

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

October 11, 2010
Meeting in Session at 6:05 p.m.

6:05pm: Workshop Meeting Called to Order by Mr. Bufalini

ROLL CALL

President

Richard Bufalini

Vice President

Chuck Piroli

Commissioners

Joe Kusnir

Brian Rohm

Norm Kraus

Others Present

Andy Brunette, Township Manager/Controller

Marie Stratakis-Hartman, Engineer

Mike Jones, Solicitor

6:05pm EXECUTIVE SESSION IN

7:01pm EXECUTIVE SESSION OUT

7:03pm CITIZEN COMMENTS PERTAINING TO THE AGENDA None

7:04pm BUSINESS AGENDA

Mr. Kusnir Motion to approve Ordinance 2010-04 of the Township of Hopewell Beaver County, Pennsylvania, a First Class Township under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, establishing rules and regulations for connection to, discharge into, construction and extension of the existing sanitary sewer system, and providing for surcharges and penalties associated therewith

Mr. Piroli Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Kusnir yes

Mr. Rohm yes

Mr. Kraus yes

Mr. Piroli yes

Mr. Bufalini yes

Motion Carried

Commissioner Brian Rohm,

Before the motion for Ordinance 2010-05 Commissioner Rohm asked the question if grease traps regulations were included in Ordinance 2010-05. Engineer Stratakis advised Mr. Rohm that it was included in the rules and regulations in Ordinance 2010-04

Mr. Kraus Motion to approve Ordinance 2010-05 of the Township of Hopewell Beaver County, Pennsylvania, a First Class Township under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, providing for the adoption of Sanitary Sewer Connection fees, permit fees, and inspection fees,

and Sewer Rental Fees, and Regulations with respect thereto to be followed by the users of the Sewer System owned and operated by Hopewell Township. This Ordinance repeals Resolution No. R-2009-29; Resolution No. R-2009-07; Resolution No. R-2007-9; Resolution No. R-2006-03; Resolution No. R-2005-16 and Ordinance No. 98-5

Mr. Piroli Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Kusnir yes

Mr. Rohm no

Mr. Kraus yes

Mr. Piroli yes

Mr. Bufalini yes

Motion Carried

Resident Mario Leone, 4423 South Beverley Drive

Resident Leone before the motion on Ordinance 2010-06 commented to the Board that he was happy to see that the \$125.00 application fee was remaining the same as the old dye test application fee. Mr. Leone also questioned if the new dye test procedures were applicable to the all of the parcels in Hopewell Township or just the parcels that flow into our system. Engineer Stratakis advised that it was just the properties that flowed into Hopewell's sewer plants. Mr. Leone questioned the legality of that and that it should be Township wide, Mr. Leone also commented that if the Township thought it had a serious infiltration problem it should address the whole Township in sections and test all of those areas at a section at a time.

Commissioner Kraus

Commissioner Kraus commented that he agreed with Mr. Leone that he is concerned after reading the Ordinance that he wanted to make sure that everybody in the Township was being treated fairly and equally and he wanted to go on the record with his statement.

Commissioner Bufalini

Commissioner Bufalini commented that the primary concern behind the Ordinance was to take care of the flows that flow into Hopewell's system primarily because of the situation that township is in with flow infiltration

Commissioner Rohm

Commissioner Rohm asked Marie if this is mandated by the D.E.P. for the Township to go this direction? Engineer Statakis replied that this test was not mandated by the D.E.P. but the injection dye test was the test that the D.E.P. preferred.

Solicitor Mike Jones

Solicitor Jones commented that the current ordinance for dye testing only put the responsibility on the seller to perform the test. The Township has been experiencing properties that the Sewer Department did not receive lien letters on and the properties closed illegally without a test ever being performed. In the current ordinance the responsibility is only on the seller in the new Ordinance 2010-06 it puts the responsibility back to the seller and the new owner to have the test performed. With the new ordinance the Township can now go after the owner of properties who close illegally so from an enforcement perspective Ordinance 2010-06 is a better ordinance. Mike Jones also advised the Board that if they wanted to make a revision to Ordinance 2010-06 to include all Hopewell Township parcels that it would be a minimal revision and would not have to be re-advertised and they would still be able to vote on it.

Commissioner Piroli

Commissioner Piroli stated that he agreed with Mr. Leone that all parcels should be treated the same way in regards to dye testing. Mr. Piroli stated that in his personal opinion he believed the injection dye test was the better test to be used. Mr. Piroli also made a recommendation that the Board consider revising Ordinance 2010-06 to include all Township parcels that are sold be tested with the new injection dye test. Mr. Piroli also stated that if an area has been identified to have a serious infiltration problem then he would have no problem in doing block testing in that area at that time. Mr. Piroli was not in favor of testing the entire Township.

Commissioner Rohm

Commissioner Rohm asked the question about residents who have already paid for a dye test application before the passage of Ordinance 2010-06 and had not had the test completed would they be tested under the new Ordinance 2010-06?

