

**MINUTES
SCOTT TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
301 LINDSAY ROAD, MAIN MEETING ROOM
SCOTT TOWNSHIP, PA 15106
AGENDA MEETING
JANUARY 14. 2014**

The meeting was called to order by President Jason at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Giudici then led all present in prayer and pledge to the flag.

Roll Call:

Patricia A. Caruso	Present	
Eileen Meyers	Present	
Thomas M. Castello, Esq.	Present	
Stacey Altman	Present	
Donald Giudici, Vice President	Present	
Craig C. Stephens, Esq.	Absent	Arrived 7:35 p.m.
David G. Calabria	Present	
William Wells	Present	
David A. Jason, Vice President	Present	

PRESENT - 8

ABSENT - 1

ALSO PRESENT:

Robert McTiernan, Esq., Solicitor, Tucker Arensburg, PC
Lawrence J. Lennon, P.E., Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering
Denise Fitzgerald, Manager – Secretary
Randy Lubin, Director of Public Services
Robert Fischer, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer
Kathleen Gazda, Assistant Secretary
Chief James Secreet

Planning, Zoning and Code Enforcement

Discuss adoption of ordinance to establish fees for building permits, demolition permits, grading permits, certificates of occupancy, fees for Zoning Hearing and Conditional Use hearings and sign permits

Mr. Fischer said this was addressed at the December agenda meeting. This is cleaning up the fee schedule and increasing the escrow amount from \$1,500 to \$5,000 so he will have to backtrack and bill people for these accounts.

Mr. Jason said they discussed the need to update.

Discuss adoption of ordinance amending Chapter 5, Part 2 of the Code of Scott Township by adopting the provisions of the 2009 International Property Maintenance Code

Mr. Fischer said they did discuss this at the December meeting. It has been advertised and can be voted on at the next meeting.

Discuss adoption of ordinance amending Chapter 5, Part 3 of the Code of Scott Township by adopting the provisions of the 2009 International Fire Code

Mr. Fischer said nothing has changed with this; they are simply updating the ordinance. It has also been advertised and can be voted on at the next meeting.

Mr. Jason said he thinks they are all in agreement and this should be put on the agenda for the voting meeting.

Solicitor's report

Discuss options for 600 Carothers Avenue

Mr. McTiernan said they have a memo from John Vogel outlining the options.

Direct Sale – The township could offer to purchase the property directly from the owner. But they would want all liens cleared and the mortgage holders could make claim for the proceeds. Even if the owner agreed to keep a nominal amount for himself, the township might be paying at least \$5,000 to \$90,000.

Sheriff Sale – The township could initiate a “free and clear” sheriff sale for back taxes. The township would set a minimum bid for the property. The minimum bid could be as low as the cost of the sale or \$7,000. If the highest bid was the minimum amount, the township could acquire the property at reasonable price. And with a “free and clear” sale, the other liens would be cleared.

Eminent Domain – the township could elect to use eminent domain to acquire property and use as a public parking lot would be a permissible use. But the downside is that the township would have little control over the price they would pay.

The sheriff sale would be their best option.

Mr. Castello said they need a title search.

Mr. McTiernan said the title search was done. This process would dissolve liens.

Mr. Castello said there is \$83,000 in liens.

Mr. McTiernan said they could sell it for the back taxes lien. They could sell it free and clear of all liens.

Mr. Wells asked why they want it.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said for a parking lot.

Mr. Wells asked if this is part of the revitalization project.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said no.

Mr. Wells said Larry's report said they could put in three parking spaces.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said she did have information from Larry that they could put in a tiered lot and the slope part would not be touched. They would also include a rain garden.

Mr. Wells said they are asking the tax payers to foot the bill on this.

Mr. Castello said the township has to maintain it now; they might as well own it. If they have parking, businesses might move into the area.

Mr. Wells said they are not going to get businesses in there.

Mr. Castello said little restaurants could go in there with six or seven tables.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said the cost would be around \$30,000.

Mrs. Caruso said they wouldn't be spending any money toward it until next year. It would be in the 2015 budget.

Mr. Wells said they do not have money to fix the infrastructure in the township.

Mr. Castello said there is the question of legally doing work on private property.

Mr. Wells said there is a building on Bower Hill Road that they have to figure out what they are going to do with. They have a list of twenty-six items.

