

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING JUNE 17, 2014**

The Regular Meeting of the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Tony J. Sacco at 7:00 p.m. Other Commissioners in attendance were Vice President Edward L. Gottschall, and Treasurer Ruth O'Leary. Sheri Hoover and Lorri K. Swan were absent with prior notification to the Board. Also attending were Solicitor Michael A. Setley, Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police Jed Habecker, Fire Chief Scott R. Brady, Superintendent of Public Works Robert McNichols, Jr., Assistant Superintendent James A. Beane, Business/Personnel Administrator Peggy A. Carpenter, Manager/Secretary Jeanne E. Johnston, and Joseph P. Rogosky of Great Valley Consultants.

Pledge to the Flag.

PUBLIC

A) Wildflower Court

Doug Shinn identified himself as a property owner of 9 Wildflower Court. He was accompanied by Sal Sepulveda, who identified himself as a property owner of 7 Wildflower Court. Mr. Sepulveda stated that his father in law had complained about med on the road.

Mr. McNichols informed the Board that the public works department had installed delineators, as required by the Board at the 5/20/2014 meeting. The delineators had been vandalized and removed about a week later. The goal of installing the delineators was to keep vehicles off of the grass in the circle. Also, when there is significant snow on the ground, the circle cannot be seen. There are also indications that someone backs off of the driveway of 7 Wildflower Court on to the circle.

Mr. Sepulveda stated, "There are too many. It wasn't necessary. It looks like a highway."

Mr. McNichols reiterated that the delineators were installed as requested, to keep trucks off of the circle. He stated, "They weren't given a chance."

Mr. Sacco responded that paving the circle would cost \$38,000.

Mr. Setley clarified that that the Board wanted to give the delineators a try, or do nothing.

Mr. Shinn informed the Board, "I am also the President of the Homeowners Association. I didn't know there was a problem. My kids play ball in the street and I mow it." He also complained that his view from the house changed when the delineators were installed. He asked them to be removed.

Mr. Sepulveda agreed that he would rather the delineators not be there.

Mr. Sacco noted that just one delineator would not be sufficient. The Board directed that the delineators should be removed.

Ms. Johnston informed the Board that the Township's contractor mows the circle. She informed Mr. Shinn that playing in the street was at his own risk.

B) David Breyan re: request for sewer credit

Mr. Breyan identified himself as a property owner of 127 Merion Lane. He complained about a sewer bill from the Township, due to a frozen pipe, that was 5-6 times the usual amount. Since this was an outdoor pipe, he did not believe he should pay the full amount.

The Board referred this matter, and items (H) and (I) under correspondence, to the Municipal Authority for a recommendation, to be considered at the 7/15/14 Board meeting. Penalties would be held in abeyance until that time.

C) Donna Smith re: High Blvd. Vacation

Ms. Smith identified herself as a resident of the Pine Knoll development. She asked, if High Blvd. is made private, could she still walk there? Mr. Setley informed her that the original proposed vacation of High Blvd. would be changing, due to access issues for the two churches and the cemetery. High Blvd. would remain a Township road to the crest of the hill.

Attendance: Chris Kahler; Susan Whary; Michael Dotterrer; Perri and Sal Sepulveda; Kyle Dierolf of Flying Hills Co.; James Williamson; David w. Breyan.

TREASURER

A) Monthly Report

Mrs. O'Leary gave the monthly report on line item activity. Mr. Beane informed the Board that an error had been made in payment of certain invoices out of the refuse fund. When the error is corrected, it will lower the amount reflected for disposal of sweeper debris.

B) Proposed Berks EIT and TCC Merger

Mrs. O'Leary informed the public that she was the 1st class Township representative of the executive committee. With the proposed merger, she was concerned with the distribution of assets and weight of the votes being controlled by the school districts. Mr. Setley informed the Board that the consensus among solicitors was that there was little influence the Townships could have on this matter.

TAX COLLECTOR

A) May 2014 Report

- 1) Year 2013 Real Estate Interim
 - Balance collectable - \$22.34
 - Cash collected - \$0
- 2) Year 2013 Per Capita
 - Balance collectable – \$325.00
 - Cash collected – \$82.50
- 3) Year 2014 Real Estate
 - Balance collectable - \$564,059.78
 - Cash collected - \$0
- 4) Year 2014 Real Estate Interim
 - Balance collectable - \$7,977.55
 - Cash collected - \$0

- 5) Year 2014 Refuse
Balance collectable - \$95,617.00
Cash collected - \$0

**APPROVE MINUTES
ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS
VOTE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 20, 2014.**

DEPARTMENTS

Recreation Department

A) Monthly Report

Mr. Gausch informed the Board that the summer playground program starts next week. About 100 children were registered.

B) Pennwyn Playground – driveway retaining wall

- 1) Memorandum from Recreation Director re: recommendation to repair wall,
dated 6/10/2014

Mr. McNichols informed the Board that several quotes were received. The least expensive was just under \$10,000. The wall in question supports the driveway into Pennwyn Playground which, in turn, supports the retaining wall for the bed of the road.

**ON MOTION OF MRS. O'LEARY, SECOND OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, A UNANIMOUS
VOTE AWARDED THE CONTRACT FOR REPAIR OF THE PENNWWYN
PLAYGROUND DRIVEWAY WALL TO FORINO CO. AT AN AMOUNT NOT TO
EXCEED \$10,000.00.**

C) Geocaching – proposed permits for geocaches on Township property

Mr. Gausch informed the Board that at least 2 geocaches had been installed on Township property. He found out that Nolde Forest now has permits for geocaches because they are becoming numerous. The Board requested more information on the permit requirements.

