

HALIFAX TOWNSHIP
102 Fisher Street
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
December 12, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER - Chairman Bechtel called the meeting to order at 7:07pm followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL - Supervisors Bechtel, Bruner, Schreffler, McBurney are present along with Engineer Frank Lentz, Solicitor Bruce Warshawsky, Roadmaster Corey Stazewski, and Secretary Wendy M. Wentzel. Absent was Supervisor Paul.

RECORDING MEETING – No one other than the Recording Secretary is recording this evening's meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – An executive session was held December 8, 2016 from 4:00pm until 4:45pm to look at a property. An executive session was held this evening prior to the monthly business meeting from 6:30pm until 7:00pm for personnel and land acquisition.

BID OPENING - Chairman Bechtel opened the paving bids and went over the bid amounts submitted. Meckley's Limestone submitted a bid in the amount of \$53,000. New Enterprise submitted a bid in the amount of \$51,800. The Board instructed the Roadmaster to review the bids and come back to the Board later on the agenda to discuss.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – **Flo Mallonee** touched on the topic of Comcast's Franchise Fees and the different increases appearing on her monthly bill. She asked that the Township consider her to serve on the committee that negotiates a new contract and also asked that the Board consider a decrease when the new contract is up for negotiations. Currently, the Township is in a 15-year contract with Comcast Cable to collect a franchise fee from current subscribers, which in turn gets submitted to the Township and is used for Capital Equipment. **Larry Michaels** referenced the current Water and Sewer Ordinance the Township adopted and inquired whether or not a property he sells would have to hook on to the public sewer if the property would be classified as commercial with no intention to have septic. Mayor Enders of Halifax Borough, who serves on the Halifax Area Water and Sewer Authority, responded by explaining that if the line runs within 150 feet of your structure, you would be required to hook onto the system unless a petition was submitted and granted.

SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

Paid Interim Bills – **Motion** was made by Supervisor McBurney and second by Supervisor Schreffler to approve the paid interim bills thru December 12, 2016. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0. **Current Unpaid Bills** – **Motion** was made by Supervisor Schreffler and second by Supervisor Bruner to pay the unpaid bills as of December 12, 2016. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0. **Minutes** – **Motion** was made by Supervisor Bruner and second by Supervisor McBurney to approve the Minutes November 14, 2016. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0. **Financial Report** – Placed on file for audit at a later period.

EMC REPORT – Tim Neiter was present to inform the Board that the County Hazmat Mitigation Plan was adopted. He talked about a program for residents called Everbridge. It's an internal communication service paid for by the county that, for example, if a person goes missing in our area, County will push out a message to those that have signed up for the program. EMC Neiter also asked permission to start a

Facebook page for Halifax Township EMC. The Supervisors were in agreement to creating a Facebook page.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION – Chairperson Flo Mallonee reported that there was no planning commission meeting during the month of December since there was nothing new on the agenda. Solicitor Warshawsky has worked on a draft for subdivision on private roads. The Planning Commission will be reviewing the draft at its January meeting in addition to other items in the SALDO.

ENGINEER REPORT – Engineer Lentz provided an overview of his report dated December 1, 2016 with the Board of Supervisors for services during the month November. No action taken. Report placed on file and made a permanent record.

SOLICITOR REPORT – Solicitor Warshawsky presented his report dated December 8, 2016 for services during the month of November. Solicitor Warshawsky attended a meeting involving the boat access launch. It was shared that the only way the launch can re-open is if the Township chooses to take ownership of it, noting that there are significant costs associated with bringing it up to safe standards. Initial costs would have to come from the state and grants in excess of \$500,000. The Township would not receive any monies for signals or the railroad crossing. The Township wants to be assured that there are no financial risks to the Township. It would take four to six years to bring it up to safe standards. If the Township doesn't take it over, the Fish and Boat Commission will have to take other steps. Township Engineer Lentz stated that there are considerable studies and many future discussions are needed in order for this to take place. The Supervisors stressed the importance of this takeover being cost neutral for the Township. Regardless of the outcome, the Fire Department will have access to water from the river. Supervisor McBurney suggests that a press release be sent out to solicit input from the citizens of the area at the next supervisors' meeting in January to discuss whether the township will consider taking over the railroad crossing and boat launch. The press release will be sent to the Upper Dauphin Sentinel, PennLive, and the Citizen Standard. It was also noted that Millersburg has a boat launch, but it doesn't provide parking. **Brown SEO Violation Issue** – the SEO's site visit on November 29th determined that there is still a violation but not a threat to public safety. It is contained to the Brown property and the neighboring landowner, Mr. Hoover. An action was filed in Dauphin County to determine the nature if any of the easement that they have with respect to the sewage facility that is there. The Township will defer on any enforcement action until out outcome of the court action.