Mr. Jason said these are good points and they will decide when they vote on it.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said they originally had a committee to discuss these issues. Jane Sorcan and Gary Zyra attended those meetings and were involved in the discussions. The meetings are advertised and the public is welcome.

Mr. Wells said they were asked to put together a committee to see what people want to do, but he doesn't see anything happening down there.

Mrs. Meyers said there are people who are willing to restore the old bike shop.

Mr. Jason said they can have the board vote or have Larry refresh their memories. They can table this until February.

Mr. Stephens said the building value is \$246,800. He said eminent domain might be the most cost effective.

Mr. Castello said the sheriff sale would be cheaper.

Mr. Stephens said if they get the building value taken off, the land value would be adjusted.

Mr. Calabria said if it is going to be a parking lot it is not up to the township to provide parking for business owners.

Mr. Jason said if the city does it they would put meters in.

Mr. Calabria said businesses should be looking at it.

Mr. Jason said they would table this until February and come back with numbers.

Mr. McTiernan said he has one personnel item to discuss in Executive Session.

Engineers report

Discuss 2014 Roadway Improvement Program

Mr. Lennon said they are proceeding with the design and bidding for the 2014 Bond Issue, which includes Kane Boulevard, Swallow Hill Road and Finley Avenue. He does not have a list for the road program. They will be opening bids in March. He said he is waiting for the televising schedule from Randy. If he can get a list from the commissioners, the idea to piggy-back with the bond issue program, but they will have to keep funds segregated.

Mr. Lubin said the updated list will be sent to the commissioners and if they have any other roads, they can contact him by the end of the month.

Mr. Lennon said once he has the road list, he wants to open the bids at the March meeting. He said they need the list as soon as possible because they have to be advertised for thirty days and they do not want a shorter period. He said they would get the prices together; they will go out to measure by February 1.

Mr. Lubin said he will revise the list by Friday and the commissioners can review for the following meeting.

Discuss approving Change Order No. 1 (Final) for Contract No. 13R01 2013 Roadway Improvement Program from Morgan Excavating, L.P. decreasing the amount of the contract on final in-place quantities by \$50,593.84 (Original contract price \$721,162.80; Contract price with change order \$670,568.96)

Mr. Lennon said he has reviewed the payment request, it is in order and he is ready to recommend payment at the next meeting.

Discuss approval of payment of Partial Payment No. 3 for Contract No. 13R01 2013 Roadway Improvement Program from Morgan Excavating, L.P. in the amount of \$50,352.68

Mr. Lennon said this has been reviewed, it is in order and he would recommend payment.

Discuss creating bid specs for synthetic ice rink

Mr. Lennon said they are waiting for some indication from the board to proceed.

Mrs. Meyers said they haven't discussed this since the last meeting, but she is in favor.

Mr. Castello said they have everything they need except the bid specs.

Mr. Wells said they know the cost. They don't know the required maintenance or how many employees they will need to monitor it from the insurance company.

Mrs. Meyers said they don't need any employees.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said she and Eileen talked to the Howard Insurance Agency to be sure it would be covered and if there were any additional items to be excluded. It would be treated as any other equipment in the township.

Mrs. Meyers said the maintenance would be minimal and would be power washing or sweeping it off.

Mr. Wells asked about using figure skates.

Mrs. Meyers said they would put a sign up.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said there would just be signage; there is no proposal for staffing.

Mr. Lennon said Collier Township has a rink and there is no one there. It is quite popular and gets a lot of use.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said she would call to see if they have an employee there.

Public Works Report

Swallow Hill Road/Rockfield Road Reconstruction – a meeting was held January 9 with Port Authority, Chartiers Valley School District Transportation director and the Chief of Police to review Golden Triangle Construction detour plan. They talked about protection and the construction plan.

Mr. Wells asked about the gas line work.

Mr. Lubin said it is scheduled for early March when they have to redo it.

Mr. Lennon said they realized they had to do it.

Mr. Lubin said they would complete the work from Nob Hill to Segar in two weeks

Mr. Lennon said they have to move a regulator so there will have to be some kind of easement from Nob Hill across Scrubgrass.

2013 Roadway Improvement Program – all work is completed with the exception of lawn restoration. Retainage is being held for lawn areas.

Steel City Self Storage – the developer has been granted a waiver until the February Planning Commission meeting and it is his understanding they will have the plans submitted for review at that meeting.

