

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 18, 2014**

The Regular Meeting of the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Tony J. Sacco at 7:00 p.m. Other Commissioners in attendance were Treasurer Ruth O'Leary, Sheri Hoover, and Lorri K. Swan. Vice President Edward L. Gottschall was absent with prior notification to the Board. Also attending were Solicitor Michael A. Setley, Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police Jed Habecker, Fire Chief Scott R. Brady, Superintendent of Public Works Robert McNichols, Jr., Business/Personnel Administrator Peggy A. Carpenter, Manager/Secretary Jeanne E. Johnston, and Joseph P. Rogosky of Great Valley Consultants.

Pledge to the Flag.

Mr. Sacco made a statement, informing the public about negotiations with the Cumru Township Police Officers' Association. He also informed the public that the Township would be providing more community outreach and engagement activities in the future.

PUBLIC

A) David and Linda Fischer re: City of Reading bombing/shooting range

Mrs. Fischer identified herself as a resident of 1179 Morgantown Rd. She complained about the City of Reading shooting range. She said the main problem is the bomb squad; their practice shakes the house and they give no warning.

Mrs. Fischer said that City officials referred her to Cumru. She reported that the City agreed to give a one day notice for routine explosions and one hour notice for non-routine explosions.

Mr. Sacco responded that the Township could write a letter of support. Mr. Setley informed the Board that any action would have to be a civil matter.

B) James and Patricia Caruso re: City of Reading bombing/shooting range

Mr. Caruso identified himself as a resident of 1161 Morgantown Rd. He said that the shooting range starts as early as 6:00 a.m. and goes as late as 11:00 p.m. On September 6, at 8:00 p.m., a hand grenade was detonated. Mr. Caruso stated that he has a heart condition and the explosions force him to take extra medication.

Mr. Sacco suggested going to City Council. Mrs. O'Leary agreed to accompany the residents.

Attendance: Don and Betty Seltzer; Eugene Stoltzfus; Linda Fischer; James Caruso; Hope Parkin; Mark Andrus; Megan Carpenter; Kyle Dierolf of Flying Hills Co.; James Williamson.

TREASURER

A) Monthly Report

Mrs. O'Leary reported on various expenses and revenue in relation to the 2014 budget. Several general fund line items are at or over budget. The police pension minimum municipal obligation was paid in the amount of \$529,028.00.

TAX COLLECTOR

- A) October 2014 Report
- 1) Year 2014 Real Estate
Balance collectable - \$149,340.92
Cash collected - \$9,513.84
 - 2) Year 2014 Real Estate Interim
Balance collectable - \$1,058.36
Cash collected - \$317.11
 - 3) Year 2014 Refuse
Balance collectable - \$27,594.00
Cash collected - \$1,838.10
 - 4) Year 2014 Per Capita
Balance collectable - \$10,940.00
Cash collected - \$3,865.00

APPROVE MINUTES

ON MOTION OF MRS. SWAN, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF 10/21/2014.

CONSENT AGENDA

DEPARTMENTS

Administration

A) Non Uniformed Pension Plan – compliance amendment

- 1) ordinance advertised on 10/27/2014

ACTION:

ADOPTED A COMPLIANCE AMENDMENT TO THE NON UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN ORDINANCE REDEFINING THE TERM "SPOUSE."

PLANS

2014-01 DEERFIELD PRD PHASE 4 REVISED

Owner: Berkshire Greens; Agent: John W. Hoffert, PLS; location: off of SR 724; plan no. D-13-89;

- a.) Storm water agreements received
- b.) Signed/sealed plans received

ACTION:

REAFFIRMED FINAL APPROVAL TO THE DEERFIELD PRD PHASE 4 REVISION TO PLAN OF RECORD.

