and Recreation Plan at a cost of \$19,966.00 and to fund this from the Special Fees Fund. Barbara Lindtner **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

3. Update on Act 537- DEP notified Mr. Schilling that they had not had time to review the Act 537 Plan, and wanted the Township to resubmit the plan. Subsequent correspondence from the DEP explained that they had some issues with the plan, so the Township granted the DEP a 30-day extension to review the plan. A meeting is scheduled October 1 with the Township and DEP's counsel, Pio Lombardo and the Township Engineer to discuss the outstanding issues.

New Business

1. Thank you letter from Palisades Middle School Students for Supervisor Zisko - Ms. Bedics distributed two thank-you notes from the Palisades science teacher and students and a certificate of appreciation from Palisades Middle School awarded to Mr. Zisko in recognition of his generous donation of soil to the students and the school. Ms. Bedics thanked Mr. Zisko on behalf of the school for helping with their greenhouse and donating bags of soil.

2. Subdivision & Land Development (SALDO) draft – Mr. Brownlow noted that the draft SALDO will be on the agenda for the next meeting and asked the supervisors to review it before that meeting and bring any issues they have to Mr. Schilling's attention.

3. Acceptance of Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for Uniformed & Non-Uniformed Pension Plans – Mr. Schilling stated that the Uniformed Plan MMO is \$41, 890 and the Non-Uniformed Plan's MMO is\$ 52,470. Together it is an increase of \$2,142 from last year.

Barbara Lindtner **moved** to accept the MMOs. Karen Bedics **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

4. Budget 2011 – The 2011 budget will be on the September 16 Board agenda for discussion.

Public Comments

Steve Doncevic suggested having Nancy Janyszeski from Nockamixon Township discuss Marcellus Shale drilling. Mr. Oakey suggested speaking with state officials regarding environmental issues and regulations with drilling.

Jim Nilsen stated that DEP has a website and sends out a weekly article that can be subscribed to in order to keep updated on the drilling situation.

Bruce Strook commented on delivering the Fall Newsletter directly to local post offices so that Newsletters will be received by residents prior to the events that are advertised in the newsletter.

Supervisors Comments

Karen Bedics commented on the articles she sent to the board via email regarding gas drilling since there was previous discussion about the township sending a letter to legislators voicing township concerns on this issue. Ms. Bedics noted that tire recycling will be on September 16. The Fall Newsletter will be mailed tomorrow. The staff will check with the post office about the process to deliver zip codes directly to local post offices to ensure that most residents receive the Newsletters prior to advertised events.

Jim Brownlow suggested that Mr. Schilling work with the supervisors to select a date for visiting the UBREMS Station in Revere. He was advised by Sandy Everitt that she will be sending a Community Day Township Booth schedule to Supervisors and other township committees to sign up to staff the Township Booth on Saturday, September 25.

Adjournment

At 9:30 p.m., Rob Zisko **moved** to adjourn the meeting. Barbara Lindtner **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra L. Everitt
Township Secretary

Next meeting: September 28, 2010 – 7:30 p.m.

Approved: October 12, 2010