

**HALIFAX TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING
May 14, 2012**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Bechtel called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Supervisors Bechtel, Bruner, Hoover and Paul are present. Supervisor Shultz will be attending shortly. The Solicitor Bruce Warshawsky, Engineer Tom Wilson and Secretary Carolyn Nye are present. Corey Stazewski Roadmaster is absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Chairman Bechtel announced an executive session was held from 6:05 p.m. to 6:40 p.m. on April 30 for litigation and personnel matters. Also on May 14, 2012 an executive session was held from 6:02 p.m. to 6:52 p.m. regarding personnel issues.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: **Donna Rode** reported an incident with her car pertaining to limbs hanging out along McClelland Road. Donna also spoke about new ordinances and the cost involved in enforcing them. She specifically mentioned noise ordinances and the controversy surrounding this type of ordinance. **Sharon John** defers to later on the agenda. **Frank Wilmarth** reported on the Ft. Halifax Festival which was held May 4 and 5th. **Flo Malonee** talked about the LST (Local Services Tax) and the benefits of this tax. She also spoke against ordinances being created for just one person's complaint.

SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT: Paid Interim Bills – Supervisor Hoover made a motion to approve the Interim Bills, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

Current Unpaid Bills – Supervisor Hoover made a motion to authorize payment of the Unpaid Bills, seconded by Supervisor Paul, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

Minutes of April 9, 2012 – Supervisor Hoover made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Supervisor Paul, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

Financial Report – Board made no comments.

EMC REPORT: None.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: Fred Ford gave the following overview of the Planning Commission Meeting held May 7, 2012: **Charles Paulvir Subdivision Plan:** There were two spelling corrections made to waivers #1 and #6 on the front page of the letter from Third Mountain Surveying. The plan was approved for review. **Scott Corsnitz** came to the meeting and discussed with the Board about his recently purchased property on which he wants to build a pole building and it was determined that an E and S Plan will be required as well as a Storm Water Management Plan. **Alternate Energy Ordinance** was discussed at the meeting.

ENGINEER REPORT: Tom Wilson gave his report dated May 14. Tom reported that the drainage issue along Ebenezer Road resulted in a site inspection which determined that Lot 4 of the Bruce and Barbera Reeher Subdivision Plan does not have installed a storm water management swale. **Motion** – Supervisor Bruner made a motion that the landowner be informed of the deficiency in stormwater management provisions pending confirmation that the final recorded plan is consistent with the

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preliminary plan, seconded by Supervisor Paul, vote called, motion carried 5-0. **Galli Road Water Issue Project** - The Township now has the permit and the Solicitor will send easement letters to the landowners

SOLICITOR REPORT: Galli Road Project – The Solicitor will send out easement letters to the landowners. After the project is complete, documents need to be sent out to appropriate authorities.

PennDOT Notification: Chairman Bechtel asked Tom about the PennDOT notification letter regarding a project in the Township. Tom indicated PennDOT should adhere to Act 167 Stormwater Management. The Secretary will send PennDOT a letter and include a copy of the Township's Stormwater Management Ordinance and request a detailed copy of the project.

Harman Stove Plan – There are outstanding improvements pertaining to this plan. Dane Harman will provide to the Township \$9,130 as escrow to guarantee completion of the improvements. John Glime will do the work. **Motion** – Supervisor Hoover made a motion to accept cash in lieu of a bond and enter into a memorandum of understanding, seconded by Supervisor Paul, vote called, motion carried 5-0. The Solicitor stated legal and engineer fees come out of the money received by Dane Harman. Paul Wentz and Tom Wilson will do the inspections of the project.

Jorich Subdivision – Motion: Supervisor Hoover made a motion to authorize letter by Solicitor advising enforcement action if information is not provided in ten days, seconded by Supervisor Shultz, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

Konchar Litigation – This issue was discussed in executive session to enter into stipulation for settlement where the common boundary line between the Township and Mr. Konchar's property will be defined by Mr. Burch. It will be staked at the expense of the Township and the Township will agree to indemnify Mr. Konchar for any actions or liability for damages resulting from the private road that crosses his land from 147 across the railroad tracks with the exception of any acts which are his responsibility **Motion** – Supervisor Hoover made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to execute the stipulation for settlement as previously described, seconded by Supervisor Shultz, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

Harn Nuisance – Motion: Supervisor Bruner made a motion to send notice advising Harn to abate nuisance, seconded by Supervisor Shultz, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

Bitting Nuisance – The new owner is cleaning up the property. Will take off active nuisance list.

Bistline – The Secretary stated a partial check was received from Mr. Bistline reflecting a 12th of the total payment due.

UDITO – Motion: Supervisor Hoover made a motion to authorize action of the Township to become involved in proceedings to remedy tax issue between UDITO and Halifax Township, seconded by Supervisor Paul, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

Tourist Park Issue – Chairman Bechtel indicated there is no new information from the railroad. He will contact Norfolk Southern for an update.

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Nuisance/Noise Ordinance – The Solicitor will draft a new nuisance ordinance. **Motion** – Supervisor Bruner made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to draft a revamped nuisance ordinance, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

Strohecker Mobile Home Park Amnesty Letter – There are four trailers that are unlivable in the park and if the Township and the School forgive the back taxes on these, the County will allow Strohecker to put in new ones. **Motion:** Supervisor Bruner made a motion to authorize amnesty of the Township's portion of taxes owed from Strohecker, seconded by Supervisor Shultz, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

Jennifer Stoneroad Geyer Mobile Home at Alex Acres Mobile Home Park – This is a property that went to judicial sale and the County is asking the Township to accept the judicial sale. The Board agreed.

