

## Patterson Township Board of Commissioners

### Regular Meeting

July 9, 2015

The Patterson Township Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday, July 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Complex, 1600 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Following the call to order and Pledge of Allegiance, roll call showed Commissioners Policaro, Hoover, Inman, and Mahosky present. Mr. Bradow was absent.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meetings held on June 11, 2015 (Agenda / Regular) were presented for approval. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Mahosky approving the minutes as presented. Passed unanimous.

**Public Comment:** Jeff Hocanson, 1910 16<sup>th</sup> Street attended the meeting to advise the Board that he is getting water in his basement from the water run-off on 16<sup>th</sup> Street. He noted that he appreciated the curb that Mr. Cipolla had put some time ago for this problem; however, the water is coming in from the area on the other side of his driveway. Mr. Inman agreed to take a look at. Mr. Hocanson also questioned the Property Maintenance Code regarding unlicensed cars / trucks parked in his neighbor's yard at the corner of 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 16<sup>th</sup> Street. This will be referred to the Code Officer.

Ms. Amanda Livingston, 410 Darlington Road noted the recent incidents at the firehall (re: shooting / fighting) while being rented and questioned what is being done to avoid this from happening again. Mr. Policaro advised that this is being looked into and deferred to Fire Chief Philip Graeser for specifics on the changes on the rental agreement. Chief Graeser reported changes being made for graduation parties: 1) out by 9:00 pm; 2) no alcohol; 3) no smoking; 4) no outside activities. The Township Police will be contacted if these items are violated. He also noted that if any violations, the security deposit will be kept. Discussion is still being held on the installation of security cameras and the increase in the security deposit. Once the final copy is amended to include these changes, the agreement will be provided to the Township for the Solicitor to review.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's Report (s) was submitted for the General Fund, Sewer Fund, and PLGIT Accounts for the month of June. Upon questions asked by Mr. Hoover being addressed, motion was made by Mr. Inman approving the Treasurer's Reports as presented. Seconded by Mr. Hoover, the motion passed unanimous.

**Monthly Bills:** The monthly bills for June / July were submitted for payment. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Inman approving payment. Passed unanimous.

**Engineer's Report:** Mr. Larry Lennon, LSSE distributed the monthly report and addressed the following items: Darlington Court – Bond release approved at June meeting upon completion of remaining punchlist items. Still pending. MS4 Program – Draft permit indicates the need for additional sampling and possible TMDL measures. Sampling to be completed over the next few months. Darlington Road Sidewalk – Design underway. PennDot Highway Occupancy Permit application submitted in July. 2015 Road Program – Contract is 90% complete. No payment request for this meeting. Multimodal Transportation Fund Program – The CFA is accepting applications for grants. Possible funding for sidewalks. This program is 30% match on a minimum grant of \$100,000.00. The deadline for submission is July 31, 2015. If the Board wants to participate in this first time grant round, a resolution would need to be adopted. The Engineer provided an Opinion of Probable Cost with scenarios to meet the \$100,000.00 minimum. Option 2 would install a sidewalk between 11<sup>th</sup> Street and 13<sup>th</sup> Street on Darlington Road at an estimated cost of \$155,610.00. The local match to be \$47,000.00. Discussion was held on previous grants whereby it may be possible to budget over a 2 year period the local match. Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Hoover to adopt Resolution #2015-006 authorizing the submission of the grant application for the MTF Program. Passed unanimous on a roll call vote.

Mr. Mahosky questioned the timetable for the Sidewalk Grant pending with BC Community Development Block Grant. Mr. Lennon estimated October, 2015.

**Solicitor's Report:** Mr. Fawcett submitted Resolution 2015-005 (pending from the last meeting) regarding the Dedication of W 10<sup>th</sup> Street to the Township from Betters Real Estate for highway purposes. Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Mahosky adopting Resolution 2015-005. Passed unanimous.

Mr. Fawcett noted working with Randy Morrow on the Ticketing Ordinance. A decision needs to be made on which violations to print on the ticket. Also, the revisions to the Personnel Policy are still pending. Mr. Fawcett was to review Workplace Harassment versus Sexual Harassment. He recommended meeting with Mr. Bradow and one other Commissioner to review the proposed changes along with the entire document prior to the next meeting.

Mr. Fawcett reported back to the Board his contact with a Bond Attorney to discuss the potential for floating a bond to expand the road repair program. Mr. Fawcett advised that the Attorney's opinion is that the Township is not currently in a position to take out a bond issue. Mr. Hoover questioned the reason for this. Mr. Fawcett explained borrowing \$1,000,000.00 on a \$1,000,000.00 budget, noting the current level of income and current debt, is not recommended at this time. He suggested a commercial bank loan instead if the desire is to expand the amount of roads to be done on the annual program.

**Committee Reports: Fire/Finance** – Mr. Mahosky presented twelve (12) fire reports for the month of June in the amount of \$572.00. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Inman approving payment. Passed unanimous.

Mr. Mahosky also complimented the Fire Department for bringing their record keeping up to date and providing the hours of training for the month.

**Parks/Recreation** – Mr. Hoover thanked Mr. Cipolla and crew for the general maintenance done in the Township Park throughout the summer. He noted still working on a tribute to long-time Recreation member, Chauncey Parsons. Perhaps the purchase of a bench with his name on a plaque.