Police Department

A) Monthly Report

Chief Habecker reported that a suspect to the 2012 homicide on the Thun Trail pleaded guilty on 5/20/2014. A second arrest was made for the 2013 burglary at the Northeast Building Systems building. There were several burglaries.

B) COPS Grant

Chief Habecker requested to submit a grant application for 2 police officers, up to 75% funding for 3 years with no requirement to maintain the position. The Board agreed to the application.

C) Fire Police

- 1) Letter from Berks County Solid Waste Authority re: appreciation for participation of Cumru Township Fire Police in special collection event, dated 5/20/14

Mr. Sacco complimented the Cumru Fire Police on the traffic control at the Solid Waste Authority's special event.

D) Police Car Purchases

ON MOTION OF MRS. O'LEARY, SECOND OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EQUITABLE SHARING FUNDS FOR EQUIPMENT ASSOCIATED WITH THE 2014 POLICE CAR PURCHASES WHEN THE CAPITAL FUND COST EXCEEDS \$99,000.00.

Fire Department

A) Fire Apparatus Bids – update

The Board agreed that the apparatus purchase should go out to bid.

B) Fire Department Monthly Report Summary – May 2014

Total Incidents-41
Fires-7
Rescue and EMS-10
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)-3
Good Intent Call-10
False Alarm-11
Total Estimated Losses- \$46,000

Administration

A) Non Uniformed Pension Plan – adopt ordinance for transition to defined contribution

- 1) ordinance advertised in the Reading Eagle 6/3/2014

Mr. Sacco thanked the Teamsters for the cooperation with developing an ordinance for a defined contribution amendment to the non uniformed pension plan.

ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE ADOPTING THE ORDINANCE AS ADVERTISED AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE NON UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN WHICH CREATES A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PORTION TO THE PLAN.

B) Building Inspector Position

- 1) Letter from Gerald Trate re: resignation as codes officer/inspector effective 6/26/14, dated 6/12/2014
- 2) authorize advertisement of second Building Inspector position

ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT OF A SECOND BUILDING INSPECTOR POSITION WITH THE JOB DESCRIPTION AS REVISED.

Public Works

A) Highway class 2 positions – probationary periods

- 1) Memoranda from Superintendent of Public Works re: recommendation to end probationary period for 3 employees, dated 5/22/2014

The Board acknowledged completion of the probationary periods for the 3 employees hired in 2013.

B) Buildings and Grounds custodian position – recommendation for hire

- 1) Memorandum from Manager re: recommendation for conditional offer of employment, dated 6/13/2014

The Board authorized the Manager to extend a conditional offer of employment to the top candidate for the Custodian position. If the candidate fulfills the conditions, then the Board would make a motion to hire the individual at the 7/15/2014 meeting.

C) Flying Hills Pumping Station generator

- 1) Memorandum from Manager re: request for emergency declaration for replacement project, dated 6/13/2014

ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. O’LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO DECLARE THE REPLACEMENT OF THE FLYING HILLS PUMP STATION AN EMERGENCY SITUATION AND DIRECTING THE STAFF TO MOVE FORWARD ON A NEW GENERATOR.

D) Wildflower Court – update (see Public)

E) Culvert replacement adjacent to Hill Ave. (in Mohnton)

- 1) notice of utility meeting 6/20/2014
- 2) project expected to take place September 2015

Engineer

A) 2014 Road Work

Mr. Rogosky informed the Board that the easement documents were completed.

Solicitor

CORRESPONDENCE

- A) Advertisement in the Reading Eagle on 6/13/2014 re: public hearing before regular meeting canceled, resume regular business meeting schedule
- B) Berks EIT Audit for 2012-2013
- C) Notice for Draft FFY 2015-2018 Transportation Improvement Program, public comment period until 7/11/2014
- D) Letter from Southern Berks EMS re: Lifeline EMS Silver Award, dated 5/6/2014
- E) Letter from Sunoco Logistics re: downstream notification for Montello Terminal, dated 6/1/2014

- F) Zoning Hearing Board notice for 6/8/2014 – Sheerlund Forest Subdivision (note: relief granted by verbal decision 6/8/2014)
- G) Letter from Manager to Gouglersville Fire Co. re: request to meet about 2013 playground expansion, dated 6/12/2014
- H) Letter from Tina Gibson re: request for sewer credit for 911 Bedford Ave., dated 6/2/2014
- I) Letter from Daniel Mohn re: request for sewer credit for 137 Mt. View Rd., rec'd 6/13/2014

PAYMENTS OF BILLS

ON MOTION OF MRS. O'LEARY, SECOND OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING PAYMENTS OF BILLS DATED 5/20/14 - ADDITIONAL, 5/23/14, 5/27/14, 5/30/14, 6/6/14, 6/9/14, AND 6/13/14.

COMMISSIONERS

A) State Aid for Pensions

Mrs. O'Leary informed the Board about pending legislation that would reduce State aid for pensions. The Board directed the Manager to call Rep. Gillen and Sen. Schwank.

B) Vacancies/Expirations of Terms

C) Reminders:

- 1) Township offices closed on Friday, 7/4/14, for Independence Day holiday

D) Executive Session

8:16 p.m. – The Board of Commissioners went into executive session to discuss an item of pending litigation and 3 personnel issues.

8:43 p.m. – Mr. Sacco stated that the Board of Commissioners discussed discuss pending Litigation and 3 personnel issues.

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:44 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne E. Johnston
Manager/Secretary