

Union Township Board of Supervisors
 Non-Legislative Meeting
 December 11, 2017
 7:00pm

The Board of Supervisors meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Deborah Sargent at 7:00pm. The meeting was held at the Union Township Municipal Building, 3904 Finleyville-Ehrava Road, Finleyville, PA. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Board members in attendance by roll call were Paul Chasko, Larry Spahr, Charles Trax, Deborah Sargent, and Heather Daerr.

Also in attendance, Robert Balogh-Manager, Gary Sweat-Solicitor, Nicole Dooley-Secretary, James Harshman-Engineer, Jarrod D'Amico-Zoning/Code Enforcement and Laura MacAulay-Harshman Group.

Public Comment on Agenda Items:

Hal Breinig: 44 Finley Avenue, Finleyville PA. Mr. Breinig used his public comment time to also deliver the Planning Commission report. He reported he received some clarification from Mr. Sweat regarding the placement of gas wells from specific structures. Mr. Breinig also reported Peters Creek Sanitary Authority held a special meeting last Monday evening. Mr. Breinig urged the Union Township Board of Supervisors to attend future Peters Creek Sanitary Authority meetings. He noted there are major issues that will affect anyone who has public sewerage or will be getting public sewerage. Mr. Breinig reported how Clairton is trying to hold the Townships ransom. He noted the win fall is about fifteen million dollars that Clairton has underestimated. Mr. Breinig also explained how Clairton has been wasting money and now they want to put the financial constraints on the Townships.

Mark Englert: No address given. Mr. Englert stated he was a salesman from Fairfield Landscaping. He stated his company was here eleven months ago and negotiated a snow removal contract with Union Township and Solicitor, Gary Sweat. He stated he was here to find out how the contract will be executed. Mr. Sweat at that time stated it was his understanding and it is written in the contract that Fairfield Landscaping is to be an emergency backup.

Motion to add Fairfield Snow removal to the agenda for the meeting next week.

Motion by Deborah Sargent, Second by Charles Trax

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Spahr-YES, Mr. Chasko-YES, Mr. Trax-YES, Mrs. Sargent-YES, Mrs. Daerr-YES. Motion carried.

Pete Guido: 125 Viaregio, Finleyville PA. MR. Guido commented about an update for Tusany Estates.

Solicitor, Gary Sweat addressed Mr. Guido, the Board of Supervisors and audience. He stated his report is brief. He has nothing, there is no update. The gentleman that he thought that would be moving this along, Mr. Clausen has thrown his hands up. He is not doing anything.

Departmental reports were delivered by Peter Overcashier, Road Superintendent, Kevin Harris-City of Monongahela Police and Jarrod D'Amico-Zoning/Code Enforcement. Included in the Board of Supervisors meeting packet was an Ambulance report.

During Mr. D'Amico's Zoning/Code Enforcement he reported there are two properties located in Union Township that he would like the Board of Supervisors to consider taking action on. The first property is located at 5020 Norman Avenue. A notice has been sent per ordinance, undeliverable. The property has been posted. There was no response or remediation. A citation was filed 8-9-17. A summons was issued and returned as undeliverable. It is Mr. D'Amico's understanding that this resident has abandoned this property. Mr. D'Amico asked the Board of Supervisors to consider having the public works department remove the solid trash from the property, and lien the parcel for costs incurred. The second property Mr. D'Amico is looking for the Board of Supervisors to take action on is 7080 Beverly Road. A notice has been sent per ordinance, undeliverable. The property has been posted.

There was no response or remediation. A citation was filed 9-21-17. A summons was issued and returned as undeliverable. It is Mr. D'Amico's understanding in with speaking to the neighbors the owner of the home is deceased. Mr. D'Amico asked the Board of Supervisors to consider having the public works department remove the solid trash from the property, and lien the parcel for the costs incurred. Mr. D'Amico continued his report and reviewed the various blight properties that the Township could use the remaining CDBG funds to possibly demolish. He asked the board as they see fit if they would make motion to approve sending the letters as per the ordinance process.

Motion to approve Jarrod to send out letter of notification to the blight properties he identified in his report.

Motion by Deborah Sargent, Second by Paul Chasko

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Spahr-YES, Mr. Chasko-YES, Mr. Trax-YES, Mrs. Sargent-YES, Mrs. Daerr-YES. Motion carried.

Motion to add to the legislative meeting discussion of 5020 Norman Avenue and 7080 Beverly Road.

