

Patterson Township Board of Commissioners
1600 19th Avenue, Beaver Falls PA 15010

Regular Meeting
September 13, 2012

The Patterson Township Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday, September 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Complex, 1600 19th Avenue. Following the call to order and the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call showed all Commissioners present (Policaro, Bradow, Bonomo, Hoover and Mahosky).

The minutes of the previous meeting held Thursday, August 9, 2012 were presented for approval. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mrs. Bonomo approving the minutes as presented. Passed unanimous.

Public Comment: Mr. David Kane, 1825 W. 9th Street advised the Board and those in attendance of the upcoming clean-up day (in conjunction with Project Greensweep) scheduled for Saturday, October 6th. Volunteers are needed to clean up 8th Street Hill, of which the plans are to meet at the Riverview United Methodist Church at 8:00 am. Gloves, vests, bags will be provided. Mr. Kane complimented the cooperation that he has received in the past for the police escort, in order to make the event safe.

Terri Cox, 6 Villa Court read a statement to the Board regarding neighborhood conditions. She recapped the last 4-5 years of events and problems with the condition of 4 homes in the area of her home. She noted that residents of her neighborhood have attended the last eight Commissioners meetings and registered complaints including but not limited to standing water in barrels, which promote the spread of West Nile Virus and the dilapidation of three unoccupied homes. Mrs. Cox reported contacting various entities for assistance, including the FCC concerning antenna's mounted and the use of hand radios or cb's coming through their TV's, computers, etc. Additionally, in contacting Representative Marshall's office for assistance, they advised that the Township officials should address and assist. She closed with advising that they (the neighbors) are done with coming to the Township. Their next course of action will be to turn to the media and/or news stations. Mr. Policaro advised that Mr. Morrow, Code Officer, is in attendance tonight and invited them to stay for his report.

Glenn Blinn, 1603 19th Avenue addressed the Board concerning his request to fulfill an assignment for his senior project. He asked whether he could "job shadow" the Police Department as part of his assignment. He understood that there may be concerns for a ride-along; however, wondered if he could job shadow in the office. Mr. Policaro advised him that insurance concerns are being checked on and requested he contact the Township office next week.

Richard Dorothy, CJ Betters representative, attended the meeting to provide a progress report and address issues that are pending on the Darlington Court project. He noted that the infrastructure is 90% done and pointed out the fencing that was installed around the retention pond. Top soil is being delivered and stock piled for future landscaping. Custom fencing has been installed behind the existing units on 9th Street and Mr. Dorothy advised of a request forthcoming to subdivide those units off of the rest of the development. Also, a correction will have to be made as per a recent survey done indicated these units do not meet the required setbacks.

Mr. Dorothy noted that a new development plan was compiled and was submitted to the Patterson Township Planning Commission who has approved and the Beaver County Planning Commission will review at their meeting in approximately 3-4 days. He requested approval to start the building permit process contingent upon the Township Engineer's review along with waiting for the results of the BC Planning's review. Mr. Ross advised that there is a fiduciary responsibility to the developer for the costs involved for MDIA's review (Township's inspection agency) and issuance of the building permit and suggested an amount (to be determined by Inspector John Balzer) be put in escrow for the proposed fees. The Secretary noted that the plans submitted for the construction of the units have already been given to Mr. Balzer. He indicated that once both planning boards make their review, he will proceed. He indicated that he would not take long in the review process and would be returning the paperwork and designating the fees shortly after he was advised that the planning stage was completed.

Mr. Dorothy provided a summary of what he is requesting. The survey indicates that the W. 9th Street units do not meet the required setbacks. A variance will be needed. Also, a subdivision will be needed to separate these units from the rest of the development. Finally, he requested the Board instruct Mr. Balzer to proceed with his review of the plans with the agreement that Mr. Betters will escrow the estimated amount for the fees needed.

Motion was made by Mr. Hoover approving the revised land development plan contingent upon the review and approval of the Patterson Township Planning Commission and the Beaver County Planning Commission and Township Engineer. Included in the motion is to authorize MDIA to proceed with their review in the interim. An estimate of the fees provided and a check escrowed. Seconded by Mr. Bradow; the motion passed unanimous on a roll call vote.

