

Patterson Township Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting

Thursday, November 13, 2014

The Patterson Township Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday, November 13, 2014 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, Bradow, Hoover, Inman and Mahosky).

The minutes of the agenda (pre) meeting, the regular meeting held on October 9, 2014 and the special meeting held on October 16, 2014 were presented for approval. Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Mahosky to approve the minutes as presented. Passed unanimous.

Public Comment/Visitors: None

Treasurer's Report: The monthly Treasurer's Report(s) for October for the General Fund, Sewer Fund, and PLGIT Accounts were presented by Mrs. Wagoner. Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Hoover approving as presented. Passed unanimous.

Monthly Bills: The monthly bills for October/November were presented for payment. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Inman approving payment. Passed unanimous.

Engineer's Report: Mr. Lennon submitted the monthly report for LSSE and commented on the following items:

- Darlington Court – Developer requesting bond closeout for consideration at the December meeting. Developer still needs to submit request to dedicate W. 10th Street.
- Generator Project – Contract documents received from Contractor (HH Electric) and ready to be executed by Township.
- MS4 Program – MS4 O & M Ordinance, TMDL Resolution and Stormwater Management Ordinance provided at tonight's meeting for review by Township and Solicitor. Adoption needed prior to progress report submission in April, 2015. Meeting with Public Works personnel by LSSE still pending. Mr. Lennon also advised that they are preparing a binder with all of the MS4 information. They have knowledge that DEP has been auditing the MS4 programs. This will put all of the required information in one place.
- Flood Plain Regulatory Update – No change in status from last month.
- Darlington Road Sidewalk – Construction proposed for Spring, 2015. No change per discussions with Township and County.
- Greenways, Trails, Recreation Grant – Letter has been received from Commonwealth Financing Authority denying the grant application submitted.

Mr. Mahosky questioned the required width of the sidewalk and whether the Township has any regulations governing the installation and maintenance of sidewalks. Mr. Bowers advised that the Township Code was reviewed and the only item found was the required width of sidewalks are to be 5 ft.

Solicitor's Report: Mr. Chad Bowers presented the memorandum of agreement between Patterson Heights and Patterson Township regarding snow removal. Item #3 on the letter from Patterson Heights indicated their willingness to pay \$27.00/hr. to the Township for snow removal services. The cost of materials would be billed separately. Discussion was held on the difference in salt costs in 2013-2014 versus 2014-2015. The cost has doubled for this winter. Mr. Hoover expressed concern for the \$27.00/hr. noting that he is in favor of helping Patterson Heights; however, it needs to make sense for Patterson Township to provide. Mr. Hoover noted that this figure does not factor in the cost for maintenance on the Township trucks, fuel usage, employee benefits (such as health care, social security, etc.), and any overtime that may occur.

Mr. Bradow questioned the termination clause, noting that each party should give some notice. Mr. Bowers explained that this clause could actually help the Township by having no time limit. If it turns out to be a bad deal for the Township, we can get out of it.

The wording on the agreement regarding the \$84.00/ton of salt was discussed and recommended to be taken out. If there is a salt shortage and the Township needs to purchase salt from another source at a higher price, this needs to be passed on to Patterson Heights. Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Mahosky to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with Patterson Heights as presented indicating \$27.00/hr. for snow removal service. Mr. Bradow questioned if the cost of services is going to change in 2015. It was indicated that they would change. Mr. Hoover expressed that the \$27.00/hr. is not enough to cover Township costs. Upon calling for a vote, the motion was defeated 3 naves (Bradow, Hoover, and Policaro) and 2 ayes (Inman, Mahosky).

Mr. Bowers presented the amendments to the Ordinances regarding Recreational Burning and Camping/Campfire burning in the Township Park. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover to accept the amendments as presented. Mr. Policaro questioned use of the word chiminea. As there was additional discussion, Mr. Hoover withdrew his motion. Mr. Mahosky wanted the word firebox to be included. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Mahosky to remove the word chiminea. A copy of the Ordinance will be provided to the Fire Chief for review. (Fire Chief Policaro was in attendance). Mr. Bradow noted his opposition to the Amendments on burning as he believes the Township should not provide regulations to burn but to prohibit altogether. Mr. Hoover made the motion to remove the word chiminea from the amendment then approve as presented. Seconded by Mr. Mahosky, the motion passed on a roll call vote 4 ayes, 1 naye (Bradow).

The amendment regarding camping/campfires in the Township Park was discussed. Fire Chief Policaro advised of his objection to allow camping in the park, noting the difficulty in accessing the area in the event of a fire. Mr. Hoover explained that this is primarily for the boy scout groups that have done improvements in the Township Park over the last few years. Allowing them to camp will train the younger scouts. The amendment requires a permit application to be completed and approved by the Township. This will also

insure that those desiring to camp will be camping in a designated site inside the Township Park. Discussion was held and it was decided to limit the amount of campers to 30 persons. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Mahosky approving this amendment for publication. Passed on a roll call vote 4 ayes, 1 naye (Bradow).