Motion by Deborah Sargent, Second by Heather Daerr

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Spahr-YES, Mr. Chasko-YES, Mr. Trax-YES, Mrs. Sargent-YES, Mrs. Daerr-YES. Motion carried.

James Harshman, Engineer enclosed in his report for the Board of Supervisors meeting packet a letter of recommendation and copies of quotes from both Hapchuck, Inc. and Bruno Plumbing & Heating for the necessary sewerage enforcement compliance activities at 13 and 17 Mingo Circle. Based upon the Engineers review they are recommending awarding the work to Hapchuck Inc. Mr. Harshman asked for approval by the Board of Supervisors to give Hapchuck authorization to proceed and he will coordinate the necessary work immediately.

Motion to authorize Hapchuck Inc. to perform the work on Mingo Circle in regard to investigating the tanks at 13 and 17 Mingo Circle.

Motion by Heather Daerr, Second by Deborah Sargent

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Spahr-YES, Mr. Chasko-YES, Mr. Trax-YES, Mrs. Sargent-YES, Mrs. Daerr-YES. Motion carried.

Mr. Harshman also noted in his report he has had recent correspondence with the Geotech Engineer, Mr. Chris Deeb regarding the Tomko Grading Permit. Mr. Deeb confirmed no cuts or fills are taking place at the Tomko work site. The work commencing has to do with rock crushing. Mr. Harshman reported he reiterated to Mr. Deeb reports regarding the core drilling of the previously placed fill and his certification of the placed material are still needed. Also needed is the certification report for the slide repair that has been accomplished. These reports have been noted to be forthcoming by Mr. Deeb. Moving on with his engineer's report Mr. Harshman stated the contractor on the Jason and Jack Drive bridge project ruptured a water line while digging. He confirmed PA American water installed a new plastic line across the stream. The rupturing of the water line has moved the projected completion date of the project. Next, the Board of Supervisors was briefed regarding the second phase of the Coal Bluff Road repair project. Mr. Harshman then reported to the Board about a plan scope and budget that Laura MacAulay and Road Superintendent, Pate Overcashier have been working on to bring Gilmore Road back to an operable condition. Ms. MacAulay asked the Board of Supervisors for approval to begin the process to apply for a low volume road grant for the Gilmore Road project through the soil conservation program. Mr. Harshman then asked for the boards permission to meet with the Conservation District preliminarily to see if Gilmore Road could be qualified for this grant.

Motion to authorize Jamie Harshman to meet with the conservation district regarding the low volume road grant possibility for Gilmore Road.

Motion by Heather Daerr, Second by Charles Trax

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Spahr-YES, Mr. Chasko-YES, Mr. Trax-YES, Mrs. Sargent-YES, Mrs. Daerr-YES. Motion carried.

Chairperson, Deborah Sargent noted for record that Mr. Harshman, Mrs. Daerr and herself made a short presentation on Monday December 4, 2017 for LSA grant money that could be used for the Overlook sewerage project. Manager, Robert Balogh also attended the presentation.

Manager, Robert Balogh delivered his report to the Board of Supervisors and stated the conversion to Office 365 email system is complete. The conversion was migrated last week. Next, Mr. Balogh reported employee David Barkey has passed his CDL testing. Shaun McQuilan is scheduled to test Tuesday, December 12, 2017. He expressed his appreciation and thanked North Strabane Township and them letting Union Township borrow the truck for the past two weeks so both gentleman could use the truck for their testing. Mr. Balogh also noted there is a public meeting being held on Thursday December 14, 2017 at the Elrama VFC social hall from 6:00-7:00pm. The purpose of the meeting is for the remediation and redevelopment of the old Elrama Chrome Shop. Mr. Balogh stated the meeting is being held by the Washington County Redevelopment Authority. K U Resources and James Harshman, Township Engineer will also be present to provide additional information. Planning for future projects and goals, the reorganization meeting will be held January 2, 2018. At this meeting, various new appointment for boards and commissions will take place. Mr. Balogh asked for the board's approval to alter the office schedule for Friday December 22, 2017, so the staff may have a Christmas gathering and be dismissed for the day. The changes to the work schedule will take place administratively. Mr. Balogh then stated his report was concluded. Supervisor, Larry Spahr interjected with some questions he had regarding the proposed 2018 budget. Mr. Balogh made the statement he did not have any budget information in front of him because the proposed budget acceptance was not on the evenings agenda. Mr. Balogh noted for Mr. Spahr there are plans to reopen the proposed budget at the beginning of 2018.