Rennich Plan of Lots – they are in receipt of plans for review for the February Planning Commission meeting.

Storm and Sanitary Sewer Report

ACO Semi-Annual Progress Report – the semi-annual progress report is due at the Allegheny County Health Department on January 31.

Annual Chapter 94 Wasteload Management Report - the Wasteload Management report is due in March.

Sewer Committee – The next Sewer Committee meeting is scheduled for March 3 at 10 a.m.

Finance Committee Report

Public Safety Committee Report

Discuss adopting Emergency Operations Plan for Scott Township

Mrs. Fitzgerald said they have discussed this and asked that it be placed on the agenda for the voting meeting.

Discuss placing an advisory speed limit of 15 MPH on Raven Drive (Caruso)

Mrs. Caruso said this is at 1271 Raven. People fly around there and she is concerned about children playing and pets. She said there has not been a traffic study for an advisory sign.

Mr. Wells said they could put an officer there during the times people are speeding.

Mrs. Caruso said if they can put in a 15 mph sign, it will get attention but cannot be enforced.

Mr. Wells said they have them on Lindsay Road and the residents are very happy. Denise had signs made that say “Drive like your kids live here”.

Mr. Lubin said they were put throughout the township.

Mr. Wells said there are so many parking pads on Raven Drive that there is no place for kids to walk.

Chief Secreet said he can put a sign up.

Public Works Committee Report

Discuss Public Works Summer Help Program

Mr. Lubin said the salt is taking a hit but they have had a little reprieve. He said he would have figures for the meeting in February. They are also having issues with the waste providers.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said she gave the board phone numbers and asked them to come tonight to address the issues.

Mrs. Caruso said she received a flyer with their contact number.

Mr. Wells said they should say something about the electronics collection.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said they should wait until the weather breaks to schedule an event.

Mr. Wells said Upper St. Clair has an e-waste collection the second Saturday of each month at the Veterans' Memorial.

Environmental Committee Report (Sewer Committee)

Mr. Lennon said they have a minor issue to talk about before they open the bids on Finley Avenue. There is one house where his sewer never connected to the sanitary sewer. It is connected to the storm sewer. They need to resolve this. There is no lateral to the property. They need to discuss whether or not the township wants to do that. The proposal is to get it to the property line and have the homeowner tap in. They want to get this taken care of before the road paving. He said he wants to get a simple bid proposal and get three prices from contractors. Randy is going to look at it. He asked that this be placed on the agenda for the voting meeting.

Mr., Lubin said it is at Finley and Carothers if they identify the laterals. He said there is no good easy fix.

Parks and Recreation

Discuss holding Easter Egg Hunt at Scott Park on Sunday, April 13, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

Mrs. Meyers said to put this on for a vote.

Library Liason Report

Mr. Wells said Gina Leone is the new Director of the Library. He said they received a letter from Tony Ahart thanking them for the money and approving their budget. He said he gave the township a copy of their press release.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said she will request that he e-mail it to her.

Mr. Castello asked if Gina could come to a meeting at her convenience. He said they would like to meet her.

SHACOG

Mr. Stephens said the meeting Thursday is in Brentwood. He and Don Giudici will attend. He said last month Mr. Gorski talked about the RAD distribution.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said she gets a breakdown on that.

Administration

Discuss Agreement between Allegheny County, Scott Township and Carnegie Borough regarding the rehabilitation of the Carothers Avenue/Third Street bridge

Mrs. Fitzgerald said this is to enter into an agreement about lighting on the bridge. The county will maintain the bridge but the lights are the responsibility of the township. One half of the bridge is in Carnegie and one-half of the bills will be paid by Carnegie Borough. The engineer estimates the cost would be approximately \$25 per month and they would bill Carnegie once a year. The county does not want to move forward until there is an agreement in place.

Mr. McTiernan asked who prepared the agreement.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said the county gave them examples from other municipalities.

Mr. McTiernan said there is no Exhibit D.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said it would have to be attached to approve.

Mr. McTiernan said it is a very general, very vague agreement and just talks about the lighting. He said he would have to talk to whoever made this.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said they are paying for the lighting through the Tri Community Revitalization project.

Mrs. Meyers asked when they are planning to work on the bridge.

Mr. Lubin said they will start in April and it will take six to nine months.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said everything should be done by summer and the paving will be done when the bridge is finished. They are trying to coordinate the work.