Solicitor Mike Jones

Solicitor Mike Jones advised the Board that effective October 12, 2010 that the new dye test listed in Ordinance 2010-06 would be enforced regardless of the application date.

Mr. Piroli Motion to approve Ordinance No. 2010-06 of the Township of Hopewell Beaver County, Pennsylvania, a First Class Township under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, establishing a requirement for certification of sanitary sewer status prior to the sale of real estate served by public sewers both within and outside the service area of the wastewater treatment facilities of Hopewell Township as a condition for the issuance of Municipal Lien Letters and Property Tax Verification Letters and repealing all prior ordinances contrary hereto

Mr. Kusnir Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Kusnir yes
 Mr. Rohm no
 Mr. Kraus yes
 Mr. Piroli yes
 Mr. Bufalini yes

Motion Carried

Commissioner Piroli

Commissioner Piroli commented that he believed that it would be a good idea to have this information sent to the Realtors Association so that realtors in our area will be aware of the change in the pre-sale dye testing procedures. Engineer Marie advised the Manager that she has a prepared letter that she can send to the Manager that would address Mr. Piroli's concerns. The Manager also advised Mr. Piroli that all this information would be available on the Township website.

Commissioner Kusnir

Commissioner Kusnir commented on the procedure on how to add more frequently asked questions to the resolution if they would arise as we move forward with this testing. Solicitor Mike Jones advised the Board that all you would have to do is pass another resolution amending that one form, which would be the frequently asked question form.

Mr. Piroli Motion to approve Resolution R-2010-29 establishing an application procedure for certification of sanitary sewer status prior to the sale of real estate served by public sewers both within and outside the service area of the wastewater treatment facilities of Hopewell Township, and approving forms for said applications and inspections for resale, and adopting regulations and procedures regarding same

Mr. Kraus Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Kusnir yes
 Mr. Rohm no
 Mr. Kraus yes
 Mr. Piroli yes
 Mr. Bufalini yes

Motion Carried

7:37pm ENGINEER LAIRD ROAD PROPOSALS Garvin Boward and Beitko (Report and Proposals on file)

8:34pm ENGINEERS REPORT Marie Stratakis-Hartman (Report on File)

8:45pm BUSINESS AGENDA CONTINUED

Mr. Rohm Motion to approve the Workshop Minutes of September 13, 2010
Mr. Kraus Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Kusnir yes
Mr. Rohm yes
Mr. Kraus yes
Mr. Piroli yes
Mr. Bufalini yes

Motion Carried

Mr. Kraus Motion to approve the list of bills dated for October 11, 2010
Mr. Piroli Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Kusnir yes
Mr. Rohm yes
Mr. Kraus yes
Mr. Piroli yes
Mr. Bufalini yes

Motion Carried

Mr. Rohm Motion to hire Betty Otto part time substitute School Crossing Guard at a rate of \$12.38/hour per budget line item 1-410-133
Mr. Kusnir Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Kusnir yes
Mr. Rohm yes
Mr. Kraus yes
Mr. Piroli yes
Mr. Bufalini yes

Motion Carried

Mr. Kraus Motion to reappoint the following members to Hopewell Township's Building Code Appeals Board: Robert Silvestri term ending 12/31/11, Kenny Laird term ending 12/31/12, Fred Bologna, Jr. 12/31/13, and Lou Pietrandrea term ending 12/31/14

Mr. Rohm Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Kusnir yes
Mr. Rohm yes
Mr. Kraus yes
Mr. Piroli yes
Mr. Bufalini yes

Motion Carried

Mr. Piroli Motion to approve the donated use of Hopewell Township's Community Park to Relay for Life event June 4th and June 5th 2010

Mr. Rohm Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Kusnir yes

Mr. Rohm yes

Mr. Kraus yes

Mr. Piroli yes

Mr. Bufalini yes

Motion Carried

Resident Mario Leone, 4423 South Beverley Drive

Mr. Leone asked the Board to consider all proposals for the Laird Road repair and also specifically to take another look at the proposal from Soil Nail Launcher on their proposed fix for consideration. Mr. Leone also reminded the Board that the Soil Nail Launcher included a five year guarantee while the proposal did not. Mr. Leone also commented that if the Township is looking into refinancing a bond and drawing extra cash from it for the Laird Road repair the Board should also consider fixing the entire Laird Road.

Mr. Kusnir Motion to approve the Laird Road repair design of a Soldier Beam and Lagging Retaining Wall solution proposed by Garvin, Boward, and Beitko for the purpose to advertise the design

Mr. Rohm Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Kusnir yes

Mr. Rohm yes

Mr. Kraus yes

Mr. Piroli yes

Mr. Bufalini yes

Motion Carried

8:55pm 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.