2014-05 MANNEPULI SUBDIVISION

Agent: John W. Hoffert, PLS; location: off of Cedar Top Rd.; proposal summary: subdivide pre-existing lot; plan no. ; approved with conditions 09/16/2014

a.) **Planning modules submitted**

ACTION:

ADOPTED A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MANNEPULI SUBDIVISION PLANNING MODULES CONDITIONED UPON SATISFACTORY REVIEW OF THE SEWER ENGINEER AND EXECUTION BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

2014-02 WOODSIDE ESTATES EXPIRATION DATE 02/01/2015

(final) Owner: John W. Hoffert; Agent: John W. Hoffert, PLS; location: northeast quadrant of the intersection of Cedar Top Rd. and Welsh Rd.; proposal summary: subdivision for 6 single family homes; plan no. D-14-14

a.) PaDEP sewage planning module approval, dated 10/27/2014

b.) **Letter from Great Valley Consultants re: plan review, dated 10/28/2014**

ACTION:

GRANTED FINAL APPROVAL TO THE WOODSIDE ESTATES SUBDIVISION PLAN.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

ON MOTION OF MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MRS. SWAN, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING THE CONSENT AGENDA.

DEPARTMENTS

Recreation Department

A) Monthly Report

Mr. Gausch informed the Board that the Breakfast with Santa was scheduled for 12/6/14. Two girls from the Cumru Twp Punt/Pass/Kick competition moved up to the Eagles game of 12/7/14.

1) Letter from DCNR re: grant application not approved, dated 10/17/2014

Mr. Gausch informed the Board that the grant application was not approved. He would seek feedback on the application.

B) Pennwyn Playground Pavilion Replacement

Mr. Gausch informed the Board that a second, lower cost proposal for the Pennwyn Playground Pavilion replacement had been received. Brecknock Builders submitted a quote for \$4,885.00, including materials and assembly. The Township recently received fees in lieu of open space to cover this cost.

ON MOTION OF MRS. SWAN, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING THE REPLACEMENT OF THE PENN Wyn PLAYGROUND PAVILION BY BRECKNOCK BUILDERS AT A COST OF \$4,885.00.

Police Department

A) Police Department Monthly Report – October 2014

Offenses reported – 56
Offenses cleared – 30
Criminal arrests – 36
Traffic arrests – 34
Stolen property value – \$4,230.00
Recovered property value – \$738.00
Revenue received - \$7,110.11

Chief Habecker informed the Board that an arrest had recently be made in connection with a 9/2012 murder victim on the Thun Trail. A recent fire near the Thun Trail was under investigation.

B) Civil Service Commission - Police

- 1) establish eligibility list from Berks County Consortium

Chief Habecker requested that the Board adopt an eligibility list from the Berks County Consortium. The Civil Service Commission will certify a list after the Board authorizes the consortium to be used.

ON MOTION OF MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING THE BERKS COUNTY POLICE CHIEFS CONSORTIUM TO BE USED FOR THE CREATION OF A CIVIL SERVICE ELIGIBILITY LIST FOR POLICE.

C) Fire Police

- 1) Memorandum from Chief of Police re: 2015 officer appointments, dated 11/13/2014

Fire Department

A) Fire Department Monthly Report-October 2014

Total Incidents-54
Fires-6
Rescue and EMS-11
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)-8
Service Call-6
Good Intent Call-11
False Alarm-11
Citizen Complaint-1
Total Estimated Losses- \$145,000
Volunteer Staffing 43 (Plus One)

Public Works

A) Leaf Picking

- 1) ends 12/19/14 or after first significant snowfall

Mr. Seltzer complained that Reed St. needs to be repaired. Mr. McNichols responded that Reed St. was already on the future road repair list, but is not in the budget for 2015. It would have to be patched next year.

Interdepartmental

A) Server Replacement Project

- 1) Memorandum from Manager re: quotes and recommendation, dated 11/18/2014
Mrs. Johnston thanked Chief Brady for obtaining and evaluating quotes.

ON MOTION OF MRS. O'LEARY, SECOND OF MRS. SWAN, A MAJORITY VOTE APPROVING OMEGA SYSTEMS TO BE ENGAGED FOR THE SERVER REPLACEMENT PROJECT. ROLL CALL: MRS. HOOVER – ABSTAIN; MRS. O'LEARY – YES; MRS. SWAN – YES; MR. SACCO – YES.

