

Patterson Township Board of Commissioners
1600 19th Avenue Beaver Falls PA

Regular Meeting
Thursday, April 12, 2012

The Patterson Township Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday, April 12, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Complex, 1600 19th Avenue. Following the call to order and Pledge of Allegiance, roll call showed all Commissioners present (Policaro, Bonomo, Bradow, Hoover and Mahosky).

Due to the large number of residents in attendance, Mr. Policaro started with Public Comment (minutes approved following the Treasurer's Report).

Public Comment: Mr. David Kane, 1825 W 9th Street reminded the Board of the upcoming Spring Clean-up this Saturday, April 14, 2012. The plan is to meet at the Riverview Methodist Church at 8:30 am and proceed to 8th Street Hill for litter pick-up. If there are enough volunteers, more streets can be done. Mr. Kane also advised of his involvement in an upcoming Vietnam Veterans event on June 10th at 5:00 pm in Beaver and invited all to attend.

Mr. Policaro noted that Mr. Joe Houy, Hite Company was scheduled to provide a presentation on LED lighting and was not present. Mr. Mahosky advised that he would provide information and a demonstration under his committee report.

At this time, Mr. Policaro addressed the large crowd attending the meeting and asked those who wanted to speak, to step up to the podium.

- Deirdre Balmer, 1400 Struby Avenue addressed the condition of the roads in the Struby Plan area of the Township, whereby nothing is being done and the roads are in dire need of paving.
- William Rizzo, 4 Ray Street addressed the dumping going on at the end of Ray Street on Township property. The location is the back end of the Township Park whereby contractors are using this as a dumping ground. Mr. Rizzo noted that a 40 ft. drop now exists and a slide has occurred down to Route 51. He commented that these companies have permission by the Township to dump and they are triaxles that carry a lot of weight. Because of this, the 24" storm sewer line across Ray Street is crushed.
- Christine Murphy, 7 Ray Street reiterated the problem with dumping in addition to the condition of the road surface. Every time it rains, she advised that her driveway is washed out as a result of the storm sewer not operating properly.
- Stanley Dobrowski, 2 Ray Street also addressed the dumping, whereby he observed that 60 loads of gravel were dumped when CVS was built in Chippewa Township. In addition, all kinds of garbage and/or trash is being disposed of.

- Bert Robinson, 1309 Fox Avenue summed up the road conditions in the Struby Plan as the worst roads in Patterson Township. Nothing has been done since the sewer project in 1992. Corrective measures have been patching on top of patching and he recommended a plan for fixing be developed. He expressed that 17th Street is in dire need of repairs and that Fox Avenue is a concave road. The residents have been told no money is available to fix the roads and he noted that they have been very patiently waiting for something to be done. He expressed that the residents take care of their properties and want the roads taken care of too.
- Dr. Norman Carson, 1310 Fox Avenue supported the words spoken by Mr. Robinson and reminded the Board of the letter that he sent last month. The letter was addressed at last month's meeting and entered as communications received.

Mr. Policaro expressed that he was glad to see all the residents attending the meeting and posed the question of raising taxes 2 mills to strictly use for road repairs. That would generate an additional \$60,000.00 annually.

Mr. Dobrowski advised that unless something is done, the value of their homes will go down. Mr. Scott Donley, 2507 Jenny Street addressed a wash-out regarding a stream that runs from Fox/Book Avenue. He advised that the catch basin in this area is not big enough to carry all of the water. He also addressed that he wanted to fill in his property and was advised that he was not allowed to bring in triaxles to deliver the fill. He questioned the fairness of allowing the triaxles on Ray Street versus Jenny Street. Also, questioned what the \$2.00 fire truck fund is on the monthly sewer bills. An explanation was provided.

Mr. Hoover, as Public Works Commissioner, advised that he reviewed all of the streets in the Struby Plan with Mr. Greg DeLuca, Public Works Foreman. He agreed that there is a dire need to do repairs on the roads (i.e. 17th Street, Struby Avenue). Additionally, a catch basin in the area needs repaired. His site visit revealed the need to prioritize the roads and advised that he can't commit until he meets with Township Engineer, Mr. Mitrovich to determine the square footage for a cost estimate. He also noted that he will provide more information during his committee report.

Mr. Policaro asked whether there was any additional input from those present and/or the Commissioners. Mr. Bradow advised the public to call the 9-1-1 center when the dumping on Ray Street is occurring so that the Police can be called to check on. He noted that it can be done anonymously. Chief Cindrach provided the non-emergency number.

