

Board of Supervisors

MINUTES

October 14, 2014

Supervisors Present: Rob Zisko, Dave Long and Karen Bedics

Also present: Chief Michael McDonald, Michael Brown (Township Manager) and Jason Wager (Secretary/Treasurer)

Chairperson Zisko called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Bedics **moved** to approve the September 23, 2014 minutes as presented. Mr. Long **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously. The Board tabled the October 2, 2014 minutes for the next meeting since they did not have a quorum to vote on the minutes.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Rose Strong, 3849 Hunter Road, asked the Board on behalf of Willard and Delores Weierbach to waive all permit fees to rebuild their home after losing it to fire. Mr. Zisko **moved** to waive all fee associated with permits to rebuild the home of Willard and Delores Weierbach at 1544 Quarry Road. Ms. Bedics **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

Governmental Matters

There were no governmental matters to discuss.

Planning Matters

There were no planning matters to discuss.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

Fire Police support requests – Mr. Long **moved** to allow the Springtown Fire Police to assist with traffic control for the Upper Perk Downtown Halloween Parade, Quakertown Borough Halloween Parade and the Riegelsville Borough Halloween Parade. Ms. Bedics **seconded**; the motion **passed** unanimously.

Budget Projects, Plans and Initiatives

Springtown Volunteer Fire Company

Will Helm, Springtown Volunteer Fire Company Chief, with Cathy Albee, Springtown Volunteer Fire Company Vice President, presented the 2008 to 2014 financial review of the fire company to the Board. Their revenue from 2008-2014 has remained steady up to 2014 when they received the increased Township donation, which accounts for the majority of their revenue. Their expenses during this period have also remained steady except for 2009 and 2013 when they had major capital improvements.

Overall, their net income has been positive except during the years when they had the improvements. To create a capital equipment replacement plan, they will need to set aside \$48, 229 per year and the countywide Emergency Services radio replacement will be paid with cash (from Foreign Fire Relief Fund, 70%, and their Savings, 30%) since the company decided not to take on more debt. Chief Helm asked the Board to continue the same financial support in 2015 that was received in 2014. Chief noted that they would return in 2015 to discuss the fire company's long-term plan.

Budget Discussion

The Board discussed where the Township wanted to be in 10 to 15 years and the creation of a spending plan that supported that vision. It proposed a series of joint meeting between the Board, Planning Commission and other community leaders to frame that question and document the result. As such, the Board left \$4,000 in the comprehensive plan update line item to create an executive summary of the comprehensive plan rather than go through the whole document. The Board left \$8,000 for codifying the Zoning Ordinance and SALDO and zeroed all other project requests and Community Day.

The Board affirmed the wage increases as proposed. The Board consensus was that if one of the revenue line items performed above expectations, the best use of the money was to bank in the Capital Reserve rather than for the next year's operation and maintenance. If the amount far exceeds expectations, the Board will revisit this item.

The Board created a workable budget for 2015 and instructed the Township Manager and staff to cut the remaining couple of thousand dollars of expenses to balance the budget. The Board coalesced around the necessity of a 3 mill tax increase for 2015 to balance the budget. It endorsed the new budget communication format presented by Mr. Brown and will see a completed draft in this format for their 10/28 meeting with the 2015 budget in an adoptable budget document. The 2016-2020 periods still have budget deficits that the Board will be able to address during next year's budget cycle.

Correspondence

Mr. Brown reviewed all correspondence including a thank you letter from Paul Clymer for the Service Award he received at Community Day and the Bucks County Planning Commission Route 309 Sewage Capacity Analysis.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

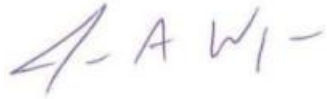
Supervisor Comments

Ms. Bedics advocated experimenting with part-time officers and resorting back to a full-timer if it didn't work.

Adjournment

At 9:20 p.m., Ms. Zisko **moved** to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Long **seconded** and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "A. A. Wager". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Jason A. Wager
Township Secretary/Treasurer

Next meeting: October 28, 2014
Approved: November 11, 2014