**Public Works** – Mr. Inman reported on the removal of the salt shed in the quarry by the Public Works employees. Because it was such a large undertaking, he commended Mr. Cipolla and company for a job well done. Mr. Inman requested permission to move forward with replacing the building by advertising for sealed bids. Mr. Inman made the motion to proceed with the bid process on a dome style 30 x 40 ft. structure. The foundation will be made of concrete. Prior to a second to the motion, Mr. Hoover questioned the material to be used for the structure. The estimated cost for the canopy style (galvanized steel with polyolefin cover) is \$27,000.00 including the foundation. Mr. Hoover advised that he is in favor of a wooden structure (like what was there). Mr. Cipolla advised getting bids for a 30 x 40 ft. wooden structure and it is estimated at over \$50,000.00. He also noted that the dome style is being used and was viewed (by him and Mr. Inman) in other neighboring municipalities. A second to the motion was made by Mr. Mahosky. Motion passed on a roll call vote 3 ayes; 1 naye (Hoover). It was noted that the Township Secretary plans to put this out for bid for opening at the next meeting.

A question was raised on the status of paving 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue from 15<sup>th</sup> Street to 17<sup>th</sup> Street by Beaver Falls as a joint project with Patterson Township. The last information received was that it was put out for bid.

Mr. Hoover raised a question concerning the finished paving of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, between 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue Extension. He noted that the homeowners are willing to work with the Township regarding their downspouts located at the edge of the roadway that was just paved. This situation needs to be corrected so the roadway is not washed away. Mr. Cipolla advised that the garbage trucks should be kept off of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to avoid damaging the street. The homeowner's garbage should be picked up by a pick-up, not a compactor.

**Ordinances/Policies** – In Mr. Bradow's absence, a recommendation was made by Mr. Fawcett to meet with Mr. Bradow (and perhaps one additional Commissioner) to review the entire Personnel Policy, including the Workplace Harassment vs Sexual Harassment policy within the current policy. Once done, it will be brought to the Board for review and adoption. Also, security measures for the Township office have been completed. Brobeck installed a door lock system and panic alarm for the office staff.

**Code Enforcement** - The submission of Mr. Morrow's monthly report for June was distributed for review. The condemnation letter was previously discussed in the Agenda (Pre) meeting.

**Police/Township Office/COG** – Mr. Policaro noted the distribution of the monthly Police report for June. A letter of resignation was also received from part-time Officer Joseph Strati.

Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Inman approving all Committee Reports as presented. Passed unanimous.

**Unfinished Business:** Mr. Policaro advised of the need to approve the Franchise Agreement with Comcast. He reminded the Board of the meeting with Mr. Polito from Comcast to review the changes. The new agreement is a 10 year agreement. Mr. Fawcett has also reviewed. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Mahosky approving the Franchise Agreement with Comcast. Passed unanimous.

Discussion was held on Mary Ann Madeira's, (1607 Darlington Road) request for no parking signs in front of the apartment complex next door. Mr. Hoover made the motion to install a convex mirror on Darlington Road and 16<sup>th</sup> Street to allow her the site distance needed to pull out of her driveway. The motion passed 3 ayes; 1 naye (Policaro). Mr. Policaro explained voting no because he wants to see no parking signs placed in front of the apartment complex, as an additional precaution. Chief Cindrich reminded the Board that PennDot approval is not needed. An amendment to the Ordinance would be in order to extend the no parking area that already exists at 1705 Darlington Road to include 16<sup>th</sup> Street to 17<sup>th</sup> Street on the west side. Motion was made by Mr. Inman authorizing the amendment to the Ordinance. Motion died lack of a second.

**Township Agencies:** The Civil Service Commission minutes and oral/written test results were provided. The eligibility list includes the names of: Kevin Thompson and Ryan Lesko. (Hiring done at end of meeting.)

**Communications:** Notification has been received from Duquesne Light regarding their meter exchange program. The information provided advised that residents in Patterson Township will have their meters changed to make way for digital technology. The sub-contractor that is doing the work is Wellington. The Secretary provided a copy to the Board, along with the Police Department in case they get any calls from residents.

An invitation was received from the Allegheny County /Western PA Association of Township Commissioners to the Fall Conference at Seven Springs on September 24-27, 2015. Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Hoover approving attendance, for those who want to go. Passed unanimous.

The Secretary reported receiving the Act 13 (gas/oil) funds in the amount of \$3,301.54. Her recommendation was to deposit these funds into the Emergency Generator Fund, to assist with the shortfall needed to pay for the project. The Emergency Generator project is for Emergency Management – Operations Center (of which the Township building is). The funds can be spent on such items. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Mahosky approving this action. Passed unanimous.

A letter was received from the PA Department of Transportation indicating an additional \$2,730.34 will be sent to the Township for winter services. This is in addition to the amount the Township is entitled to for snow removal of Darlington Road and 8<sup>th</sup> Street.

Additionally, documentation was received to renew the PennDot Winter Traffic Services Agreement for the next 5 years. This agreement pays the Township for removing snow/ice from Darlington Road and 8<sup>th</sup> Street. The first year's payment indicates an amount of \$8,682.68. The Township has participated in this program for many years. Adoption of the Resolution provided was in order; therefore, motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Mahosky approving participation, along with the adoption of the Resolution. Passed unanimous.

**New/Miscellaneous Business:** An invoice was received from the Beaver Falls Water Pollution Control Plant for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Sewer Use in the amount of \$60,155.60. Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Hoover approving payment. Passed unanimous.

The Secretary noted the receipt and distribution of the 2014 Audit report from Denise Hebb, CPA. A copy was distributed to all.

**Executive Session:** The Board went into an executive session at 8:25 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue.

Back in session at 9:10 p.m. motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Inman to hire Kevin Thompson as a part-time police officer, pending passing the physical. Psychological and background check already done. He will be on a one year probation. Passed unanimous on a roll call vote.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Paula J. Wagoner, CMC  
Township Secretary

Copy: Kenneth G. Fawcett, Esq.  
Larry Lennon, Jr., P.e.  
Board of Commissioners