Mr. Bowers mentioned a memo from Mr. Fawcett regarding the lack of sidewalk regulations in the Township code. The only item found was in Chapter 164, regarding the width to be 5 ft. It appears that there is no Ordinance to specifically address sidewalks.

The changes to the Peddling/Soliciting Ordinance can be done by resolution, noting no amendment to the Ordinance needed. It would be appropriate to pass a resolution establishing the fee for soliciting. The present Ordinance covers a "do not knock" list for residents who do not want solicited. Mr. Bradow recommended the addition of losing their privileges to solicit for 2 years if they violate the ordinance. This would need an amendment to the Ordinance. It was noted the present Ordinance includes a penalty section. Motion was made by Mr. Bradow to include this. The motion died lack of a second. A second motion was made by Mr. Bradow to increase the fee from \$25.00 to \$100.00. Also died, lack of a second.

Committee Reports: Fire/Finance - Mr. Mahosky submitted eleven (11) fire reports; 109 hours and/or \$708.50. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Mahosky to approve the fire reports as presented. Passed unanimous.

Mr. Mahosky requested a report from Fire Chief Policaro on latest training/activities. He reported the members attending update classes for Hazardous Materials presented by the State Highway Safety Commission. Mr. Mahosky requested a list of those who attended. Discussion was held on the declining membership, which now stands at 15 members. Chief Policaro advised that it would help if the Ordinance was amended to expand the membership to the 15010 zip code. He noted missing out on adding 3 members because they are outside the area designated in the present Ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Mahosky; seconded by Mr. Hoover to amend the Ordinance removing the geographic boundaries to expand to the 15010 zip code. Passed unanimous.

At this point of the meeting, Mr. Mahosky deferred to Mrs. Wagoner to present the first reading of the 2015 General Fund and Sewer Fund Budgets. Upon completion of the reading, the preliminary figures on both funds do not indicate the need for an increase. An item for discussion was the \$100,000.00 earmarked for the road program that was not used. In order to allow for a larger road program in 2015, the monies (\$100,000) need to be transferred out of the 2014 General Fund Budget. Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Mahosky to transfer the \$100,000 to the PLGIT Capital Fund for use next year towards the road program. Passed unanimous on a roll call vote.

The need for a Budget Meeting was discussed and a date established. Motion was made by Mr. Bradow; seconded Mr. Inman to advertise for a budget meeting on Thursday, December 4, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Complex. Passed unanimous.

Mr. Mahosky provided a report on Civil Service testing for police officers. He noted that 3 of the 4 passed the written test and they are proceeding with the agility and oral exam.

Parks/Recreation – Mr. Hoover confirmed the Engineer’s reporting regarding the denial of the Greenways, Recreation, Trail grant application. He noted being contacted by Scout Troop 406 from Beaver requesting to clean up litter, twigs, etc. in the Township Park as a project. As in the past, to cover the Board and Township for liability, approval was made on motion by Mr. Hoover. Seconded by Mr. Bradow the motion passed unanimous. Mr. Hoover noted that this will be done in November or December.

Mr. Hoover advised of the need to move into modern technology and to become more green and paperless by purchasing laptops for the Board of Commissioners. His recommendation is to include in the 2015 General Fund Budget. He knows of 2 local vendors that he could contact to provide written proposals for this project.

Public Works – Mr. Inman requested a moment of privilege under Roberts Rules of Order, which was granted by Mr. Policaro. He requested reconsideration on the Memorandum of Agreement with Patterson Heights. Mr. Inman noted in providing these services to Patterson Heights, to at least factor in what it costs the Township. The leaf removal charges (\$56.00/hr.) factored in 3 employees doing the leaf pick-up. He was proposing to leave the snow removal charges as proposed by Patterson Heights at \$27.00/hr., which is more than the wages of the highest Public Works employee. Mr. Hoover provided a quick calculation, indicating an additional \$13.00 for employee benefits that are not factored in the rate that is being proposed. Also noted that it doesn’t include equipment costs. That brings the amount per hour up to \$40.00/hr. It was noted that the amount in 2015 would be adjusted to reflect this calculation. Mr. Bradow made the motion to hold off on item #2 and #3 in the Memorandum of Agreement (minor road repair and snow/ice removal rate) until the budget meeting on December 4, 2014. The motion died lack of a second.

Mr. Hoover made a motion to accept the Memorandum of Agreement changing the hourly rate from \$27.00/hr. to \$44.00/hr. for item #3. The costs for salt would be additional. Seconded by Mr. Bradow, the motion passed on a roll call vote 4 ayes, 1 naye (Inman). A question was raised on #2 minor road or sewer repair. The suggestion was made to charge the \$44.00/hr. for these items. Motion was made by Mr. Mahosky; seconded by Mr. Inman to approve this. Since the idea is to change the calculation in 2015 to include employee benefits in the calculation, there was concern for providing this service for the remainder of the year.