New Business

Agenda items discussed under new business included the following:

- A. Approve CPA Firm for the 2017 Audit
- B. Tax Collector Lease Agreement
- C. Set 2018 Millage Rate
- D. Winter Snow Removal Agreement with Tuscany Estates
- E. Accept Resignation of 2 Elected Auditors
- F. NIMS Training for Supervisors
- G. Discuss 2018 Meeting Schedule
- H. Division of Foreign Fire Funds

Motion to accept the resignations of two elected Union Township Board of Auditors, Ruffo Proviano and Lorraine Choque effective December 1, 2017.

Motion by Heather Duerr, Second by Charles Trax

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Spahr-YES, Mr. Chasko-YES, Mr. Trax-YES, Mrs. Sargent-YES, Mrs. Duerr-YES. Motion carried.

Motion to go back to a 50/50 split for the division of the foreign fire funds.

Motion by Deborah Sargent, Second by Paul Chasko

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Spahr-YES, Mr. Chasko-YES, Mr. Trax-YES, Mrs. Sargent-YES, Mrs. Duerr-YES. Motion carried.

Solicitor, Gary Sweat reported to the Union Township Board of Supervisors a request was made to him for regarding transcripts for Mr. Mellor's unemployment case. He stated the hearing was not transcribed that instead he had with him an audio CD of the transcripts at which time Mr. Sweat forward the disk to Township Manager, Robert Balogh. Mr. Sweat informed Mr. Balogh that there is a \$10.00 fee for the disk. Next, Mr. Sweat recommendation for the minutes that have not been copied and bound into the legal minute book of Union Township is that all five supervisors review, vote, sign and seal the missing minutes. Attached to the minutes will be an explanation why the current sitting Secretary can not attest to those minutes. Mr. Sweat also noted he can counter sign minutes for the time he was solicitor.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

Frank Latorre: 7 Boyka Drive, Finleyville PA. Mr. Latorre expressed his concerns regarding the Tomko Grading permit and the work that is being done on the property. He expressed his opinion regarding following the rules that are set in our ordinances. Mr. Latorre asked the Board of Supervisors if the cost of permits issued are split between the Zoning/ Code Enforcement and Union Township. Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer interjected and assured Mr. Latorre the entire lump sum of money stays in Union Township. Mr. Latorre also expressed he would like to see a more vocal presence from Union Township. He stated it would be nice to see information regarding the

Township in the South Hills Messenger. Mr. Latorre also asked that attention be brought to the storm water runoff and debris on Boykin Drive. Mr. Latorre also thanked Mrs. Lawson for providing refreshments for the Board of Supervisors meeting.

Manager, Robert Balogh and Police Officer Kevin Harris reported to the Board of Supervisors that frequently a police officer has monitored the Tomko grading site prior to the allowable work hours as stated in the Township ordinance to make sure there is no violation. Efforts are being made to address multiple noise complaints that residents have.

Hal Breinig: 44 Finley Drive, Finleyville PA. Mr. Breinig expressed his concerns regarding noise coming from the Tomko site. Hal also expressed his concerns regarding previous boards and growth of Union Township. Mr. Breinig also asked Mr. Sweat a question regarding the proposed gas and oil ordinance.

Kevin Daerr: Mr. Daerr questioned the Board of Supervisors how did Cypher & Cypher in the 2016 audit compare bill lists to the official Township minute book since there are no copied, sealed and bound minutes? Mr. Daerr stated he thinks the Board of Supervisors should question Cypher & Cypher on how bill payments were approved without official minutes. He asked the Board of Supervisors to really look at the bids for the 2017 audit. He also asked if any monies regarding the clean-up left from the previous employees could be billed back to any of their bonds.

Motion to go to executive session at 9:09pm.

Motion by Deborah Sargent, Second by Paul Chasko


Roll Call Vote: Mr. Spahr-YES, Mr. Chasko-YES, Mr. Trax-YES, Mrs. Sargent-YES, Mrs. Daerr-YES. Motion carried.

The Union Township Board of Supervisors returned from executive session at 9:28 pm. and Manager, Robert Balogh noted they are back on record. Solicitor, Gary Sweat stated that during executive session discussions were had about potential litigation.

Motion to adjourn

Motion by Deborah Sargent, Second by Charles Trax

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Spahr-YES, Mr. Chasko-YES, Mr. Trax-YES, Mrs. Sargent-YES, Mrs. Daerr-YES. Motion carried.


Nicole L. Dooley, Secretary