Continuing with Public Comment, Mr. John Grgurich, 7 Villa Court addressed the Board concerning the ongoing problems in their neighborhood. He expressed that he is being persecuted by his neighbors and feels threatened by the letters advising him to clean up his property or the house will be condemned. He is tired of receiving numerous letters because of neighbors complaints. He noted that he does not have the financial means to clean up the property and the items located throughout the property is not junk to them. He admitted at times that he does not cut the weeds, grass, etc. He just wants to be left alone. Mr. Hoover expressed to Mr. Grgurich that ordinances and regulations are in place for all the residents. The letters are being sent because there are violations. Those items that are not considered to be junk by you as the property owner, will be determined by the Magistrate in court.

Treasurer's Report: Mrs. Joann Ferrazzano, Treasurer submitted the Treasurer's Report(s) for July and August for the General Fund, Sewer Fund, and Other Accounts for review.

Monthly Bills: The monthly bills for August / September were submitted for review. Motion was made by Mrs. Bonomo; seconded by Mr. Hoover approving payment of the bills. Passed unanimous on a roll call vote.

Engineer's Report: Mr. Kevin Brett, LSSE distributed the written monthly report and advised the Board of the following items: Corrective Action Plan – the wet well project (being overseen by the Municipal Authority) was started; the first mahole leaked, was removed and reinstalled second section, which also leaked. Third mahole is on order. Darlington Court – the Engineer has received and reviewed the revised development plans. Comments are attached to this report. 2012 Road Program –

the pre-construction meeting was held August 9th. Work is expected to begin September 17th. Steffin Hill Sanitary Sewer – cost estimate and scope of work was distributed last month. Still pending.

Mr. Brett noted an item left off of the monthly report. The requirement to obtain a permit for stormwater management (MS4's) has been submitted by the deadline on behalf of the Township. He noted that a couple of Ordinances are going to be needed for adoption in the future to comply.

Solicitor's Report: Mr. Ross advised of the upcoming public meetings for the Fallston / Patterson merger. A second item, noted by Mr. Ross, was the filing of court documents to stay a sale of property listed on the tax claim sale list. There were questions as to whether the taxes were paid by this property owner and enough documentation was provided to take action to stay the sale.

Committee Reports: Fire – Mr. Mahosky submitted 5 fire reports for August in the amount of \$315.25 or 48 ½ man hours. He reported a recent incident on route 51 whereby a tanker went off the road. The Fire Department was on scene for the duration of this accident. Motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mrs. Bonomo approving payment of the \$315.25. Passed unanimous.

Mr. Mahosky reported the receipt of the Fire Relief Audit for 2009-2010 and provided details of the balances, etc. Additionally, he is continuing to seek funding for a generator for the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Municipal Complex. A letter was sent to legislators, PEMA, First Energy to request their assistance in this venture. The approximate cost is \$50,000.00.

Mr. Mahosky advised that he is pursuing incident software and hardware for the Fire Department's use in order to modernize their operations. The incident software is already available through the County Emergency Services at no cost.

Parks/Recreation – Mr. Hoover reported that Cain Fencing has started the fencing for the batting cages behind the elementary school. The project stalled when school started, since they are not allowed to work on school property during school hours. They will continue on the weekend (weather permitting) unless they get Act 32 clearance to work during school hours.

Public Works - Mr. Hoover related work being done by the Public Works Department over the last month. Basin cleaning, replacement of street signs, storm sewer repairs and preparation for the upcoming road program. Mr. Hoover advised of the request of Fallston Borough to include Beaver Street from the bottom of Fallston Hill to ColFin and Brady Lane to Patterson Township's winter snow removal (as done on Par/Divot). Measurements are being taken to come up with a cost.

Ordinances/Policies – Mrs. Bonomo had no report.

Code Enforcement – Mr. Morrow was in attendance and reviewed his written report with the Board. He advised that the Township's adopted code is the International Maintenance Code, of which he follows for property maintenance. He addressed the Villa Court residents, noting that simple laws and simple codes apply to everyone. He noted that scrapping is not allowed on residential properties and, although certain residents don't see it as a violation, Mr. Morrow interprets the code and acts accordingly. At this point, Mr. Morrow reported that citations have been filed against 7 Villa Court and the only way to resolve this ongoing dispute is to let the magistrate decide.

Mr. Morrow reported being in the process of condemning the house at 5 Villa Court (owner – Marquette). This is one of the properties addressed by Terri Cox during public comment. He advised that Mr. Marquette has agreed to sign papers for this condemnation. He also noted that this house will be listed on the Beaver County demolition list; therefore, may take some time. He assured the Board and residents that he is continuing to work in their neighborhood, that it takes time (sending notices, working with property owners, etc).