Motion passed 3 ayes (Inman, Mahosky, Policaro), 2 naves (Bradow, Hoover).

Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Mahosky confirming the approval of the Memorandum of Agreement as follows: Item #1 - \$56.00/hour; Item #2 - \$44.00/hour and Item #3 - \$44.00/hour. The paragraph regarding 2015, will include wage and benefits. Passed unanimous.

Mr. Inman presented the annual maintenance agreement from Cummins Bridgeway for the two generators in the Township. One is located at the South Lift Station and the other at Davidson Drive Pump Station. The cost is \$1,176.23. Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Hoover approving this agreement. Passed unanimous.

A letter of request for payment of unused sick days was presented for Joseph Cipolla, Public Works Foreman, in the amount of 26 days to be calculated at 1/2. Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Hoover approving payment. Motion passed unanimous.

Ordinances/Policies – Mr. Bradow reported meeting with Mr. Morrow regarding the quality of life ticketing. Information was distributed for the Board’s review. This Ordinance would allow Mr. Morrow (as Code Officer) to ticket on the spot for Code violations. The sample was provided from Coal Town, who is already doing this. No action for tonight’s meeting.

Code Enforcement – In the absence of Mr. Morrow, the October report was distributed for review.

Police/Township/COG – Mr. Policaro noted the distribution of the monthly police report for review. Mr. Policaro advised the Board of the results of the 2015 Healthcare proposals, whereby the Police Collective Bargaining chose to stay with renewing the UPMC PPO as originally proposed with no deductibles. Mr. Policaro deferred to Chief Cindrach to discuss the purchase of a new police vehicle.

Chief Cindrach advised that the Ford Explorer is the way to go, as per the demonstration provided at the agenda (pre) meeting. Mr. Hoover requested a comparison on something else (i.e. Chevrolet Impala, Ford Taurus, etc.). Chief Cindrach explained his recommendation to purchase the SUV for the following reasons: better for the officers (more interior room); safer vehicle for the officers; a better all-around vehicle; lower maintenance; longer wear. The question was posed as to why the Township needs 4 police vehicles. Chief Cindrach advised of some of the same reasons specifically lower maintenance, since the Township saves on wear and tear. He notices better care is being taken care of the vehicles if an officer is assigned to a certain vehicle. He noted that sometimes there are 2 cars out at a time. This will allow for vehicles to fall back on if needed. He reported a longer life of the vehicle; whereby replacement of the 4 vehicles would be once every 6 years.

Chief Cindrach provided the mileage of the 2007 (135,000) and the 2008 (113,600) Dodge Chargers. He is proposing to sell the 2007 Dodge Charger. Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Mahosky to purchase the Ford Explorer SUV (Interceptor) at a total cost of \$36,210.00 (includes \$9,964.16 equipment) to be leased for \$9,964.16/year. Motion passed on a roll call vote 4 ayes, 1 naye (Hoover).

A letter of request for payment of unused sick days was submitted for Tina Seery in the amount of 18 days. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Inman approving payment. Passed unanimous.

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

Unfinished Business: Chief Cindrach advised the Board of the problems experienced following the installation of the new Police computer. The company that sold the computer(s), Compugig, had to come back and fix the computer, due to what they claimed as a virus. Upon installing the windows updates, the computer went into a bootloop and Compugig is claiming the problem was a virus. Chief Cindrach has been corresponding with Compugig, who submitted an invoice to the Township for approximately \$1,900.00 for the extra work involved in fixing the computer problem. Chief Cindrach noted that the problem happened after the virus was removed. He has requested the log information and Compugig will not respond. He will keep the Board abreast of any new information and is not recommending payment of this invoice.

Township Agencies: Civil Service Commission – Mr. Mahosky already covered under his report.

Communications: A letter of resignation was received from Mark Utnehmer from the Vacancy Board. It was noted that he has held this position for 30+ years. A letter of thanks will be sent for the many years of service that he provided.

A letter/agreement was received from the Beaver County Humane Society for 2015 services. Included in the agreement was the ability to take stray dogs/cats to the facility along with patrol time. The cost will be \$200.00/month. Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Mahosky approving this agreement. Passed unanimous.

The Secretary noted that First Energy Solutions (electric provider), who supplies the transmission of electric to all of the Township accounts will expire in May, 2015. They will not be renewing. BidURenergy is a company that shops for electric suppliers and provides the lowest cost back to municipalities and assists with the paperwork to sign up with these providers. She requested permission from the Board to allow BidURenergy to seek out electric suppliers for the lowest cost per Kw hour and provide back to the Township. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Inman authorizing the Secretary to shop for an electric supplier. Passed unanimous.

New/Miscellaneous Business: An invoice from Hallett Associates for actuarial services in 2014 was presented for approval. The amount is \$965.00 from the Police Pension and \$450.00 from the Non-Uniform Pension. The total is \$1,415.00. Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Hoover to pay this invoice. Motion passed unanimous.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, motion was made by Mr. Hoover to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Inman the meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Paula J. Wagoner, CMC
Township Secretary

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