

**Halifax Township  
Board of Supervisors  
Monthly Business Meeting  
January 12, 2009**

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

**Roll Call:** Supervisors Shearer, Ruff, Eppley, Hoover and Shultz were present. Roadmaster Dale Shoop, Secretary/Treasurer David Hoover, K&W Engineer Tom Wilson and Solicitor Steve Dzurandin were also present.

**Three citizens are taping the meeting:** Dan Shearer, Carolyn Nye and Eileen Snyder.

**Public Comment Period:**

- A. Carolyn Nye: Commented about the Patriot News article regarding the building permit fee schedule. She stated she had previously polled area municipalities regarding this subject and researched several PSATS publications on this subject to provide information to the Supervisors.
- B. Florence McGuire: Asked for use of the Township Office for We The People. She provided a political committee registration statement which was forwarded to the Solicitor.
- C. Corrine Gelnet: Asked if an organization can have a picnic at Fort Halifax Park. The subject will be placed on the February agenda.
- D. Janet Green: Asked Linda Ruff why she felt the Township needed two full-time employees for the Secretary/Treasurer position. She also inquired about a minimum setback allowance ordinance for wind turbines. She was told there has been no action to date.
- E. Melinda Warfel: Stated Halifax School District no longer uses the Upper Dauphin tax office for delinquent tax collection. She said they now use JP Harris in Mechanicsburg. She asked if Halifax Township would consider using JP Harris to stay consistent with the school.
- F. Flo Mallonee: Stated she also read the PSATS news and feels the Township is breaking the law by charging the current building permit fee schedule. She feels issues before the board should be provided to the citizens prior to being acted upon.
- G. Todd Etzweiler: Citizens think Linda Ruff needs to use a microphone. He said he thinks \$0.25 per page copy charge at the Township Office is a joke. He also stated at 9:00 AM on January 6, 2009 he couldn't get what he requested at the Township Office. He asked what license Hoover Financial Service has to do the Township financial work. He feels Dale Shoop should have keys to Hoover Financial Services building. He thanked Ken and Carol for taking a stand and not voting in favor of moving the office.
- H. Scott Corsnitz: Said when Linda Ruff was opposed to changing Dale Shoop's title to Director of Public Works at the Reorganization Meeting because she didn't know about it, which is how the citizens feel when they don't know about things in advance.
- I. Jerome Kissinger: Asked when he will get a response to the letter he sent to the Township. Linda Ruff said she attempted to call but got no answer.
- J. Colleen Smith: She read the article in the newspaper and is very dissatisfied with the Supervisors over these actions. The Township has a building, why do we need to move to a different building and leave an employee go?

### **Secretary/Treasurers Report**

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

The December 8, 2008 minutes were presented for approval. Gary Shultz moved to approve minutes as presented, Carol Eppley seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The approval of the January 5, 2009 reorganization meeting minutes was deferred until next month.

The December Financial Reports were presented .

### **Planning Commission**

The Planning Commission Report from its January 7, 2009 meeting was reviewed with the following actions being taken;

HAARA – Linda Ruff motioned to approve a 60 day extension until March 10, 2009. Carol Eppley seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Rex Nightwine- Linda Ruff motioned to approve waivers of Sections 404, 502.3b, and 607 of the SALDO. Ken Hoover seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Ken Hoover then motioned to approve the plan conditionally contingent upon completion of the Financial Security Agreement and the Stormwater Management Maintenance Agreement. Linda Ruff seconded the motion and motion carried unanimously.

Accu-Mold- Gary Schultz motioned to have Solicitor Dzurainin send a letter to Accu-Mold's Attorney with comments from K&W Engineers and the Planning Commission. Carol Eppley seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Tobias Road Abandonment – Carol Eppley motioned to cease abandonment of Tobias Road and post signage that no winter maintenance will be provided. Linda Ruff seconded the motion and motion carried unanimously.

### **Engineers Report**

The Engineer's Report dated January 8, 2009 was reviewed with the following actions being taken;

Carol Eppley motioned to approve the release of the Financial Security to David & Debra Zerby as recommended by K&W. Linda Ruff seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Norma Shearer stated there have been some 537 Plan requests. Justin Kuhn said the cost of the plan is \$100.00 per copy. (\$87.12 supply cost and \$12.88 labor cost) Copies will be made as requested by calling K&W Engineers. Consideration will be given to posting the 537 Plan on the Township website.

