

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

December 14, 2009
Meeting in Session at 6:00 p.m.

6:00PM: Workshop Meeting Called to Order by Mr. Rohm

ROLL CALL

President

Brian Rohm excused at 6:33pm

Vice President

Norm Kraus

Commissioners

Rich Bufalini

Mario Leone, Jr. arrived at 6:41pm

Chuck Piroli

Others Present

Andy Brunette, Interim Township Manager/Controller

Dave Widmer, Engineer

Marie Stratakis-Hartman, Engineer

Mike Jones, Solicitor

6:00pm E.S.B. Bank presentation, presentation on file at municipal building

6:16pm Ensign Drive resident meeting in regards to the water ponding between Ensign and Brodhead. Paul Ferrara was the spokesperson for the Ensign Drive, five residents were in attendance. Widmer Engineering was assigned the task to develop a solution to the water problem. The manager will resend letters to the four residents with easement agreements whose property will be possibly affected by the solution. The board is willing to meet with these individuals to ensure that their properties will be restored to pre-construction conditions.

6:42pm ENGINEER REPORT Dave Widmer. Report on file.

7:15pm CITIZEN COMMENTS pertaining to the Agenda None

7:15pm BUSINESS AGENDA

Mr. Kraus Motion to approve the Workshop Minutes of November 9, 2009.

Mr. Leone Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Bufalini yes

Mr. Piroli yes

Mr. Kraus yes

Mr. Leone yes

Mr. Rohm Absent

Motion Carried

Mr. Pirolì Motion to approve the List of Bills dated December 14, 2009
Mr. Bufalini Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Kraus yes
Mr. Leone yes
Mr. Kraus yes
Mr. Leone yes
Mr. Rohm Absent

Motion Carried

Mr. Pirolì Motion to approve the transfer of \$200,000 from the Sewer Fund to the Sewer Construction Fund as budgeted for 2009
Mr. Bufalini Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Bufalini yes
Mr. Pirolì yes
Mr. Kraus yes
Mr. Leone yes
Mr. Rohm Absent

Motion Carried

7: 20pm **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Resolution 2009-29 ratifying and amending ordinance No 98-5 to reflect changes in the Sewer system rentals has been reviewed and will be set up for passage at the December 28th Business Meeting.

Dave Widmer updated the Board on the Safety meeting held on December 8th 2009. In attendance at the meeting was Mr. Tom Rohm, resident, Dave Widmer Engineer, Eugene Ungarean Chief of Police, and Chaz Srafin Public Works Superintendent. A list of Potential Stop Sign addition and removals were given to the committee for review. David Widmer will be notifying the safety committee on the next meeting date after confirmation with a PennDot representative who will attend the meeting. The PennDot representative will explain to the committee the cost and help identify which Stop Signs on the list are either in compliance or non compliant.

The Board discussed Mr. Robinson 227 Sharon Grange Road storm sewer project. Please note that Mr. Robinson was in the audience and stated that he would like to get this resolved as soon as possible and was hoping for a decision by the December 28, 2009 Business meeting. After comments by the Township Solicitor, Board members, and Solicitor the board decided to have Widmer Engineering revisit the site to see if a compromise can be obtained in regards to Mr. Robinson's previous request. The Board also directed the Manager to revisit the site in question and take pictures so that the Engineers and Board could have current photos of the storm sewer.

The Board of Commissioners discussed the conditional use of the Beaver County Jail located in Hopewell Township. In a recent Beaver County Times article it was stated by the County that the Jail will be housing additional State and Federal Prisoners at the facility located in Hopewell Township in an effort to help fill its empty space. The County stands to have a financial windfall from this housing. The concern from the Township is that the Jail has a conditional use for only level 3 prisoners. Township Solicitor Mike Jones will address the conditional use of the level three prisoners with the County Solicitor. The Board has advised the Manager to set up a meeting date with the Beaver County Commissioners in January 2010 to discuss this issue further.

The Commissioners discussed sponsoring an advertisement in the Hopewell Quarterback Club 65th Annual Football Banquet. Please note that the advertisement will be paid for by the Commissioners personally.

The Manager updated the Board on Huron Road and advised that Dominion Peoples Gas Company has provided the Township with all the necessary insurance and bonding information for their gas line replacement on Huron Road. Upon completion of the project the Manager will direct the Road Department Superintendent to inspect the Road.

The Manager updated the Board on Thompson Lane and advised that the Bank has signed the authorization for the Township to perform the one-time repair on this private road to alleviate the water ponding on the road. The Township will divert the water onto the bank owned property.

The Manager updated the Board on Steuer Road and advised the Board that Representative Christiana was contacted and advised of the condition of this road. The manager requested assistance from Representative Christiana on this subject to help assist and find funding for this project.

