

**HALIFAX TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING
MARCH 12, 2012**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Bechtel called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Supervisors Bechtel, Bruner, Hoover, Paul and Shultz are present. Solicitor Bruce Warshawsky, Engineer Tom Wilson, Roadmaster Corey Stazewski and Secretary Carolyn Nye are present.

RECORDING MEETING: Other than the Secretary, Hara Frank is recording the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None held.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: **Bob Artman** suggested the Board connect with the Dauphin County Commissioners about getting more recycling bins. Chairman Bechtel stated he will bring this issue up at the COG meeting on Thursday. **Melinda Warfel** stated she and Deb Meyers have completed the Fire Company Audit. **Paul Bonawitz** has nothing at this time. **Rick & Sharon Johns** will defer to later on the agenda. **Flo Mallone** has nothing at this time.

FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Bob Stout stated the Fire Company was awarded a gaming grant of \$238,000 which brings the total received to \$478,000.00. A new fire truck was ordered and is expected to be delivered in May or June. About \$10,000 will come from the general account to pay off the truck. Bob indicated he would like the Board's approval for the Fire Department to participate in PIMAS (Pennsylvania Interstate Mutual Aid System) which has to do with the availability of the Fire Company to respond anywhere within the state of Pennsylvania if called for by the State Fire Commissioner or the Director of PEMA for decontamination emergencies which the Halifax Fire Company has been trained in this area. The Mutual Aide Agreement would need signed by the local municipality. Bob stated if this happens, four firefighters and one engine will be called and it will require a 72 hour deployment. **Motion** – Supervisor Paul made a motion to approve the Mutual Aide Agreement, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT: Paid Interim Bills – Motion: Supervisor Hoover made a motion to approve the interim bills, seconded by Supervisor Paul, vote called, motion carried 5-0. **Current Unpaid Bills – Motion:** - Supervisor Hoover made a motion to authorize payment of the current bills, seconded by Supervisor Shultz, vote called, motion carried 5-0. Supervisor Paul questioned the HARA payment. Chairman Bechtel stated this is required under the current contract with HARA. **Minutes – Motion:** Supervisor Paul made a motion to approve the February 12, 2012 minutes as written, seconded by Supervisor Shultz, vote called, motion carried 5-0. **Financial Report** – no comments.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: Bob Artman provided a report to the Board regarding the Planning Commission Meeting of March 5. Bob indicated the Board will be working on an alternate fuel ordinance as well as a lighting and sign ordinance. He stated Scott Corsnitz came to the Planning Commission meeting about putting up an agricultural building on a parcel that consists of 72.3 acres which does not have a primary building. As a result there was questions about the way the SALDO was written regarding the requirement of land development under this type of situation. After much discussion the Solicitor stated the landowner can seek a waiver to the Planning Commission and proceed with a stormwater management plan.

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ENGINEER REPORT: Tom Wilson read his report dated February 29, 2012.

SOLICITOR REPORT: Bruce Warshawsky went over his report dated March 2, 2012.

Action Items: Jorich – Mr. Jorich has not complied with the Township's request of having him submit an as built plan due to the fact that he deviated from his original subdivision plan. **Motion:** Supervisor Shultz made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to send a letter advising the landowner of a deadline to comply with the Township's request or otherwise the Township will file an enforcement action if this is not satisfied, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

Nuisances – Corey submitted pictures of the nuisance properties. The Harman property and Biting property are being worked on and Corey will monitor these and provide an update in two weeks from today. Corey will contact the new SEO, Matt Williard regarding the Hoover-Harner property issue.

Harn Property – The Board agreed for the Solicitor to move to get the Sheriff to tag the cars for a sale.

Bistline – Per Supervisor Bruner Mike Bistline will contact Brad when he comes back into town to settle on the issue of outstanding charges.

Tourist Park Water Issue – Chairman Bechtel will contact Gregg Raymond of Norfolk Southern for an update.

Galli Road – The Solicitor stated the second consent is signed. The Township can now go ahead with the designing and he will get the easements drafted. Tom Wilson indicated he is waiting for DEP to respond to the permit application.

Employee Policy Manual – Supervisor Paul, Supervisor Shultz and Corey are on this committee and Randy is the point person. The Solicitor will get back to the committee with some other information and will then schedule a meeting.