### **Solicitors Report**

The Solicitor's Report dated January 9, 2009 was reviewed with the following actions being taken;

Fellowship Drive deed of dedication. Carol Eppley motioned to withdraw the Complaint against Clarence Miller without prejudice to preserve the Township's right to refile its action. Linda Ruff seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Carol Eppley motioned to authorize Solicitor Dzurainin to send a letter to Ms. Kauffman and Mr. Kauffman requesting compliance of the Court Order dated June 30, 2008 of their litigation within 30 days. Linda Ruff seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

The Solicitor thanked Melinda Warfel for the information to help find Mr. Casner in regards to a nuisance complaint.

Gary Shultz motioned to authorize the Solicitor to research the Township building permit fees structure and to report at next month's meeting. Linda Ruff seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Roadmasters Report**

The Roadmaster's Report dated January 12, 2009 was reviewed with the following actions being taken;

The paving of Scholl Road was discussed and tabled.

A sample litter ordinance was provided for review. Linda Ruff feels enforcement could be an issue. Discussion ensued. Solicitor Dzurainin will research the issue.

### **SEO Report**

None

### **Old Business**

**HARA Budget Request:** The 2008 budget was \$28500 and \$33828 was actually given. The 2009 budget is set at \$28500 again. HARA would like the Township to consider increasing its budget figure. Gary Shultz suggested any amount over the \$28500 budgeted should be on a matching funds basis, whether by getting other municipalities involved or grants or fundraisers. Linda Ruff said she has offered assistance to HARA through Traci Cox with grant writing. Feb 3, 2009 is a grant writing workshop that Linda suggested Traci attends with her. The subject was tabled until the February meeting.

**Gypsy Moth Spraying:** Norma Shearer explained the process of participating in the County Spraying program. She said the 2009 spraying cost is \$6489 and asked if the Township should bill the land owners for this service. Discussion ensued. Rod Hoover asked how other municipalities handle it. Norma Shearer said Jefferson Township bills its citizens and she wasn't sure about other Townships. Chairman Shearer polled the 49 citizens in attendance whether they thought the Township should pay for the spraying and not bill the property owner. 22 citizens said the Township should pay the bill and 16 citizens believe the citizens should pay a portion of the bill. Flo Mallonee said she doesn't qualify for spraying of her 140 acres because her house is not near enough to the affected trees. The subject was tabled until the February meeting.

**Barn Bids K&W:** The request is for a general evaluation of the stability/instability of the structure and what would need to be done to stabilize the structure. Linda Ruff said she is not in favor of any of the bids and feels it's not necessary to spend the money on engineering when it can be used for actual repairs. Discussion ensued. Carol Eppley asked if this work could be included in the Master Site Plan. Jim Eppley said it could but the Township would have to pay for it anyway. More discussion ensued.

Gary Shultz motioned to accept the bid of \$2450 from Crabtree, Rohrbaugh & Assoc for structural assessment. Carol Eppley seconded the motion and motion carried with four in favor and Linda Ruff opposed.

Carol Eppley motioned to authorize Engineer Tom Wilson to finalize the agreement with Crabtree, Rohrbaugh & Assoc. Gary Shultz seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**P.C. Tax Resolution:** Carol Eppley motioned to approve Resolution #02-2009 approving the \$5 per cap tax for 2009. Gary Shultz seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**Delinquent Tax Collector:** Norma Shearer is concerned about assigning a delinquent Per Capita tax collector at this time. Discussion ensued with Tax Collector Melinda Warfel. She will be closing her 2008 records on January 23, 2009. Discussion ensued with no action taken at this time.

#### **New Business**

##### **Florence McGuire-We The People**

Norma Shearer said she is concerned with opening the meeting room to anyone or any group who requests. She asked what type of group it is. Florence said they are a political committee group. Solicitor Dzurinin will research the matter and respond.

#### **For The Good of The Order**

Florence McGuire asked if the website will be updated soon. Norma Shearer responded that it will be updated shortly.

#### **Adjournment**

Linda Ruff motioned to adjourn at 8:40 PM. Carol Eppley seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

David W Hoover  
Secretary