

**Halifax Township  
Board of Supervisors  
Monthly Business Meeting  
June 8, 2009**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Shearer called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

**Roll Call:** Supervisors Shearer, Ruff, Eppley and Hoover were present. Supervisor Shultz was absent. K&W Engineer Tom Wilson, Solicitor Steve Dzuranin and Secretary/Treasurer David Hoover were also present.

Citizens taping the meeting were Dan Shearer, Eileen Snyder and Rodney Hoover.

Supervisor Shearer began by reviewing the public comment period policy and meeting decorum.

**Public Comment Period:**

- A. **Bob Artman:** Stated that the next Valleys Regional Comp. Plan meeting is on July 14, 2009.
- B. **John Heim:** John said he has recently found that he has a right-of-way issue to his property on Fuhrman Drive.
- C. **Flo Mallonee:** Shared her thoughts on the three minute public comment policy.
- D. **Scott Corsnitz:** Stated he did not appreciate being interrupted last month during his three minute public comment period. Solicitor Dzuranin said the purpose of the public comment period is for legitimate Township Business not a public forum.

**Secretary/Treasurers Report**

The paid interim bills and unpaid current bills were presented for approval. Carol Eppley moved to approve the bills as presented. Linda Ruff seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The May 11, 2009 Business meeting minutes were presented for approval. Carol Eppley moved to approve the minutes as presented but with three spelling errors to be corrected. Ken Hoover seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The May Financial Report was accepted.

**Planning Commission**

Chairman Eppley presented the Planning Commission Report.

**A - Recording Device**

The Planning Commission has requested a new recording device for the Planning Commission meetings. Discussion ensued. Ken Hoover motioned to authorize Dan Shearer to purchase a digital recording device up to a cost \$130 to be used at the BOS meetings. Linda Ruff seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **B - Wind Energy Ordinance Draft**

The Wind Energy Ordinance draft has been distributed to the Supervisors, Solicitor Dzuranin, and Engineer Tom Wilson. Norma Shearer attended a wind energy information seminar in Millersburg recently. She is trying to obtain additional copies of the hand-outs from the seminar.

#### **C - Craig/Craig/Matter Plan**

The Planning Commission recommends approval of the Craig/Craig Matter Plan with 10 Waivers (See Planning Commission Report – item 3). The approval is to include joint use and a maintenance agreement on a shared driveway. Solicitor Dzuranin stated that the applicants agree that the waivers apply only to the current plan and to no further development. Linda Ruff motioned to approve the identified waivers. Carol Eppley seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Solicitor Dzuranin has received a Deed of Easement. Solicitor Dzuranin stated the plan should reference the date of approval, a certificate of ownership is still needed and typing errors should be corrected. Ken Hoover motioned to approve the plan with the noted contingencies. Linda Ruff seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **D - Bruner Plan**

The Planning Commission recommends a time extension for the Bruner plan to 7/13/09. Linda Ruff motioned to approve the time extension to 7/13/09. Carol Eppley seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **E - River Ridge MHP**

The Planning Commission recommends a time extension for the River Ridge MHP plan to 9/15/09. Ken Hoover motioned to approve the time extension to 9/15/09. Linda Ruff seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **F - Halifax Plaza**

The Planning Commission recommends a time extension for the Halifax Plaza to 10/13/09. Carol Eppley motioned to approve the time extension to 10/13/09. Linda Ruff seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **G - Planning Commission Agenda**

It was suggested that the Planning Commission Agenda be posted on the Township Website prior to the Planning Commission meetings.

#### **Engineers Report**

The Engineer's Report was reviewed by Engineer Tom Wilson.

Ken Hoover asked the status of HAARA's Plan. Tom Wilson stated he was not sure; however it would be researched and reported on at next month's meeting.

See the attached report for the remainder of the Engineer's information.

## **Solicitors Report**

The Solicitor's Report was reviewed by Solicitor Dzuranin.

### A- American Tower Tax Assessment Appeal

Solicitor Dzuranin recommends approving this settlement. (See Solicitor's Report Item 3d) Carol Eppley motioned to approve the proposed settlement. Linda Ruff seconded the motion. Ken Hoover asked if the School and County needed to also approve the proposed assessment. Solicitor Dzuranin said yes. The vote was taken and passed unanimously.

### B - Fire Department Agreement

Status was reviewed. Solicitor Dzuranin hopes to have a draft prepared later this week.

See the attached report for the remainder of the Solicitors information.

## **Roadmaster's Report**

- A. Dale asked Solicitor Dzuranin if 3371 Peters Mountain Road can be acted upon. Solicitor Dzuranin said 30-days are not yet up.
- B. No paving bids have yet been solicited.
- C. No response to date on the Stimulus grant application.
- D. Dale said the County has approved only the Halifax Township property for temporary debris storage in the event of an emergency situation.

## **SEO Report**

No Report. Discussion ensued about assigning SEO Brown the task of investigating the confirmed malfunctions and taking the appropriate action. Carol Eppley motioned to approve the assignment. Linda Ruff seconded the motion. The motion carried with three favorable votes and Ken Hoover opposed. Linda Ruff asked how much latitude SEO Brown had. She was told whatever is appropriate for the issue. Ken Hoover feels he should simply continue doing his job. Solicitor Dzuranin suggests a two step process to investigate and then take action he deems appropriate.

## **Valleys Regional Comprehensive Plan Report**

A meeting is set for 7/14/09. The group was waiting on the release of the grant funds.

## **Old Business**

**Donco HOP Extension:** (See item #8 Solicitor's report.) Solicitor Dzuranin reviewed prior requirements which included the need for the HOP. The Cedar Halifax III LLC also required improvements requiring their own HOP. The July 2007 intersection agreement between Donco, the Township and Cedar to perform both improvements expired in October 2008. Attorney Silver added the actions they have taken over the years and their communications with Penn Dot. He then cordially requested the Board of Supervisors consideration of Donco's extension request. Ken Hoover motioned for a one year extension approval. Carol Eppley seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Linda Ruff is concerned with previous multiple extensions and the level of danger at the Rt 147/225

intersection. She said further delay is not acceptable. Norma Shearer is concerned with the continued extensions with no action continuing to be taken. Carol Eppley continues to wander if anything will ever be done. Attorney Silver said the eighteen homes in Lenker Estates has not created a more dangerous intersection. If the Township doesn't extend the Donco HOP, the length of construction is lengthened and the redistribution of responsibilities is clouded. He expects Donco's construction window to be 30-45 days. A vote was taken. Motion was defeated with Ken Hoover in favor and Carol Eppley, Linda Ruff and Norma Shearer opposed.

**HARA:** A meeting is set for 6/24/09 at 7:00 PM at the Halifax Township Building. Reed Township and Halifax Borough representatives will also be present.

**Williams Street:** Flo Mallonee asked if the storm drain pipe was not installed because of Mr. Sipe. Supervisor Shearer referred to Tom Wilson (K&W) who recalled the initial intent was to help Mr. Michael with his water drainage issue. Flo asked why then wasn't it completed. Dale Shoop said he recalls not installing the pipe because they didn't feel the water should be diverted to Mr. Sipe's property. Carolyn Nye said that Mr. Sipe told her he was upset that the Board did not discuss the issue with him, not because of the potential additional water.

**Fellowship Drive:** Bob Burrell has all Deeds of Dedication signed. Solicitor Dzuranin said he needs those and a plan two weeks prior to the next meeting.

**Fort Halifax Park Electric:** Linda Ruff called Dave Bitting and he told her that he simply hasn't had time to get the work done.

**Barn Stabilization Quote Status:** Three contractors were contacted and all three said the barn was worth saving. Restorations Unlimited- Jim Faschinelli said he is unable to compete with the Amish. Peachey Crete – Andrew Peachey has twenty two years of experience in historical barn work. Tony Patton – known for stone work but was unable to contact. Carol Eppley motioned to approve Andrew Peachey to perform the work stated in his quote for up to \$8000. Linda Ruff seconded the motion. The motion was approved with Carol Eppley, Linda Ruff and Norma Shearer in favor. Ken Hoover was opposed. Solicitor Dzuranin suggest a contract to be composed with Mr. Peachey and Linda Ruff compile a memo to outline her phone solicitations.

## New Business

- A. Twin Valleys Conservation Project – Rudi Erb deferred to next month
- B. Administrator Review Status – Donna Rode asked if there would be a six month review of the contract as discussed earlier this year. Norma Shearer said the review would not be done at a public meeting. The efficiency of the office move will be discussed at the July meeting. Donna said some things have never been addressed such as the reason for the move. Norma Shearer said these items have been discussed. Solicitor Dzuranin said the sheet showing the financial comparison was provided previously. He suggested the board follow up and provide a discussion in July.

- C. Township Office Move – Scott Corsnitz asked if this will be an open review at a public meeting. He was told that the office location portion of the topic will be discussed at the July meeting.
- D. Darren Mauser will be beginning his Eagle Scout project next week. The project includes benches for Ft Halifax Park.
- E. Linda Ruff said Wendy Clough lives on Sycamore Avenue adjacent to Lenker Estates. She said the adjoining lot is not built upon and is grown up and creating erosion. Solicitor Dzuranin suggested that Dale Shoop visit the lot to see if it is a nuisance for the growth or erosion for the County. Dan Shearer said it's actually a safety issue with a substantial drop off from one lot to another.
- F. Ken Hoover asked if anyone found mistakes on the new website, such as the Tax Collector address or poor photography.
- G. Norma Shearer asked if anyone feels the welcome to Halifax Township sign should be moved to the Township line farther to the north. The signs identify the sycamore trees as well as Welcome to Halifax. Discussion ensued.
- H. FEMA will soon be issuing new flood plain maps and the Township must reply within a short window if there are any discrepancies. After FEMA's approval the Township must adopt an ordinance of approval within six months or flood insurance will no longer be available in the Township.
- I. The County EIT delegate and alternate must be appointed by 9/15/09.
- J. The Halifax Fire Company is not interested in having the recycle bins at its property for emergency reasons.
- K. Linda Ruff will be attending a Dauphin County Library Board of Trustees meeting this Wednesday to discuss a potential Library Branch in the Halifax Area.

#### **Adjournment**

Linda Ruff motioned to adjourn at 9:12 PM. Ken Hoover seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

David W Hoover  
Secretary