Dauphin County's Tax Inquiry on Susan Albright Property – Melinda Warfel clarified that Dauphin County inquired about taxes owed on this property. She indicated there are no taxes due on the property.

ROADMASTER REPORT: Motion on Personnel Action – Supervisor Shultz made a motion to approve the personnel action of a four day suspension effective Tuesday, May 15 thru Friday, May 18 and a probationary period to be determined later as a result of the executive session pertaining to Corey Stazewski, Roadmaster, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, Supervisor Paul opposed, motion carried 4-1.

John's Nuisance Complaint – Mrs. John spoke more about the noise from the Armstrong Winery when bands are playing at their functions. Supervisor Paul went to the winery and asked the owners to lower the volume. The Solicitor stated the Township does not have a noise ordinance that would address this type of situation.

Jerome Kissinger Nuisance Complaint/Lenker Complaint – Corey did a site visit and determined that maybe half is junk and the other materials may possibly be used by Mr. Masser. Supervisor Shultz stated if there is a violation of the ordinance, then Mr. Masser must comply with the ordinance. **Motion** – Supervisor Shultz made a motion to send a letter along with the ordinance and pictures that were supplied and indicate in the letter there were two complainants, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, vote called, Chairman Bechtel opposed, motion carried 4-1. The Board assigned the Roadmaster to further investigate the nuisance allegation of the Fox property and report back to the Board.

ADMINISTRATIVE: Charles Bisking EMC Stipend Payments for 2012 – The Board agreed to continue paying quarterly stipends.

Correction to February 2012 Minutes – Roadmaster Compensation: This was accidentally omitted in transcribing the February 2012 minutes. **Motion to Amend the Minutes:** Supervisor Shultz made a motion to correctly state the Roadmaster is to receive a one time payment of five days comp time and five days straight time for time worked above 40 hours, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

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Joe Baker – Chairman Bechtel commented on Joe Baker a PennDOT archaeologist who asked for permission to take a small group consisting of Dane Snyder and a few others from Penn State University and Millersville University on a walk-thru of the Ft. Halifax Park to determine what potential archaeological interest they may have. The Board has no problem with this request.

Job Applications – Discussion on who and how to organize the roadcrew for the road grading project was discussed. The Solicitor suggested the Roadmaster email the supervisors with his proposal for their approval. **Motion** - Supervisor Paul made a motion to appoint Supervisors Hoover and Bruner along with the Roadmaster to serve on a committee to review the applications and select employees, Supervisor Hoover to be the main contact for projects and Supervisor Bruner to be the alternate, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

SEO REPORT: Mike Brown the alternate SEO submitted a report on the final inspection of the septic system on Tobias Wildlife Park.

OLD BUSINESS: UDITO Action – Action taken under Solicitor's Report.

LST (Local Services Tax) – Discussion took place by the Board, Solicitor and Melinda Warfel regarding this tax. The tax involves a \$52.00 a year tax on individuals working in Halifax Township with an income of over \$12,000.00 a year. It was decided that the Secretary would contact COG for more detailed information. Melinda stated 25% of the tax has to go to local services such as the Fire Company and Ambulance Associations. If this tax were to be implemented, it would have to be advertised and DCED would have to be notified. This will be on the agenda next month.

Meeting with School Regarding School Traffic Signals – Chairman Bechtel attended the Grounds Committee Meeting at the High School to discuss this issue. It has been a concern for years the amount of work traffic that backs up in the morning due to the signals. Donna Rode who is a school board member stated the school reduced the time of the signals to fifteen minutes. The Board indicated they will somehow monitor this to determine if it relieves the backup.

NEW BUSINESS: Auditors' Report – Chairman Bechtel indicated he would allow at this time for Deb Meyers, one of the Township auditors, to give the 2011 audit report. Deb provided a report which included records that were audited and recommendations by the auditors. It was determined by the Board that a committee consisting of the secretary and Supervisor Bruner be formed to go over the report to determine if there are any feasible resolutions to the auditors' requests.

Insurance on Park Buildings – Chairman Bechtel stated he, Supervisor Shultz, the Roadmaster and Tom Troutman had a meeting to go over the Township's insurance coverage. The meeting resulted with discussion on replacement value particularly at the park. **Motion** – Supervisor Paul made a motion to have insurance on the brick dwelling and some on the barn and to eliminate insurance on the other buildings and to take a closer look at the insurance on the selected buildings, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, under discussion Supervisor Bruner stated the barn has the largest potential for problems and maybe the deductible should be looked into, vote called, motion carried 5-0. Chairman Bechtel will contact Tom Troutman for further discussion and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

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Fire Company Request – The Board feels there is not enough information provided for the Fire Company's request to have the Township fund \$15,000.00 for fire police equipment. The Secretary is instructed to contact the Fire Company for more information pertaining to mandates, needs and priorities. The Board also suggested inviting the Fire Chief to a public meeting to discuss this.

Meeting with Commissioners – A committee was formed consisting of the Solicitor, Supervisors Paul and Hoover to discuss park issues. The Board authorized the secretary to send a letter to the Dauphin County Commissioners to request a meeting with the committee to discuss park issues.

Rocket Launch Request –Motion: Supervisor Paul made a motion to give permission for either date, June 10 at 9 a.m.-5 p.m. or August 12 @ 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., contingent upon proof of appropriate insurance, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 5-0

Executive Session – The Board decided on an executive session to be held Thursday, May 17 at 6 p.m. regarding personnel issues.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: LST Update and Insurance Coverage Update.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Planning Commission Meeting June 4 at 7 p.m. Township Meeting June 11 at 7 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Supervisor Hoover made a motion to adjourn at 10:12 p.m., seconded by Supervisor Paul, vote called, motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted

**Carolyn Nye
Secretary**