

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 17, 2017**

The Regular Meeting of the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Ruth O’Leary at 7:00 p.m. Other Commissioners in attendance were Vice President Edward L. Gottschall, Sheri Hoover, Lorri K. Swan, and Tony J. Sacco. Also attending were Chief of Police Madison Winchester, Fire Chief James A. Beane, Superintendent of Public Works Robert McNichols, Jr., Business/Personnel Administrator Peggy A. Carpenter, Manager Jeanne Johnston, Secretary Latoya Procopio, and Joseph Rogosky of Great Valley Consultants.

Pledge to the Flag.

President Ruth O’Leary informed the public that the Board would take action on a Resolution from the public hearing that was held previously that evening.

ON MOTION OF MR. SACCO, SECOND OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, A UNANIMOUS VOTE ADOPTING A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE INTERMUNICIPAL TRANSFER OF AN EXISTING LIQUOR LICENSE NO. R14135/LID 16547 INTO THE TOWNSHIP.

PRESENTATION

Captain Alex Hallman – Retirement from Cumru Township Fire Department

Chief Beane and the Board of Commissioners thanked Captain Alex Hallman for his 5 years of service to the Fire Department.

PUBLIC

Attendance: Sal Folino of 2 Woodland Road, Gino Billeci of 400 W Broad Street. James Williamson of 1461 Old Lancaster Pike, Don and Betty Seltzer of 946 Hunters Road, Eugene Stoltzfus of 974 Hunters Road, Debra and Rick Glovenski of 1814 Cedar Top Road.

A) Deborah and Rick Glovenski of 1814 Cedar Top Road re: Sewage Management Program

Mr. and Mrs. Glovenski expressed their concern for the SMP fee that is being imposed on residents of the Township who have septic systems on their property. They stated that they already have their tank pumped every two years and questioned what the fee was truly for. Ms. Johnston informed the Glovenskis that part of Cumru Township’s Act 537 Plan, which is required by DEP, is to have a program set in place to insure the proper maintenance of septic systems. In Cumru Township, the Sewage Management Program (SMP) will involve a state certified SEO to perform the inspection. In order to minimize internal staff needed for the program, the SEO firm will also provide notification, record keeping, inspection reports, and community education outreach.

Ms. Johnston explained that the general fund, supported by all property owners, including those with sanitary sewer and vacant lots, has subsidized enforcement and other activities for septic systems up to this point. The SMP will be its own fund and will be solely utilized for residents with septic systems. The funds will go towards the inspections, enforcement, education, and administration.

The Glovenskis also claimed that recycling and trash has been dropped on Cedar Top road near their home by the hauler. The Board directed Ms. Johnston to look into this complaint.

B) Eugene Stoltzfus of 974 Hunters Road re: Sewage Management Program

Mr. Stoltzfus also expressed his concern for the SMP fee. He referenced Honey Brook Borough and stated that they do not charge a fee for a program like Cumru Township's SMP. He believes that the program is a poor way of handling the regulations set by the State.

C) Barry Suski of 111 Woodpecker Lane re: Sewage Management Program

Mr. Suski stated that he had been the operations manager for Berks County. He questioned how the SEO would be able to inspect the pipes without digging the pipes up. He also questioned the total amount of the fee and what it would be used for. Ms. Johnston stated that a portion of the fee would go to producing the bills, the collection of the bills, record keeping and also the inspection. Mr. Suski recommended for the Township to hire a part time secretary to keep the records. Mr. Setley suggested the Mr. Suski come to the next SMP seminar to raise his questions with the SEO.

Mr. Suski also expressed his concern for the shooting that has been occurring on Freemansville road between the hours of 10pm to 3am. He also stated that he has observed shotgun sized holes in the traffic signs in the area.

Mrs. O'Leary informed the public that the fee will be reviewed in the fall for the 2018 budget and, if the fund accumulates more funds than necessary, the fee will be reduced.

TREASURER

A) Monthly Report

Mrs. Carpenter informed the Board that the transfer tax came in higher then what was expected.

B) 2016 End of Year Budget Report

Mrs. Carpenter informed the Board that the Township received excess revenue for the year, including a windfall transfer tax and a healthcare reimbursement. The excess funds will be spent on capital projects, mostly road work.