ROADMASTER REPORT: Corey provided a Roadmaster report to the Board. **Demoliton Saw** – Corey asks the Board for authorization to purchase a cart for the saw. **Motion** – Supervisor Paul made a motion to authorize the purchase of the cart/kit for the saw, seconded by Supervisor Shultz, vote called, motion carried 5-0. **The Step-Off Behind Board's Seating Area** – The Board instructed Corey to find some kind of material to put down so that the step- off is more visible. **Volunteers at Park** – Dick Leiter volunteered to mow the grass fields at the park. Corey talked to Tom Troutman about the insurance and it was stated any volunteer would have to be listed under workers compensation. **Press Release** – Chairman Bechtel brought up the road grading project to take place this Spring. The Solicitor indicated he reviewed the release to allow residents to get the soil from the project. This will be incorporated into the press release.

ADMINISTRATIVE: Letter of Collateralization from Susquehanna Bank– The letter was received from the bank and reviewed by the Solicitor. The Township will follow-up in six months.

SEO REPORT: Report was received but no activity.

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COG REPORT: As representative to COG Chairman Bechtel reported that discussion on radios for municipalities was discussed. Changing inspectors for the UCC was under discussion. Apparently there has been some complaints about Light-Heigel. Chairman Bechtel suggested to invite Leight-Heigel to the COG meeting to discuss the issues. There will be a COG meeting here at the Township building Thursday, March 15 at 6:30 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS: Harn Issue/Daughter – There is no one from the family in attendance. The issue was previously discussed.

Safety Training: Per Tom Troutman's email, in order for the Township to get a reduction in insurance, it would have to have scheduled training classes for months and do this on a regular bases. EMC Insurance would do this for no cost. The result would be a 5% reduction in insurance. Further discussion resulted in Board forming a safety committee consisting of Supervisor Shultz and Corey to include first aid with CPR, Flagger Training, HASMAT and safety.

Mrs. Johns –Nuisance Complaint: The Johns spoke about their ongoing nuisance issues regarding noise and now cats from the neighboring property which is the Armstrong Winery. Supervisor Paul will discuss the issue with the winery and if no resolution comes of it the Board will proceed with an ordinance. The Solicitor suggested Mrs. Johns contact Dauphin County Vector Control about the cats. The Secretary will contact the Humane Society about their contract with municipalities vs. independent cost per animal without a contract.

Brick Farmhouse: The Board discussed the issue about mold forming and how to take care of this. Corey indicated thru his contact with a contractor that the furnace is not worth repairing. **Motion** – Supervisor Shultz made a motion to authorize Corey to purchase a dehumidifier suitable for the area in the house up to \$250.00, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

Alternative Funding Committee: Steve Shreffler who serves on the committee discussed the LST (Local Services Tax) which would involve a tax on people employed in Halifax Township. This would involve a \$52.00 a year tax on employed persons. If Keystone would be the agency administering the tax, they would charge a fee. Melinda Warfel indicated this would serve as additional revenue for the Township. She stated due to the economy the Township does not have as much income tax coming in. Melinda feels the Township could use additional revenue to provide services especially regarding roads. Chairman Bechtel thanked the Committee for their efforts and indicated it will be discussed further at a later time.

Flood Plain Administrator: Motion – Supervisor Shultz made a motion to appoint Tom Wilson as the Flood Plain Administrator, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

Bistline Issue – Outstanding Bills: Previously discussed.

Ordinance Codification: The Solicitor explained what this usually entails which is a systematic indexing of ordinances. It allows for updates or changes in ordinances to be replaced in a consistent manner. The Secretary will check the records for when the initial codification took place.

Sheetz Relocation – The Township received a planning mailer for the Township's review and signature. This has to do with a public sewer service for the proposed Sheetz, Inc. store in Halifax Township.

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NEW BUSINESS: Bob Stout – Fire Dept. Update/PA Intrastate Mutual Aid System – Previously discussed.

Township Cleanup Day: Motion – Supervisor Bruner made a motion to schedule cleanup day May 4 and 5, seconded by Supervisor Paul, vote called, motion carried, 5-0. Corey will make contact with the individual who previously collected tires dropped off at the Township. There will be no pickup at residences.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: School Signals and Nuisance Status.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Planning Commission Meeting April 2 at 7 p.m.
- Township Meeting April 9 at 7 p.m.
- Regional Comprehensive Plan Meeting March 13 at 7 p.m.
- COG Meeting Halifax Township March 15 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Supervisor Hoover made a motion to adjourn at 10:17 p.m., seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Nye
Secretary