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of Mr. Anderson, the Treasurer's Report for the General Fund, Sewer Fund, and Other Accounts were presented for review. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mrs. Bonomo approving as presented. The Secretary advised the Board that the CD approved for investment of General Fund monies last month was not purchased. She was advised by PLGIT that the interest rate for a 6-month CD is so low that it

was not feasible to purchase. The lump sum money (\$200,000.00) will be moved into the PLGIT Plus account, which is earning a higher interest rate than the regular PLGIT Account. The motion on the Treasurer's Report(s) passed unanimous.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting held March 8, 2012 were presented for approval. Motion was made by Mrs. Bonomo; seconded by Mr. Hoover approving as presented. Passed unanimous.

Monthly Bills: The monthly bills for March, along with those paid in April were presented for payment. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Mahosky approving payment. Passed unanimous on a roll call vote.

Engineer's Report: Mr. Mitrovich distributed his monthly report and provided information on the following items: Corrective Action Plan – PTMA opened bids for the wet well project with the results being Stefanik's Next Generation Contracting Company as the low bidder in the amount of \$84,860.00. The Municipal Authority Board will act on the bid at the next meeting (project costs paid by Municipal Authority). Darlington Court – LSSE reviewed the site for what is needed to finish infrastructure and met with the Conservation District. More information under the Solicitor's report. 19th Avenue – As per the last meeting, the contractor was notified to repair the area of distress. This is covered by the maintenance bond. Steffin Hill Road – the location of 1,500 linear feet in need of repair is Front Street to aerial crossing. Mr. Mitrovich provided a detailed description and advised that a field survey would be needed to prepare an estimate of the cost for replacement. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mrs. Bonomo approving the field survey to determine the cost. Passed unanimous. 13th/19th Storm Sewer Improvements – LSSE prepared a sketch and estimate of what it would cost to install 600 ft. of storm sewer. The cost estimate is \$109,000.00.

Solicitor's Report: Mr. Fawcett reported that his report regarding Darlington Court concerns litigation with the bonding company; therefore, should be discussed in an executive session.

Committee Reports: Fire – Mr. Mahosky submitted 7 fire reports for February for a total of \$464.75 (71 ½ man hours); and 6 fire reports for March in the amount of \$266.50 (41 man hours). Motion to approve payment was made by Mr. Hoover. Seconded by Mrs. Bonomo the motion passed unanimous on a roll call vote.

In the absence of Mr. Houy from Hite Company (Energy Resources Group), Mr. Mahosky gave a report on switching to LED lighting, for the purpose of going green and saving money. The new LED lighting is energy efficient and provides a savings in the cost of electricity. An energy audit was performed on the Municipal Complex (1600 19th Avenue), which indicated a potential savings of \$971.04/annually. The initial cost for the materials (new bulbs) is \$2,720.61. Upon completing the demonstration, the audience questioned how old this building is. The building was occupied in February, 2009; therefore is 3 years old. Because the proposal does not include the installation, an electrician would need to be hired. The audience spoke

out in opposition to spending the funds on this and suggested changing over the lights as they burn out, not spend \$2,720.61 plus installation now. Mr. Mahosky agreed to put this project on hold at least until the labor costs are known.

Parks/Recreation – Mr. Hoover reported that he combined his Parks/Recreation report with the Public Works report as follows:

Public Works – Mr. Hoover provided an in-depth report regarding his departments. Items covered included jetting sewer lines, the road sign replacement program, meeting with Mr. DeLuca to evaluate the roads that need immediate attention, and he recapped the unleaded fuel usage report from last month and has since implemented a new system to track fuel consumption for the Police Department (users of unleaded gasoline). He is also implementing a new program effective May 1st for Public Works, whereby Mr. DeLuca (as Road Foreman) will be required to submit a written report of all their activities along with mileage and diesel fuel consumption. He requested the minutes reflect that this program is no indication that Mr. DeLuca and Mr. Cipolla are not doing a good job. Mr. Hoover's reason was given as accountability to the Board.

Mr. Hoover provided a breakdown of the upcoming recreational project. He advised the audience of funds unused (\$2,500) in the general fund that were set aside for recreational improvements. Additionally, the current budget includes another \$2,500 for recreation. Mr. Hoover advised of securing additional donations from Blackhawk School District - \$5,000; Blackhawk Area Youth Baseball Association - \$3,500. The total amount is: \$13,500.00. Equipment donations are being sought as well. Mr. Hoover advised that Eaton (his employer) has donated a 200 amp breaker box, along with breakers to upgrade the recreation building. He plans to secure the assistance from IBEW Local Union 712 for an apprentice to install this equipment. With the help of Mr. Hank Crognale (an employee of IPSCO), the pipe for two new basketball hoops have been donated. The threading to complete was approximately \$900.00. A new counter top was constructed in the Recreation building by Mr. Hoover.

Mr. Hoover solicited bids from asphalt companies to crack seal and seal the two tennis courts and one basketball court. The bids are as follows: Emerick - \$1,600; Rochester Paving - \$2,800. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Mahosky to approve Emerick Paving in the amount of \$1,600 to seal the basketball and tennis courts. Motion passed unanimous on a roll call vote. Mr. Hoover advised that he will be utilizing the Township Public Works employees to set the basketball hoops (with the use of digging, welding, and lifting equipment such as the backhoe) and other Township items as needed.

Mr. Hoover expects this project to be complete by the end of May, with additional items (batting cages, fencing, etc.) to be done, once school is out for the summer.

Questions from the audience were asked concerning an agreement with the Blackhawk School District for use of the property. Mr. Hoover explained BSD's reason for not approving a long-term lease. Dr. Miller (Superintendent) does not want to enter into a long-term lease in

the event that something would change for Patterson Primary concerning its use. Residents expressed their concern for putting money and work into this area located on school property. In the event something happens on the property, BSD would have the right to disallow the Township to use. Also, the question was raised on who will be allowed to use the facilities (basketball, batting cages, etc.). Mr. Hoover advised that it will be open to the public. The installation of a pitching machine is proposed by BAYBA, and will be overseen by them. Mrs. Bonomo asked Mr. Hoover if he is going to secure the proper permits prior to doing this project. He responded that he would.

Because of the length and detail of Mr. Hoover's report, a copy will be attached to the Township's copy of the minutes, for inclusion in the record book.

A final item under Public Works presented for Board approval was a proposal from the City of Beaver Falls to do the Township's street sweeping. The cost is \$500/day for a maximum of 3 days (or \$1,500). Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Bradow approving the street sweeping program. Passed unanimous on a roll call vote.

Ordinances/Policies – Mrs. Bonomo had no report.

Buildings/Grounds – Mr. Bradow advised that he was asked to provide a figure for the space used by the sewer office, in conjunction with charging the sewer budget for its use. The overall size of the Municipal Complex is 6500 sq. ft. The sewer office is 140 sq. ft. Taking the cost of the building construction (\$900,000) and dividing it by the square footage provides the cost per square foot = \$138.46. The sewer office portion calculates to \$19,384.61.

Code Enforcement – See end of meeting.

Police/Township Office/COG – Mr. Policaro called on Chief Cindrach, who advised the Board of additional details on the upcoming grant writing school to be attended by Officer Bathgate in June. Although Officer Bathgate was accepted, the lodging is free on a first-come, first-serve basis. There are a number of rooms available, and if he doesn't arrive in time, the Township will need to pick up the costs for the lodging. Also, the meals are now not covered. The schooling is in the Harrisburg area. Since Officer Bathgate is to take a project with him for submission, it was noted that the reimbursement for attendance may come in the form of the grant received (if successful). The estimated costs for the 5-day event on lodging is \$500.00. Meals will be additional. Upon reviewing the line item for education (410.460), any overage will be taken from the uniform account (410.191). Motion to approve was made by Mr. Hoover. Seconded by Mrs. Bonomo, the motion passed unanimous on a roll call vote.

Mr. Policaro provided information on behalf of the Council of Governments, that because of the mild winter, the required 60% of salt purchases by some municipalities has not been met. Additionally, they (COG) are looking for members to serve on a COG appeals board for code enforcement.

In addition to the monthly Police Report being distributed for review, Mr. Policaro recommended appointing Mr. Paul Anthony (Midland), to serve as the Township representative for Act 111 Collective Bargaining of the Police. Mr. Anthony is willing to negotiate the contract for \$50.00/hour. Since a period of 6 months is allowed for negotiations, the amount of time and money spent was discussed. Mr. Policaro advised, that although it would be difficult to determine how many hours are needed, he recommended a cap. Mr. Bradow made the motion to allow 10 hours (\$500.00) for Mr. Anthony to do this task. Seconded by Mr. Mahosky, the motion passed 4 ayes (Policaro, Bradow, Hoover, Mahosky); 1 naye (Bonomo).

Mr. Policaro advised the Board of the increased workload in the Township office, due to signing a recent contract with White Township for police services. There is additional walk-in traffic along with telephone calls. Discussion was also held regarding the need for clerical assistance to the Police Department, as a result of patrolling/reporting in White Township. Mr. Mahosky made a motion to increase the sewer clerk / receptionist position to 30 hours/ week with providing assistance to the Police Department as needed with the effective date of May 1st. Upon the Secretary questioning the May 1st start date, Chief Cindrach advised of potential clerical assistance needed prior to that date. The files are already being brought over from the former White Township Police Department. Mr. Bradow amended the motion to change the start date to April 16, 2012. Seconded by Mrs. Bonomo, the motion passed on a roll call vote 3 ayes (Bradow, Bonomo, Mahosky); to 2 naves (Policaro, Hoover).

Mr. Hoover questioned the ability of the office staff to apply for grants. He noted that he had requested this some time ago. Mr. Policaro advised that he had discussed with the Secretary and she will take care of. Mrs. Wagoner advised Mr. Hoover that at the time he wanted grants applied for, the Board had cut the hours of the sewer clerk down to 20 hrs./week, allowing no time for grant applications. A second motion was made by Mr. Bradow to increase the hours to 30 hrs./week. Seconded by Mrs. Bonomo, the motion passed 4 ayes (Policaro, Bradow, Bonomo, Mahosky); 1 naye (Hoover).

Mr. Policaro advised that he was looking into a telephone system for the Police entry door. He will provide a proposal at the next meeting.

The Secretary submitted information on the electric choice and gas choice programs for the Township's various accounts' participation. Until now, she has not pursued, noting the need for Board authorization to shop for electric/gas providers. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Bradow authorizing the Secretary to shop for the lowest electric and gas choice program and proceed with signing up. Passed unanimous.

Committee Reports: Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Mahosky approving all committee reports as presented. Passed unanimous.

Unfinished Business: Mr. Mahosky reported talking with Mr. Mitrovich prior to the start of this meeting regarding mapping of Patterson Township and Fallston Borough in

preparation of the public meetings regarding the merger. Mr. Mitrovich will provide a cost to the Secretary.

Township Agencies: Planning Commission – The minutes of their last meeting, March 28th were submitted for review. The action taken was approving the Friend/Small lot revision. The drawings indicated 4 ft. of the Small property being added to the Friend property. Beaver County Planning Commission has already reviewed and responded. The Secretary noted that action is needed by the Board approving this lot revision. Once done, the applicants will sign and record. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mrs. Bonomo approving the Friend/Small lot revision. Passed unanimous.

Communications: An invitation was received to the Allegheny County & Western PA Association of Township Commissioners Spring Convention at Pittsburgh's Grand Hall on May 17, 2012.

The Secretary advised of an upcoming workshop on Funding/Implementing Energy Efficiency (April 19th) and Marcellus Shale Symposium (May 31st). She noted that she was interested in attending the workshop on energy efficiency. Motion was made by Mr. Bradow; seconded by Mr. Hoover authorizing attendance by the Secretary. Passed unanimous.

A notice was received from Beaver County regarding their adoption of a Gas Well Impact Fee Ordinance. A copy of the Ordinance was provided. No action needed.

An invitation was received from Beaver County Planning to a Pennsylvania Association of Flood Plan Management meeting on April 25, 2012 regarding the National Flood Insurance Program and mapping.

New/Miscellaneous Business: An invoice from the City of Beaver Falls, representing the 1st Quarter Joint Sewer Maintenance, was received in the amount of \$51,992.40. Motion was made by Mrs. Bonomo; seconded by Mr. Bradow approving payment. Passed unanimous.

Executive Session: The Board went into an executive session for legal advice at 9:10 p.m. Back in session at 9:55 p.m.

Mr. Policaro acknowledged that he skipped the Code Enforcement report. Motion was made by Mr. Bradow; seconded by Mr. Hoover approving Mr. Morrow's monthly report. Passed unanimous.

Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Bradow to authorize the Township Engineer to seek proposals to complete the work at the Darlington Court site. The proposals to be submitted to the Board by May 3rd, to allow for review at the work session. Upon receipt of the proposals, refer to Solicitor for review.

A second motion was made by Mrs. Bonomo; seconded by Mr. Bradow to suspend collections of the per capita tax for 2012 and authorizing amending the Ordinance back to \$5.00 Township tax. This will comply with the Local Tax Enabling Act. Passed unanimous.

Finally, Mr. Hoover mentioned an oversight concerning the approval of an outstanding CAT (Cleveland Brothers) invoice for the work done on the backhoe last month. The final amount owed is \$1196.00. Mr. Hoover made the motion to approve payment. Seconded by Mr. Bradow the motion passed unanimous on a roll call vote.

Adjournment: There being no further business to be brought before the Board, motion was made by Mr. Bradow to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Hoover, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Paula J. Wagoner, CMC
Township Secretary

Copy: Board of Commissioners
Kenneth Fawcett, Esq.
Ned Mitrovich, P.E.