TAX COLLECTOR

A) December 2016 Report

1) Year 2016 Real Estate

Balance collectable beginning of month – \$108,514.68

Cash collected - \$42,079.03

Balance collectable end of month - \$70,261.10

2) Year 2016 Real Estate Interim

Balance collectable beginning of month - \$1,282.70

Cash collected - \$26.89

Balance collectable end of month - \$2,180.59

- 3) Year 2016 Real Refuse
 - Balance collectable beginning of month - \$21,704.00
 - Cash collected - \$7,200.00
 - Balance collectable end of the month - \$15,196.75
- 4) Year 2016 Per Capita
 - Balance collectable beginning of month - \$13,245.00
 - Cash collected - \$4,465.40
 - Balance collectable end of the month - \$8,875.00
- B) 2016 Real Estate – Delinquent
 - 1) Flat amount of \$70,261.10 sent to Tax Claim for 115 bills
2015 amount = \$71,731.99 for 113 bills
- C) 2016 Refuse – Delinquent
 - 1) Memorandum from Tax Collector re: flat amount of \$15,158.00 uncollected,
dated 1/10/2017
2015 amount = \$14,228.00
- D) 2016 Per Capita – Delinquent
 - 1) Memorandum from Tax Collector re: flat amount of \$6,845.00 uncollected for 1,369 bills,
dated 1/10/2017
2015 amount = \$6,340.00 for 1,268 bills

APPROVE MINUTES
ON MOTION OF MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MRS. SWAN, A UNANIMOUS VOTE
APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM 12/20/2016.

CONSENT AGENDA

PLANS

- 2015-07 THE MAIL SHARK – escrow release no. 1**
 Owner: Mail shark c/o Brain Johnson; Agent: Impact Engineering; location: off SR 625
 at Cumru/Brecknock boundary; proposal summary: expansion land development
 a) Letter from Great Valley Consultants re: recommend escrow release, dated 12/28/16

ACTION:
AUTHORIZED ESCROW RELEASE NO. 1 FOR THE MAIL SHARK IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$64,265.75.

DEPARTMENTS

Public Works

A) 2017 Capital - Equipment

- 1) Memorandum from Manager re: request to purchase dump truck and trailer, dated 1/16/17

ACTION:

AUTHORIZED STAFF TO PURCHASE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS, AS BUDGETED:

- 1) **TRUCK 77 REPLACEMENT – 10-TON DUMP TRUCK = \$154,663 TOTAL (\$100,550 FROM GENERAL FUND/HIGHWAY; \$54,113 FROM REFUSE FUND); AND**
- 2) **TRAILER = \$22,000 TOTAL (\$6,050 FROM GENERAL FUND/HIGHWAY; \$6,050 FROM SEWER FUND; \$9,900 FROM REFUSE FUND)**

B) Sanitary and Storm Sewer Specifications

- 1) draft resolution

ACTION:

ADOPTED A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING UPDATE REVISIONS TO THE SANITARY AND STORM SEWER SPECIFICATIONS.

Police

A) 2017 Capital - Equipment

- 1) Memorandum from Manager re: request authorization to purchase trailer and 4WD vehicle, dated 1/16/2017

ACTION:

AUTHORIZED STAFF TO PURCHASE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FROM THE EQUITABLE SHARING FUND, AS BUDGETED:

- 1) **SPEED ALDER 24 TRAILER AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$16,000; AND**
- 2) **CHEVY TAHOE 4WD VEHICLE AND UPFITTING AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$45,000.00.**

Fire

A) Fire Station Master Planning Project

- 1) draft agreement with architectural firm

ACTION:

AUTHORIZED EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH MANNS WOODWARD STUDIOS FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND PLANNING SERVICES WITH RESPECT TO A FIRE STATION MASTER PLAN.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. SWAN, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING THE CONSENT AGENDA.

DEPARTMENTS

Police Department

A) Monthly Report – December 2016

Chief Winchester informed the Board that crime has been consistent with the previous year. The Township continues to have problem with fraud. Chief Winchester stated that a resident recently lost \$14,000.00 due to a Sweetheart scam. He stated that there has been a rash of tire and rim thefts through the area, including Cumru Township. The Police Department has

made two arrest pertaining to auto thefts. The Chief suggested that everyone make sure their vehicles are locked. Chief Winchester explained that a suspect had been identified through lifting of a fingerprint in a burglary. Chief Winchester explained the new initiative for Community Policing Activity. Chief Winchester expressed his support for a bill that would allow local law enforcement officers to utilize radar. Currently only State police have the ability to utilize radar at the present time.

B) Civil Service Testing 1/28/2017

1) testing advertised 12/13/2016

Chief Winchester informed the Board that 58 applications were received and that the Civil Service test is scheduled for Saturday, January 28, 2017.