ROADMASTER REPORT – Roadmaster Stazewski submitted his report for November. No action was taken. The report will be placed on record.

SEO REPORT – Report dated December 9, 2016 for November activities was received and will be placed on record.

ADMINISTRATIVE - Allocation of Monies – These line items are over budget: Sewage Inspections, Pesticide License, and the Materials accounts. **Motion** was made by Supervisor Bruner and second by Supervisor Schreffler to move appropriated monies out of the engineering account and into the line items that have been identified as being over the amount budgeted to make them whole. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0.

Task Force – Supervisor McBurney shared that there was a Task Force meeting held on November 28th with Brad Harker, the Halifax School Superintendent and himself in attendance. Shawn Donovan, from the Dauphin County Economic Development was there as well and presented numbers that represented unemployment figures. Halifax Township and Halifax Area new builders are in the 40+ age range. Median

income is \$56,635 and approximately 800 people on the unemployment rolls. The consensus is that people are interested in some form of urgent care coming to the Township. Does a letter need to be sent inviting health organizations to the area.

OLD BUSINESS

Brother – Waiting on a hearing date. A constable will be sent to serve the notice.

Ziegler – A request to continue the hearing and requested and granted by the District Justice. The hearing is scheduled for January.

Tobias Road Bridges – Engineer Lentz will review the cost associated with the bridges submitted by Wilson Consulting. The analysis was performed in March. Engineer Lentz will call and confirm that the cost has not fluctuated. **Motion** was made by Supervisor McBurney and second by Supervisor Bruner to move forward if the fee does not exceed \$3,200. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0.

Borough Recycle Place – Mayor enders of the Halifax Borough was present at the request of the Township to discuss the recycle area available to the residents of both the Borough and the Township residents which is in the Borough. Currently, there is not a lot of room to bring brush and leaves. The Township was looking at the idea of a piece of equipment to grind the brush. A schedule needs to be established and how to pay the people that work it.

BIDS – **Motion** was made by Supervisor Bruner and second by Supervisor McBurney to award the DSA bid for upper Middle Road to New Enterprise who submitted a bid of \$51,800.00. Vote called Motion carries 4-0. Another bid was submitted by Meckley's Limestone in the amount of \$53,000.00.

NEW BUSINESS

Fort Halifax Asbestos Report – Township requested and received an asbestos inspection report from Element Environmental dated November 10, 2016 for Fort Halifax. The report indicated that asbestos was found in the window caulking on the barn addition. To mitigate, the cost would be \$1,650. This will be addressed at a later time.

2017 Budget Adoption – **Motion** was made by Supervisor Bruner and second by Supervisor McBurney to adopt the proposed budget for 2017. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0.

2017 Tax Resolution – **Motion** was made by Supervisor McBurney and second by Supervisor Bruner to waive the reading of the 2017 Tax Resolution. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0. **Motion** was made by Supervisor Schreffler and second by Supervisor McBurney to approve the 2017 Tax Resolution. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0.

2017 Meeting Date Advertising – **Motion** was made by Supervisor Bruner and second by Supervisor Schreffler to advertise the meeting dates for 2017. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0.

SEO Brian McFeaters – was not present for this meeting. Will be on the agenda for the Re-Org meeting in January.

3226 Peters Mountain Road – Brown SEO Violation – See Solicitor's Report above.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Railroad Crossing, Tobias Road Bridges

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board of Supervisors Re-Org – January 3, 2017 at 7:00pm

Auditors Re-Org – January 4, 2017 at 6:30pm

Planning Commission Re-Org/Regular Meeting – January 4, 2017 at 7:00pm

COG Meeting – January 19, 2017 – Refreshments at 6:30pm, Meeting at 7:00pm

ADJOURNMENT - Motion was made by Supervisor Bruner and second by Supervisor Paul to adjourn at 9:14pm. Vote called. Motion carries 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy M. Wentzel
Secretary

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