B) Governor Pointe Water Pump Station

- 1) Letter from John Hoffert Surveying re: request for waiver of subdivision procedures, dated 11/3/2014

ON MOTION OF MRS. SWAN, SECOND OF MRS. HOOVER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE GRANTING A WAIVER OF SUBDIVISION PROCEDURES FOR THE GOVERNOR POINTE WATER PUMP STATION.

C) John Paul II School – temporary office

ON MOTION OF MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MRS. SWAN, A UNANIMOUS VOTE GRANTING A WAIVER OF LAND DEVELOPMENT FOR PLACEMENT OF A TEMPORARY OFFICE STRUCTURE AT THE JOHN PAUL II SCHOOL, CONDITIONED UPON STORM WATER CALCULATIONS TO BE PROVIDED IF THE STRUCTURE REMAINS BEYOND 2 YEARS AND UPON PAYMENT OF A SEWER CONNECTION FEE.

Engineer

A) 2014 Road Work – substantial completion

Mr. Rogosky stated that the punch list was being developed.

Solicitor

CORRESPONDENCE

- A) Notice of public comment period for draft Transportation Long Term Plan – ends 12/15/14
- B) Zoning Hearing Board notice for 11/11/2014
- C) Memorandum from Joint Municipal Authority of Wyomissing Valley re: treatment rate increase for 2015, dated 11/11/2014

PAYMENTS OF BILLS

ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MRS. SWAN, A MAJORITY VOTE APPROVING PAYMENTS OF BILLS DATED 10/24/14, 10/31/14, 11/7/14, AND 11/14/14.

COMMISSIONERS

A) 2015 Budget

Mr. Sacco informed the public that the current budget estimate for 2015 forecasts a \$410,717.11 deficit at the current millage. Mrs. O'Leary recommended that a policy of \$2 million minimum carry-over be established because the expenses in the first quarter of 2014 were \$1.7 million. The Board concurred. Mrs. O'Leary further recommended a .5 mil general fund tax increase, with the streetlight project being taken out of the invested funds.

ON MOTION OF MRS. O'LEARY, SECOND OF MRS. SWAN, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AMENDING THE DRAFT 2015 BUDGET TO INCLUDE THE STREETLIGHT PROJECT FROM THE RESERVE.

ON MOTION OF MR. SACCO, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AMENDING THE DRAFT 2015 BUDGET WITH A .5 MIL GENERAL FUND REAL ESTATE TAX INCREASE.

ON MOTION OF MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MRS. SWAN, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY TO ADVERTISE THE BUDGET AND TAX LEVY ORDINANCE FOR 2015.

Mr. Stoltzfus complained about the number of police cars. Mr. Williamson said that the extra police cars should be gotten rid of. He stated that the Township should have dropped more police officers when Kenhorst dropped the police contract with Cumru.

Mr. Sacco stated that the Poplar Neck Bridge would be addressed in the new year.

ON MOTION OF MRS. O'LEARY, SECOND OF MRS. SWAN A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING A COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT CONTRACT FOR \$170.00/HOUR.

B) Vacancies/Expirations of Terms – accept resignation

- 1) Letter from William D. Frymoyer, Sr. re: resignation as Alternate from Zoning Hearing Board, dated 10/28/2014

The Board accepted the resignation and acknowledged Mr. Frymoyer's employment as a Township Building Inspector.

C) Executive Session

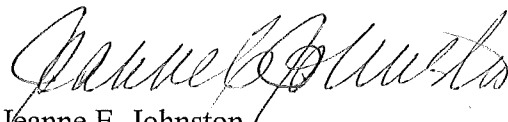
8:35 p.m. – The Board of Commissioners went into executive session to discuss 2 personnel issues and a labor matter.

9:10 p.m. – Mr. Sacco stated that the Board of Commissioners discussed 2 personnel issues and a labor issue.

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION OF MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:12 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanne E. Johnston
Manager/Secretary