The Board agreed to amend the wording in Resolution 2005-14 in regards to one ton trucks entering the depository. The Board advised the Manager to instruct the Depository Guards to collect the \$20.00 per one ton truck of grass and other yard clipping debris from Hopewell residents who own a non-commercial dump truck and enter the depository in accordance with Resolution 2005-14.

The Manager discussed the need for a website policy for the Township's website so that residents are aware that the use of the website is strictly to be used for informational purposes for the residents, and it is not to be used for political means. The Manager forwarded template policies to solicitor Mike Jones for review.

The Manager discussed the request from John Bates for the repair of the five point's traffic lights sensors on Heights Road. The cost to repair is \$3,500.00. The Board advised the Manager to instruct Mr. Bates to contact the traffic light company to see if there was an overhead sensor that could be used and what that cost would be.

The Manager updated the Board on the Safety Committee motion to grandfather all existing stop signs from the PennDot compliance code. The committee agreed that all stop signs as from this date forward will be in compliance. The committees also recommended by motion that existing stop signs as they are needed to be replaced be reexamined for compliance as well as when any Township paving program will take place. The Manager advised the Board that the official minutes of the meeting will be sent out to them.

The Manager advised the Board to please make sure to clean out their email accounts on a regular basis

Delegate Mario Leone handed out a presentation for the vote on the County Act 511 Tax Collection Vendor selection proposals. The selection has come down between Centax and Keystone tax collection companies. After review the Board advised delegate Leone that he is to cast the vote for Centax at the final tax collection presentations.

9:30pm **CITIZENS FORUM**

Robert Cannon 116 Sawyer Drive

Mr. Cannon expressed his concerns over his neighbor parking a 30ft long 11ft wide box truck in his driveway every day. Mr. Cannon believes that these types of vehicles should not be allowed to be parked in neighborhoods. The Board advised Mr. Cannon that they are aware of the problems in certain residential districts where certain large vehicles are parked on the street and they have addressed those issues, but they are not sure what they can do when the vehicle is parked on private property and it is legally plated and tagged. Solicitor Mike Jones advised Mr. Cannon that he would look into it and see if the Township has any existing ordinances that will address this specific issue.

Cheryl McFarland 3037 Kane Road

Mrs. McFarland was there to represent the Veasey Road residents who wanted an update from the Board on what they intended on doing. Solicitor Mike Jones advised Mrs. McFarland that this is a private property issue and that one solution would be for the all the adjoining property owners on the Veasey Road to sign a release to the Township so that periodic maintenance could be performed by the Township since it is not a Township Road, but private.

Dean Felgar Durr Drive

Mr. Felgar was also to reflect his views and concern about Veasey Road which mirrored Mrs. McFarland.

Mario Leone 4423 South Beverley Drive

Mr. Leone commented that the Township should look into designating Veasey Cemetery as a Historical Site and he believed that would open up the opportunity for the Township to apply for grant money from the State that could be used for the maintenance and repair of Veasey Road.

10:04pm **NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Kusnir wanted to know and discuss how the Township would be able to bring in more senior centers to the area. Mr. Kusnir also inquired about any other land within the Township that could sustain another senior center development. Suggestions were made that possibly the members of the planning commission could pursue these opportunities

10:13pm **OLD BUSINESS**

Commissioner Bufalini updated the Board on the Fall Township conference he attended at Seven Springs on the information that he had gathered. Mr. Bufalini brought back information on optional health insurance plans for the Township as well as updating the Board on the Marcellus Shell drilling that is going on in the State. Mr. Bufalini also directed the Manager to contact companies in regards to Marcellus Shell drilling on Township Properties to see if it was feasible.

10:23pm **EXECUTIVE SESSION IN**

10:41PM **EXECUTIVE SESSION OUT**

Mr. Piroli Motion to authorize solicitor to initiate legal proceedings against any persons or properly owing the Township \$3,000.00 or more for combined delinquent sewer rentals, tap-ins and or refuse

Mr. Kraus Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Kusnir yes
Mr. Rohm yes
Mr. Kraus yes
Mr. Piroli yes
Mr. Bufalini yes

Motion Carried

10:45pm EXECUTIVE SESSION IN

11:04PM EXECUTIVE SESSION OUT

Mr. Kraus Motion to hire Beth Hartwick part time Collections/Administrative Assistant at a rate of \$12.00/hour per budget line item 8-405-018. Mrs. Hartwick will have first right of refusal for this position. If refused the next candidates will be chosen from the ranking provided by the Commissioners

Mr. Kusnir Second the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Kusnir yes
Mr. Rohm yes
Mr. Kraus yes
Mr. Piroli yes
Mr. Bufalini yes

Motion Carried

11:05pm ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Piroli Motion to adjourn

Mr. Kraus Second the motion

Voice Vote: All in favor

Motion Carried

Minutes Recorded by: Andy J. Brunette 10/11/10

Minutes Prepared by: Andy J. Brunette 10/13/10