The Manager updated the Board on the progression of Miller Lane. It was determined by the Engineers that the area needed for the Road Department to construct a turnaround fell within the Township's easement, and that the construction of the turnaround will begin this week.

Commissioner Bufalini discussed his conversation that he had with Tom King from Hopewell Township about becoming the Township Grant Writer. Different forms of compensation were discussed for this position. Commissioner Piroli also suggested that Jeff Mehan from Center Township also be considered for the position. Commissioner Piroli directed the Manager to get in touch with Mr. Mehan and set up a date with him where he can come in and discuss the position with the Manager and the other Commissioners. Mr. King will also have an opportunity to discuss the position with the Manager and the other Commissioners. Commissioner Bufalini also discussed creating a job description for this position with input from the Board of Commissioners and the Township Manager.

The Manager updated the Board on the delinquent amounts owed to the Township for E.J.T. collection from Keystone and Centax. Keystone currently owes the Township \$5,391, and Centax \$11,276. Commissioner Leone wanted to state for the record that a part of the money owed to the Township is actually not owed but rather an administration problem of record keeping.

The Manager advised the Board that bids for the Municipal Boiler have been received and opened. The boiler is going to cost the Township \$21,000 in 2010 to install. The Manager also advised the board that the boiler replacement was submitted to Beaver County C.O.G. Executive Director Robert Callen to be included the Energy Efficiency Federal Grant Application for \$1,794,697 that C.O.G. submitted on behalf of its members. If awarded the Township will receive a grant in the amount of \$19,000 for its boiler replacement, and be responsible for the remaining \$2,000. The decision from the D.O.E. will be in March of 2010

Mike Jones discussed the ordinance for moving and flashing signs. The Board had concerns on the size and the amount of time that the sign would be illuminated. Mike Jones will give consideration to all the Board's conditional use questions and advise the board of his conclusion. Mike did advise that the ordinance will have to be re-advertised to accommodate residents and businesses in the C-2 district so that they will have a chance to be heard at a public meeting.

The Manager updated the Board on the cost to install guide rails along McIntosh Drive in Clearview Estates. The cost to install the guard rail would be \$19,000. The Board advised the manager to research the cost of getting used guide rails as well as posts with cable for McIntosh Drive.

8:00PM

CITIZENS FORUM

Terry Shannon, 1703 Maratta Road

Mr. Shannon questioned the Miller Lane Project and wanted to know if the Township was moving the leech bed and septic system. Mr. Shannon was told that the Township was not moving the septic system or leech bed and that it was just installing a turnaround so that the Township Trucks can perform winter maintenance on the road.

Steve Robinson 227 Sharon Grange Road,

Mr. Robinson asks about his situation and when he can have some action on his storm water project. He was advised that the board needs time to assimilate the problem and that it would be not until after the meeting on December 28, 2009 that it possibly would have a conclusion.

8:10PM **NEW BUSINESS** None

8:11PM **OLD BUSINESS**

Commissioner Piroli asked Solicitor Mike Jones if the Gillock claim was completed. Mr Jones advised the board that the claim has been processed by PIRMA Insurance and that Mr. Gillock was pleased with the outcome.

Commissioner Bufalini asked for an update on the Dump Truck that is for sale. The manager updated the board that the Dump Truck is still for sale and shortly will be put on E-Bay for listing

Commissioner Bufalini also asked the Board if they reviewed the 2010 S.E.O. proposal for appointment. The Board did state that they did review that proposal and that they only noticed a minor increase in fees from their 2008 appointment. These fees will be passed on to the applicants for S.E.O service

8:13PM **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

8:42PM **EXECUTIVE SESSION OVER**

Mr. Piroli Motion to approve the authorization of one extra week of vacation for not-contract management and supervisory personnel for the 2010 year in lieu of receiving an annual pay increase. The award of the extra week is only for the 2010 year and cannot be carried over to the next year or reimbursed by compensation for not being used.

Mr. Leone Second the motion

Mr. Leone also commented purchasing low end laptop computers for the commissioners for use at public and workshop meetings. As the Township moves to a paperless administration system it would be a future cost saving measure for the Township in regards to all the paper that is generated in preparing the Commissioner packages for their meeting. Also the Commissioners would have more access to the server and be able to access their information online anywhere.

Roll Call Vote:
Mr. Bufalini yes
Mr. Piroli yes
Mr. Kraus yes
Mr. Leone yes
Mr. Rohm Absent
Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bufalini Motion to adjourn
Mr. Leone Second the motion
Voice Vote: All in favor
Motion Carried
Meeting adjourned at 9:13pm