Mr. Lubin said they are just rehabbing the bridge; they are not tearing it down.

Discuss Estimate No. 009 for Tri Community Revitalization project from A. Liberoni in the amount of \$19,872.16

Mrs. Fitzgerald said this should go on the agenda for the voting meeting.

Discuss web-site updates

Mrs. Fitzgerald said since the meeting in December she has received an e-mail from a prospective bidder requesting additional details. As far as she knows, they are interested in updating the web-site on a monthly basis and placing the forms online.

Mr. Castello said he assumed the current guy was going to do it. Just go with him.

Mr. Wells said they asked other people to put in bids.

Mr. Castello said they should stay with the people they have now. It is a \$2,600 contract.

Mr. Calabria asked how many companies have contacted her.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said three. She said she does not know how many updates they will have in the upcoming year.

Mr. Calabria said they want to be fair to everyone. She should be as specific as she can.

Mrs. Meyers asked if they can do it on their current web-site.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said other bidders would have to create a new web-site.

Ms. Altman asked if the present IT man agreed to do this.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said he submitted a proposal for \$2,600.

Mr. Jason said he knows a place out of Quebec where it would be \$150 to create a site and \$100.00 a month. They are very reasonable.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said some months they may only have one update throughout the year. She is not able to tell them the exact number.

Mr. Wells said they could update every other week – up to 26 updates a year. There is nothing so pressing that it can't wait a week.

Mr. Calabria said they could bump the \$2,600 up a little bit to whatever she needs.

Discuss Tobacco Free Allegheny Young Lungs at Play Program “National Kick Butts Day” to be held March 19, 2014

Mrs. Fitzgerald asked if the board was interested.

Mr. Wells asked if there was any cost.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said no.

Conferences and Workshops

Discuss Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners 89th Annual Educational Conference to be held in Lancaster, PA June 12 – 15, 2014 in the amount of \$200.00 registration for 1st attendee and \$125.00 for each additional attending, plus \$743.05 for hotel

Mr. Jason said they should put that on the agenda for the voting meeting.

Public Comments on Items Not Listed on the Agenda

Susan Moorcroft of 1612 Berkwood Drive asked the status of the storm sewer issue.

Mr. Jason said they are looking into the matter and the engineer has a list of the properties. He said they will discuss this at the Sewer Committee meeting to be held in March.

Mrs. Moorcroft said they are looking for the township to fix what is wrong with the situation.

Commissioners Requests

Mrs. Caruso said the Bower Hill Volunteer Fire Department will be celebrating their 90th Anniversary later this month. She said they are a wonderful group of people and she is very proud of them.

Mrs. Meyers said Tom Wallish, a Chartiers Valley graduate from Orchard Spring Road is going to the Olympics. He will be participating in the hurdle competition. She congratulated him on making it to the Olympics.

Mr. Castello – nothing.

Ms. Altman – nothing.

Mr. Giudici – nothing.

Mr. Stephens said a transformer blew out at Manor Care yesterday and the fire department was out there. He asked if there were any other power outages in the area.

Chief Secreet said he is not aware of any.

Mr. Calabria asked if the signs on Carothers Avenue are considered break-away.

Mr. Lubin said there is a sleeve inside and they are mounted to a foundation structure but they are still considered break-away.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said they were approved by Penn DOT.

Mr. Calabria said the one on the island on Carothers Avenue they are not supposed to put them within two feet. He said the sign on Pachel Way is going the wrong way and someone is going to hit it.

Mrs. Fitzgerald said they will verify all that with Penn DOT.

Mr. Wells said he has been asking for two to three years to have the telephone pole in front of his house repaired. If it falls, a huge transformer is going to smash into the ground.

Mr. Lubin said he turned it in several times and they came out and looked at it.

Mr. Wells said a pole was also hit by a car on Wynnecliffe. He said the pole is rotting and held up by the electric wires.

Mr. Jason said he was talking to his wife and they feel the commissioners' spouses are neglected and forgotten and they make many sacrifices. His wife came up with the idea that they could have a dinner to recognize all their work and sacrifices they make. They could invite the school board and they could all thank their significant other. They could donate the proceeds to the Chartiers Valley Scholarship Fund. She will be working hard on this and he will keep the board updated as things go on.

Executive session.

Adjournment.

Motion by Mrs. Meyers, second by Mr. Giudici to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried (9-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m..

Attest:
