

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
REORGANIZATION MEETING  
JANUARY 3, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Chuck Halderman with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present were: Rob Zisko, Jim Brownlow and Karen Bedics.

**Organization:**

Appointment of Temporary Chairman by Board

Chuck Halderman opened the floor for the nomination of Temporary Chair. Jim Brownlow moved to nominate Rob Zisko. Second by Karen Bedics. Vote was unanimous.

Nominate/Appoint Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

Rob Zisko moved to nominate Rod Wieder. No second.

Chuck Halderman moved to nominate Jim Brownlow. Second by Karen Bedics.

Discussion: Chuck believes Jim will be a good chairman; however he believes he should step down from other committees. Jim stated he will not Chair the Supervisors and Planning Commission. He will let the Planning Commission know at their reorganization meeting on January 4<sup>th</sup> he will not entertain being chair for 2006. Jim stated he intends to resign from the planning Commission after the Zoning Ordinance Re-Write is complete, probably no more than two meetings. The Ad Hoc Committee should complete their task by June. Vote was Chuck Halderman, Rob Zisko and Karen Bedics – YES. Jim Brownlow abstained. Motion carried.

Nominate/Appoint Vice Chairman of the Board of Supervisors - Jim Brownlow opened the floor for nominations. Rob Zisko nominated Chuck Halderman. Second by Karen Bedics. Vote was Jim Brownlow, Rob Zisko and Karen Bedics – YES. Chuck Halderman abstained.

**Administration:**

Schedule for Regular Board of Supervisors Meetings – Rob Zisko moved to schedule regular meetings for the second Tuesday of each month. Work session meetings will be scheduled for the fourth Tuesday. Second by Chuck Halderman. Vote was unanimous.

Amount of Bonding Treasurer (\$500,000.00) – Jim Brownlow moved to set the bond for the Treasurer at \$500,000. Second by Rob Zisko. Vote was unanimous.

Non-Uniform Employee Vacation/Holiday Schedule – Rob Zisko moved to approve the Non-Uniform Employee Vacation/Holiday Schedule and Policy Manual. Second by Karen Bedics. Vote was unanimous.

Mileage reimbursement forty-four (.44 cents) per mile – Rob Zisko moved to establish \$.44 per mile for mileage reimbursement. Second by Chuck Halderman. Vote was unanimous.

Compensation for Zoning Hearing Board Members \$25.00 per meeting – Rob Zisko moved to set the compensation for Zoning Hearing Board Members at \$25.00 per meeting. Second by Chuck Halderman. Vote was unanimous.

Mileage reimbursement for Planning Commission \$5.00 per meeting. Rob Zisko moved to increase the Mileage reimbursement for Planning Commission Members to \$10.00 per meeting. Second by Chuck

Halderman. Vote was unanimous.

Depository for Township Funds – Quakertown National Bank – Rob Zisko moved to Use Quakertown National Bank as depository for township funds. Second by Karen Bedics. Vote was unanimous.

Authorize Treasurer to pay routine bills prior to Supervisors’ meetings – Chuck Halderman moved to authorize the Treasurer to pay routine bills prior to Supervisors’ meetings. Second by Rob Zisko. Vote was unanimous.

**Appointments:**

a. Acting Township Manager, Secretary, Treasurer – Barbara Smith \$29.45 per hour – Moved by Rob Zisko. Second by Jim Brownlow. Vote was unanimous.

b. Pension Plan Administrator – Township Manager – Moved by Rob Zisko. Second by Chuck Halderman. Vote was unanimous.

Jim Brownlow suggested a motion and second be called for after reading items c through k. Jim asked if there were any exceptions to that motion. Chuck Halderman would like to address item J. Township Solicitor as a separate item.

c. Road Foreman – Richard Pursell (\$22.93 per hour)

d. Code Enforcement/Building Inspector/Fire Marshal – Jeffrey Mease (\$20.15 per hour)

e. Administrative Assistant – Sandra Everitt (14.94)

f. Police Chief – Scott M. Huber \$64,890 plus \$1,100 Longevity Pay

g. Police Officers salary set by contract:

Mark Laudenslager - \$55,775 (\$26.81 per hour) Overtime Rate \$42.24 per hour plus \$2,100 Longevity and \$700 Education Bonus

Michael McDonald - \$55,775 (\$26.82 per hour) Overtime Rate \$40.51 per hour plus \$400 Longevity

h. Police Secretary – Linda Bartholomew – (\$13.90 per hour for 30 hours per week)

i. Road Department -Hoferica \$18.75 per hour; James Stevens \$14.50 per hour

CDL/Equipment Operator - \$13.00 per hour.

Skilled Laborer - \$11.00 per hour

j. Township Solicitor - James McNamara, Esquire

k. Township Engineer - C. Robert Wynn & Associates

Rob Zisko moved to approve the appointments identified as items c through K with the exception of Item J. Township Solicitor as presented. Second by Chuck Halderman. Vote was unanimous.

Appointment of James McNamara as Township Solicitor. Chuck Halderman stated we need to get a new solicitor. He is not pleased with his work for Springfield Township.

Karen Bedics stated her perception sitting in the audience is that he doesn’t seem to go out of his way to resolve issues. It appears that he doesn’t investigate a lot of things.

Chuck is dissatisfied that Mr. McNamara did not answer any questions regarding legal issues for Chuck all year.

Rob Zisko stated sometimes change is good.

Jim Brownlow suggested it may be a good idea to meet with Jim McNamara and allow him to address the issues.

Rob Zisko moved to appoint Jim McNamara Temporary Township Solicitor pending further review. Karen Bedics Second. Vote was unanimous.

**Vacancies:**

- a. Planning Commission - One four year term (Scott Douglas has asked to be reappointed)
- b. Zoning Hearing Board – One three year term – One year Alternate
- c. Historic Commission – two five year terms (Karen Freeh asked to be reappointed)
- d. Vacancy Board (1 year) Helene D. Bell, Peter A. Lamana
- e. E.A.C. – One three year term

Jim Brownlow stated the Supervisors have a partial list before them this evening of individuals who have applied to fill the vacancies. Jim moved to table appointments to fill the vacancies until the Board of Supervisors Meeting on January 10, 2006. Second by Rob Zisko. Vote was unanimous.

**Resolution for 2006 Taxes**

- a. Resolution 2006-001 Setting of Tax Rates
  - 1) Real Estate Tax - 3.5 mills
  - 2) Street Light Tax - .32 per front foot of properties having street lights  
Properties fronting on Sonny Lane will be billed by expenses incurred and divided evenly over the properties.
  - 3) Earned Income Tax 1/2 of 1%  
Earned Income Tax .25% for Funding Open Space Program
  - 4) Real Estate Transfer Tax 1/2 of 1%
  - 5) Amusement Tax 5%

Jim Brownlow moved to approve Resolution 2006-001. Second by Chuck Halderman. Vote was unanimous.

- b. Resolution 2006-002 – Establish Commerce Bank as Depository for Township Taxes

Rob Zisko moved to adopt Resolution 2006-002. Second by Karen Bedics. Vote was unanimous.

- c. Resolution 2006-003 – Fee Schedule

Chuck Halderman referred to the Escrow amount under logging. The amount currently shown is \$1,000 Escrow to return load site and access roads to original condition. Chuck had a discussion with Bob Wynn and he feels an escrow of \$2,500 would be more appropriate.

Rob Zisko moved to approve Resolution 2006-003 a Fee Schedule for various Township permits, subdivision, land development, zoning and other fees. Second by Chuck Halderman. Vote was unanimous.

**Appointment of Delegates to State Convention**

- a. (One)Voting delegate

Rob moved to appoint Rod Wieder as voting delegate to the State Convention. Second by Chuck Halderman. Vote was unanimous.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dennis Steskal commented the meeting was like a ray of sunshine.

Hans Reimann took a deep breath.

### **SUPERVISORS' COMMENTS**

Chuck Halderman expressed his concern about the 3.5 mills approved for 2006. Chuck was not comfortable with a 40% increase in taxes. Under the circumstances, it had to be done. Chuck discussed his interest in watershed requirements. He would like to go through the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance and participate in a multi municipal water quality ordinance. The salary for the manager and the staff required are still unknown. Chuck believes if the township uses the money wisely we can help control development and do the right things.

Karen Bedics stated in the interview process for the Township Manager she is looking for experience in grant writing. Karen believes grants can help ease the tax burden on the residents. She hopes the township can move forward and get more funding.

Rob Zisko stated contrary to what was printed in the Morning Call he is not happy with a 40% tax increase. Rob is hopeful the township will discover other funding sources.

Stefani Campbell thanked the Supervisors for the opportunity to serve as a member of the Historic Commission. Stefani was impressed to work with such a dedicated group of people. However, since her time away from her family is limited, she will not request re-appointment to the Historic Commission. She will continue as a member of the Planning Commission.

Jim Brownlow thanked Rod Wieder for the years of service he has put in as Chairman. Rod always had the best interests of the township at heart and guided the Board through a number of changes that produced positive results for the Township. Jim just wanted to take this opportunity to thank him for the time and effort he put in on behalf of the Township.

Jim is looking forward to this next year.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Rob Zisko moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Seconded by Chuck Halderman. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted

Barbara A. Smith  
Secretary