

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MAY 12, 2015**

The Regular Meeting of the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Tony J. Sacco at 7:05 p.m. Other Commissioners in attendance were Vice President Edward L. Gottschall, Treasurer Ruth O’Leary, Sheri Hoover, and Lorri K. Swan. Also attending were Solicitor Michael A. Setley, Chief of Police Jed Habecker, Fire Chief Scott R. Brady, Superintendent of Public Works Robert McNichols, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Public Works James A. Beane, Business/Personnel Administrator Peggy A. Carpenter, Recreation Director Samson Gausch, Manager/Secretary Jeanne E. Johnston, and Joseph P. Rogosky of Great Valley Consultants.

Pledge to the Flag.

PUBLIC

A) Kevin Martin of 2710 Cedar Top Rd. re: driveway

Mr. Martin presented information to the Manager about a desired driveway width waiver. Ms. Johnston informed the Board that Mr. Martin was advised by the Planning Commission to provide measurements and his information did not contain measurements. The Board agreed with the Planning Commission’s request and directed Mr. Martin to appear before them again with his property measurements.

TREASURER

A) Monthly Report

Mrs. O’Leary reported on several line items in the budget. She recommended that the cold patch line item be increased for 2016. A chipper was purchased from the refuse fund, to be reimbursed with a recycling grant.

TAX COLLECTOR

A) April 2015 Report

1) Year 2014 Real Estate Interim

Balance collectable - \$286.86

Cash collected - \$0

2) Year 2014 Per Capita

Balance collectable – 64 bills issued 11/1/14 sent to collection

Cash collected – \$82.50

3) Year 2015 Real Estate

Balance collectable - \$606,050.83

Cash collected - \$3,873,051.87

4) Year 2015 Refuse

Balance collectable - \$97,751.00

Cash collected - \$565,515.86

B) Transfer Tax Refund

1) application from Premium Abstract – deed recorded twice
ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. O’LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING A REFUND OF TRANSFER TAX, AS REQUESTED BY PREMIUM ABSTRACT.

APPROVE MINUTES

ON MOTION OF MRS. SWAN, SECOND OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING THE MINUTES OF 4/28/2015.

DEPARTMENTS

Recreation Department

A) Monthly Report

B) Pennwyn Playground – equipment grant application

Mr. Gausch informed the Board that the Township was being considered in the final round for a grant to replace the play structure at Pennwyn Playground. The grant would be a discount of 50%, or a 50% match, for a new play structure. The existing play structure at Pennwyn is the oldest one in the playground system.

C) Gouglersville Playground – PA American grant not received

Police Department

A) Civilian Service Award – Patricia Hartman

Chief Habecker presented a Civilian Service Award to Patricia Hartman for assisting a person having a cardiac arrest on 8/29/2014.

Fire Department

A) Fire Department Monthly Report – April 2015

Total Incidents-63

Fires-20

Rescue and EMS-8

Hazardous Condition (No Fire)-6

Service Call-7

Good Intent Call-13

False Alarm-9

Total Estimated Losses- \$500

Volunteer Staffing 40 (+1)

B) Housing Ceremony for Rescue Engine 42

Chief Brady informed the Board and public that the housing ceremony for Rescue Engine 42 would be scheduled along with the fall festival. The Board concurred.

Public Works

A) Poplar Neck Bridge over Norfolk Southern – update

Mr. McNichols informed the Board that PennDOT recently contacted the Township, subsequent to another inspection of the Poplar Neck Bridge over the railroad. PennDOT is anxious for the Township to do the required repairs to the stringers.

Ms. Johnston informed the Board that the engineer is drafting specifications. The projected cost of the repairs is less than the bidding requirement. Bidding is also not required because the Township is using capital funds from the general fund, not liquid fuels. The process would be a little faster if the Township obtained quotes, rather than bids. The Board concurred with quotes.

B) Cooling Tower for Office Building

Mr. McNichols informed the Board that the cooling tower was replaced in 2006. There have been repairs to the cooling tower in 2010, 2011, 2012, and now in 2015. The recent repairs involved the failure of both fans. The Township had one rebuilt motor on hand, because of past experiences. Ms. Johnston informed the Board that the Township staff will look into future alternatives to the cooling tower configuration. Mr. Beane stated that the poor quality of the water at the Township office building is a contributing factor to the numerous repairs.

Engineer

A) Gouglerstown Road – phases 2, 3 & 4 updates

Mr. Rogosky informed the Board that the corrections to Gouglerstown Phase 2 were completed.

B) PennDOT Signage Upgrades

1) Letter from PennDOT re: safety improvements at certain intersections, dated 5/7/15

Mr. Rogosky informed the Board that PennDOT would pay the initial cost of the new signage. The Township would take over future responsibility for the signs. He and Mr. McNichols would meet with PennDOT to look at the proposal in relation to recent ordinance changes for speed limits and truck traffic.

Solicitor

A) Ordinance Revisions re: Firearms

The Board agreed that Mr. Setley should draft and advertise new ordinances in relation to firearms.

CORRESPONDENCE

A) Letter from City of Reading re: shooting range, received 5/4/15

PAYMENTS OF BILLS

ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING PAYMENTS OF BILLS DATED 4/30/15, 4/30/15 - ADDITIONAL, 5/8/15, AND 5/12/15.

COMMISSIONERS

A) Executive Session

6:00 p.m. – The Board of Commissioners went into executive session to discuss a labor issue, a personnel issue, litigation, and a real estate issue.

6:50 p.m. – Mr. Sacco stated that the Board of Commissioners discussed 1 personnel issue, 2 labor issues, a legal issue, and a real estate issue.

ON MOTION OF MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FROM THE CENTER FOR PUBLIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT FOR A STUDY OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, IN SUBSTANTIAL FORM PRESENTED, SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY THE SOLICITOR AND MANAGER.

B) Reminders:

- 1) Township offices closed Monday, 5/25/15, for Memorial Day
- 2) Planning Commission meeting Monday, 6/1/15, at 6:00 p.m.
- 3) Fire strategic plan meeting Tuesday, 6/2/15, at 7:00 p.m.
- 4) Board of Commissioners meeting Tuesday, 6/16/15, at 7:00 p.m.
- 5) Board of Commissioners workshop meeting Tuesday, 6/30/15, at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. SWAN, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanne E. Johnston
Manager/Secretary