

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
Beaver County, Pennsylvania
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORKSHOP MINUTES**

December 12, 2011
Meeting in Session at 6:35 p.m.

6:35pm: Workshop Meeting Called to Order by Mr. Bufalini and that the meeting will be recorded

ROLL CALL

President

Richard Bufalini

Vice President

Norm Kraus

Commissioners

Nick DiPietro

Joe Kusnir

Brian Rohm Arrived 8:04pm

Others Present

Andy Brunette, Township Manager/Controller

Marie Stratakis-Hartman, Township Engineer

Mike Jones Township Solicitor

7:03pm CITIZENS FORUM

Debbie Trillow 102 McKenna Drive

Mrs. Trillow was checking on the status of McKenna Drive and when the Township was going to adopt McKenna Drive. Mr. Jones advised Mrs. McKenna that the next step would be to advertise the ordinance for adoption to take over the road. Mr. Jones stated that the public hearing for McKenna Drive would be December 12, 2011. In the interim the road will be maintained for winter maintenance and the catch basin will be repaired. Mrs. McKenna asked if the road will be paved next year, Mr. Jones replied that once taken over it will be treated as any other township road, and that he stated there is work planned on it for next year, but was not sure what kind of work would be done.

6:36pm ENGINEERS REPORT Marie Stratakis-Hartman (Report on File)

6:51pm CITIZEN COMMENTS PERTAINING TO THE BUSINESS AGENDA None

6:51pm BUSINESS AGENDA

Mr. Kusnir Motion to approve the Workshop Minutes of November 14, 2011

Mr. Kraus Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. DiPietro Yes

Mr. Kusnir Yes

Mr. Rohm Absent

Mr. Kraus Yes

Mr. Bufalini Yes

Motion Carried

Page 2, December 12, 2011 Workshop Meeting Minutes

Mr. Kraus Motion to approve the list of bills dated for December 12, 2011
Mr. DiPietro Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. DiPietro Yes
Mr. Kusnir Yes
Mr. Rohm Absent
Mr. Kraus Yes
Mr. Bufalini Yes
Motion Carried

Mr. Kraus Motion to appoint Diane Palsa as Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collector for Hopewell Township for the 2011 property taxes covering the period from December 31, 2011 through April 1, 2012
Mr. DiPietro Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. DiPietro Yes
Mr. Kusnir Yes
Mr. Rohm Absent
Mr. Kraus Yes
Mr. Bufalini Yes
Motion Carried

6:54pm EXECUTIVE SESSION IN

7:54pm EXECUTIVE SESSION OUT

8:00pm PUBLIC HEARING FOR ORDINANCE 2011-04

CITIZEN COMMENTS PERTAINING TO ORDINANCE 2011-04

Commissioner Norm Kraus

Commissioner Kraus wanted to comment on the House Bill 1950 in regards to the State taking over the oil and gas regulations, resulting in the local municipalities losing control over regulating drilling within its boundaries. Also House Bill 1950 will give the State control over the collection and distribution of all monetary fees collected by any oil or gas drilling. Commissioner Kraus expressed his displeasure with this legislation and went on record to oppose It.

Mr. Kraus Motion to approve ordinance 2011-04 amending the Hopewell Township Zoning ordinance No. 2044-01, to allow oil and gas exploration, drilling and extraction operations as conditional uses in the industrial (I), residential-agricultural (RI), mixed use (MU), and riverfront industrial districts (RID) and further establishing permit requirements, pre-application conferences design, installation and operation restrictions and penalties for violation thereof
Mr. Kusnir Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. DiPietro Yes
Mr. Kusnir Yes
Mr. Rohm Yes
Mr. Kraus Yes
Mr. Bufalini Yes
Motion Carried

8:15pm PUBLIC HEARING FOR ORDINANCE 2011-10

CITIZEN COMMENTS PERTAINING TO ORDINANCE 2011-10

Township Engineer Marie Hartman displayed a survey map to the residents of McKenna Drive in regards to the Township adopting the road as a Township Road. Marie went on to explain in detail to the residents the specifications and requirements needed in order to adopt McKenna to Township specifications.

Debbie Trillow 102 McKenna Drive

Mrs. Catalogna 104 McKenna Drive

Mrs. Lawryk 109 McKenna Drive

Mr. and Mrs. Trillow, Mrs. Catalogna, and Mrs. Lawryk all reviewed the map with the Township Engineer and after many questions it was decided that the survey needed to more detail. Marie would be able to get the additional detail to Township Solicitor Mike Jones before the meeting on December 19th.

Township solicitor Mike Jones advised everyone that until we get the necessary survey information the hearing would be continued for final adoption at the December 19, 2011 Township Business Meeting.

8:30pm ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

All items for discussion in regards to engineering were addressed in the engineers report and are on file at the Township Building.