Prior to moving on, Mrs. Millie Terlizzi, 4 Villa Court wanted to publicly thank Randy and Assistant Chief Stanislawski for their ongoing assistance with their neighborhood concerns.

Police/Township Office/COG – Mr. Policaro advised of no report from the COG.

The monthly police report was distributed for review. Mr. Policaro gave a report on a meeting held with Patterson Heights officials regarding police services for the borough. Although they had requested a proposal and a follow-up meeting, Mr. Policaro expressed that he was very disappointed. The Patterson Heights officials used the time to express how good the Beaver Falls Police Department has been and found fault with Patterson Township Police Department. He expects the offer to be rejected.

Mr. Policaro reminded all of the upcoming public meetings regarding the annexation of Fallston Borough into the Township. The first meeting will be held at the Fallston Borough Building on Tuesday, October 16, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. and the second at Patterson Township Firehall, Monday, October 22, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. Residents of both municipalities can attend either meeting. Mr. Policaro advised that more public meetings will be held after the first of the year, prior to the election (referendum).

Commendation for Officer Bathgate was held at the end of the meeting.

At this time, Mr. Policaro requested a motion approving all Committee Reports as presented. Mr. Hoover made the motion approving all Committee Reports. Seconded by Mr. Mahosky, the motion passed unanimous.

Unfinished Business: Merger public meetings already discussed.

Township Agencies: The minutes of the Planning Commission meeting held August 21, 2012 were distributed for review. Approval of the Darlington Court revisions were indicated in the minutes.

Communications: A letter was received from White Township Supervisors requesting to merge into Patterson Township's Emergency Management Plan. The general consensus of the Board indicated no objection to this. Because there may be a need for adoption of a resolution and/or a promulgation, this was tabled until next month. White Township will be advised of this.

An invitation was distributed to all Boardmembers to a presentation on the economic impact of the Shell Cracker Plant to be held at Central Valley High School.

New/Miscellaneous Business: As a result of Centax being dropped as the EIT Collector for Beaver County and Berkheimer being hired, the Secretary noted two (2) resolutions that need to be adopted regarding this transition. She emphasized the importance of submitting the paperwork right away, in order for the earned income tax collections to be received by the Township. The first

Resolution #2012-006 is to name a liaison between Berkheimer and the Township for the purpose of collecting the taxes and providing needed information. The Township Tax Collector, Joann Ferrazzano, is appropriately the liaison for Patterson Township, as designated in the resolution. Motion to approve Resolution #2012-006 was made by Mr. Bradow. Seconded by Mrs. Bonomo, the motion passed unanimous.

The second Resolution #2012-007 designates Berkheimer as the collector for delinquent taxes as well, along with a fee schedule that was submitted and attached to this resolution. Motion approving Resolution #2012-007 was made by Mr. Hoover. Seconded by Mr. Mahosky the motion passed unanimous.

Upon receipt of the 2013 Minimum Municipal Obligation information from Hallett Associates (Pension Actuary), there was the option of taking a reduction in the amount to be paid into the pension funds, as per the PA Public Employee Retirement Commission. The amount without the relief (or amortization contribution reduction) is \$78,972.00. The amount taking the relief is \$72,663.00. A difference of \$6,309.00. This amount is based on the Township's distress score of Level 1. The Secretary recommended adopting the MMO without the reduction, since Christine Ehringer (Hallett Associates) described this relief as a mortgage, which would still have to be paid at a later date. The requirement is to adopt the MMO by September 30th, noting that it can be changed by December 31st if need be. The resolution indicates no member contributions at this time. Motion was made by Mrs. Bonomo; seconded by Mr. Bradow to adopt Resolution #2012-008 regarding the 2013 MMO (without reduction). Passed unanimous on a roll call vote.

The pension insurance premiums for the annuities and life insurance were submitted for payment in the amount of \$21,700.08. These premiums are to be paid from the pension fund(s) at Huntington Bank. Motion was made by Mrs. Bonomo approving payment. Seconded by Mr. Hoover, the motion passed unanimous on a roll call vote.

Executive Session: The Board went into executive session at 8:35 p.m.

Back in session at 9:05 p.m. It was noted that Township Auditor, Denise Hebb will proceed. A meeting will be held between the Secretary, Treasurer, and Ms. Hebb to obtain the information she is seeking.

Adjournment: There being no further business to be brought before the Board, motion was made by Mrs. Bonomo to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Mahosky the meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Paula J. Wagoner, CMC
Township Secretary

Copy: James J. Ross, Esq.
Ned Mitrovich, P. E.
Board of Commissioners