Fire Department

A) Monthly Report – December 2016

Chief Beane informed the Board that a fire occurred in late December on Matthew Dr. He stated that if not for the actions of neighbor, the house would have been a total loss. Chief Beane advised the Board that Fire Department lost several volunteers due to the inability to meet the required training. Chief Beane explained to the Board that, in relation to the recent motor vehicle accident between a truck and a train, not every railroad crossing has gates.

Administration

A) Codes Report-December 2016

Building Permits Issued- 3

Use Permits Issued- 5

Zoning Permits Issued- 3

Notices of Violations- 15

Citations issued- 0

Violations complied in December- 12

Phone calls from contractors, realtors & public approximately- 207

Permit Inspections Done – 15

Inspections with the Fire Department – 6

B) Recycling Performance Grant for 2014

1) received \$26,444.00

C) Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan – update

1) draft Act 537 plan submitted to Berks County Planning Commission for comments

2) Letter from PaDEP re: extension of time to 5/1/2017 granted, dated 1/4/2017

Ms. Johnston informed the Board that the draft of the Act 537 plan has been submitted to Berks County Planning Commission for their comment period. After they have had a chance to review the plan and any comments are addressed, then a public comment period of 30 days is required. The Municipal Authority and the Board of Commissioners will have a chance to comment on the plan.

D) Sewage Management Program (SMP) – update

1) Letter to District 1 property owners

2) seminars scheduled 1/26/17, 1/30/17, and 2/7/17 at 5:30 p.m.

Public Works

A) Winter Events 1/5/17, 1/7/17, 1/10/17, 1/14/17

Mr. McNichols advised the Board that the Township is on track with required salt purchases.

B) Streetlights – PPL make ready work

1) application for payment no. 2

The Board of Commissioners deferred this decision until all documentation has been supplied.

Engineer

A) Lancaster Avenue Crosswalks - update

Mr. Rogosky informed the Board that two bids came in for the Crosswalk project. He stated that they were extremely high, almost \$20,000.00 over what was budgeted for this project. PennDOT will not rebid unless the scope of the bid has changed. Mr. Rogosky stated that the other option is to reject the bids, which is unusual. Mr. Rogosky will be reaching out to Shillington Borough and Alan Piper to discuss options. He will also request additional funds from RATS. The bids are valid until March 13, 2017.

B) 2017 Road Work

Mr. Rogosky informed the Board that the Township received the Montrose Blvd permit from the DEP. He stated that the Township will be meeting with H&K in April regarding the pavement issues from the 2016 road work.

Solicitor

CORRESPONDENCE

A) Monthly Meeting Schedule advertised on 01/04/2017

PAYMENTS OF BILLS

ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. SWAN, A MAJORITY VOTE APPROVING THE PAYMENT OF BILLS FOR 12/22/2016, 12/29/2016, 01/05/2017, 01/05/2017-IT, 01/12/2017, 01/12/2017-IT. ROLL CALL: MR. GOTTSCHALL – YES; MRS. HOOVER – ABSTAIN; MR. SACCO – NO; MRS. SWAN – YES; MRS. O’LEARY – YES.

COMMISSIONERS

A) Executive Session

8:20 p.m. – The Board of Commissioners went into executive session to discuss 4 personnel issues, 2 real estate matters, and 2 litigation matters.

9:08 p.m. – The Board stated that they discussed 2 personnel issues, 2 real estate matters, and 2 litigation matters.

ON MOTION OF MRS. SWAN, SECOND OF MRS. GOTTSCHALL, A UNANIMOUS VOTE ADOPTING AN ALTERNATE DUTY POLICY REVIEWED WITHOUT COMMENT BY THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNITS.

ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. HOOVER, A MAJORITY VOTE AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP STAFF TO ADVERTISE THE ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE COMPENSATION FOR COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP, PER THE FIRST CLASS TOWNSHIP CODE. THIS CHANGE WILL ONLY AFFECT NEWLY ELECTED OR REELECTED COMMISSIONERS, NOT CURRENTLY SITTING COMMISSIONERS. ROLL CALL: MR. GOTTSCHALL – YES; MRS. HOOVER – YES; MR. SACCO – NO; MRS. SWAN – YES; MRS. O’LEARY – YES.

B) Reminders:

- 1) SMP Seminar for District 1 on Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 5:30 PM
- 2) Civil Service testing for the Police Department held on Saturday, January 28, 2017
- 3) SMP Seminar for District 2 on Monday, January 30, 2017 at 5:30 PM
- 4) Board of Commissioners workshop meeting Tuesday, January 31, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.
- 4) SMP Seminar for District 3 on Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 5:30 PM

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. HOOVER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Latoya Procopio
Secretary