Mike Jones updated the Board that he is continuing to work on the revised grading and filling ordinance with the Township engineer. New grading permit fees were discussed to bring the application fee to \$400.00 so that the Township could break even on the fees. Mr. Jones updated the board that he has completed the reciprocating agreement for police coverage to neighboring communities and that it is now up to the Chief of Police to hand out to the communities that he feels needs the agreements. The Board directed Mr. Jones to move forward in developing an ordinance for property maintenance. Tap fees in regards to the Sweet Brier plan for phase two were discussed. It was decided by the Township solicitor and the Board that the Township would not be able to go back and collect the correct tap-in fees from Maronda, because they were not notified of the change for phase two, and that the amount owed to the township would be charged off the books. However as Maronda moves forward in the Sweet Brier Plan phase two they are to pay the correct tap-in fees. It was also decided that the Township would abide by the agreement for phase two tap in-fees refunds to True-Line development, and that the refund money would be deposited into True-line's township escrow account. The Township Manager discussed the Township Christmas Party and requested that the Municipal offices and public works departments close at 1:00pm on Thursday December 22, 2011. It was also noted by the Manager that the Christmas party is completely funded by Township employees and municipal building vending fund. The board discussed the depository ID badges for 2012 and it was determined by the Board that a disclaimer will be put on the badges that the Township reserves the right to terminate depository privileges if it determines that residents are purposely bringing commercial yard waste into the depository. The Board discussed the 2012 leaf collection and in an effort to save an estimate of \$33,000 residents for 2012 will no longer be able to sweep their leaves to the curb and they will have to be bagged. Yard waste in 2012 will be picked up at the curb with normal garbage collections.

Mr. Kraus Motion to approve Hopewell Township's Public Works Contract effective January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2016

Mr. Bufalini Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. DiPietro Yes
Mr. Kusnir No
Mr. Rohm Yes
Mr. Kraus Yes
Mr. Bufalini Yes

Motion Carried

Mr. Kusnir Motion to approve the memorandum of understanding between Hopewell Township and the Fraternal Order of Police James W. Naim memorial Lodge #26 extending the current collective bargaining agreement for a period of two (2) years commencing January 1, 2014 and expiring December 31, 2015 with amendments

Mr. Kraus Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. DiPietro Yes

Mr. Kusnir Yes

Mr. Rohm Yes

Mr. Kraus Yes

Mr. Bufalini Yes

Motion Carried

Mr. Kraus Motion to approve Resolution 2011-27 establishing a standard application and permit fee to administer ordinance No. 79-6 regulating grading, excavations and fill activities in Hopewell Township

Mr. Bufalini Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. DiPietro Yes

Mr. Kusnir Yes

Mr. Rohm Yes

Mr. Kraus Yes

Mr. Bufalini Yes

Motion Carried

Mr. DiPietro Motion to approve the closing of Public Works Departments and Municipal Offices on December 22, 2011 at 1:00pm for the Christmas Holiday

Mr. Kraus Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. DiPietro Yes

Mr. Kusnir Yes

Mr. Rohm Yes

Mr. Kraus Yes

Mr. Bufalini Yes

Motion Carried

8:51pm **CITIZENS FORUM**

Mr. Robert Years Grace Lane

Mr. Years wanted the Board to know that before any decision made by Penn-Dot in regards to Veasey Road that he has asked Penn-Dot to prove ownership of the property. Mr. Years stated that he has a clear title to the property of Veasey road that is next to his House. Mr. Years also stated that he would like the road sign change from Kane Road to read Grace Lane and not Veasey road at the section that intersects Mrs. Davie's property. Mr. Years also stated that he is going to dump a truck load of dirt on the portion of Veasey Road in front of his house. The Board advised Mr. Years that they are waiting for the report from Penn-Dot and that the road is their road and it is not a Township Road and would not make any decisions in regards to Veasey until Penn-dot issues their report.

Mr. Rohm 227 Sharon Grange Road

Mr. Rohm wanted to know if the 2012 budget included any money for the removal of non-conforming stop signs within the Township; the Board advised Mr. Rohm that there were no funds allocated in the 2012 budget specifically for the removal of stop signs. However as agreed upon by the safety committee non-conforming stop signs within the Township will be reviewed as roads are paved during road programs and money for those stop signs would be

included within the road paving budget. Mr. Rohm also questioned the revising of the street opening ordinance and wanted to know if it was going to be less restrictive. The Township engineer informed Mr. Rohm that the revised street opening ordinance would be more restrictive and would also include the water authorities to post cash or bonds annually. Mr. Rohm commented that pavers who paved Sharon Grange Road did a nice job.

9:09pm **NEW BUSINESS** NONE

9:10pm **OLD BUSINESS**

Commissioner Brain Rohm

Mr. Rohm asked solicitor Mike Jones to give him an update on the Lamar Advertising signs bill board case and how it was progressing. Mr. Jones informed Mr. Rohm that he has heard nothing new in regards to the case but would investigate the issue further and give him an update by the next workshop meeting.

9:11pm **EXECUTIVE SESSION IN**

9:39pm **EXECUTIVE SESSION OUT**

9:40pm **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Kraus Motion to adjourn
Mr. Bufalini Second the motion
Voice Vote: All in favor
Motion Carried

Minutes Recorded by: Andy J. Brunette 12/12/11
Minutes Prepared by: Andy J. Brunette 12/14/11