

**HALIFAX TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING  
DECEMBER 12, 2011**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Bechtel called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. followed with the pledge of allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Supervisors Bechtel, Stopfel, Eppley and Hoover are present. Supervisor Shultz is absent. Solicitor Bruce Warshawsky, Engineer Tom Wilson, Roadmaster Corey Stazewski and Carolyn Nye Secretary are present.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**RECORDING OF MEETING:** In addition to the Secretary, Norma Shearer is recording the meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** **Jim Bell** has no comment at this time. **Patricia Powley** thanked those involved for having the entrance repaired to the recycling area at Deppen Park. **Flo Mallonee** has nothing at this time. **Jim Eppley** presented a Final Payment Request document and resolution to the Board which pertains to the Master Site Plan. Jim indicated once payment is made to Larson Design Group and documents provided to Ashley Rebert, DCNR will send the last check to the Township. **Norma Shearer** has a comment on the minutes but defers to when that item is brought up by the Board. She commented the Budget was not in the agenda packet and requested the SALDO revision be put on the web. Chairman Bechtel stated this same procedure was followed last year regarding the Budget not being put in the agenda packet. The Budget was advertised for public review with a copy at the Township office. The Solicitor stated he understood only the SALDO summary as advertised was to be on the web.

**SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT:** **Paid Interim Bills –Motion:** Supervisor Hoover made a motion to approve the Interim Bills, seconded by Supervisor Eppley, vote called, motion carried 4-0. **Current Unpaid Bills** – Supervisor Hoover made a motion to authorize the Unpaid Bills, seconded by Supervisor Stopfel, vote called, motion carried 4-0. **Minutes of November 14, 2011 – Motion:** Supervisor Hoover made a motion to approve the minutes with correction (add date October 10, 2011 to sentence under Secretary/Treasurer Report 7<sup>th</sup> line), seconded by Supervisor Stopfel, vote called, motion carried 4-0. **Financial Report** – no comments.

**EMC REPORT:** None.

**PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT:** Fred Ford gave report on Planning Commission Meeting of November 7, 2011. The Planning Commission recommended the supervisors approve the Real Estate Developers Agreement.

**ENGINEER REPORT:** Tom Wilson read his report dated November 30, 2011.

**SOLICITOR REPORT:** **Jorich/Matamoras** – Mr. Jorich's council indicated the letter dated October 28, 2011 is acceptable. **DONCO-** A public hearing was held December 8, 2011. There are some issues currently under review based on comments from Tom Wilson and also some private issues between the developer and Mr. Sweigard. It is hoped that this matter can come before the Board in January subject to the holidays. **Martin Konchar** – Mr. Konchar is taking a different position in that

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he would like the Township to purchase the strip of land for \$14,000.00. The Solicitor recommends going forward with the litigation. **Clifford Harn** – This is on the agenda. The Solicitor will address then. **Stewart Municipal Lien** – The Township's expense of \$1,900.00 in cleaning up the property has been filed and is now a lien against the property.

**SALDO CHANGES** – The hearing is set for December 19, 2011 at 6 p.m. The County's comments are expected soon. There is a meeting after the SALDO hearing to address the adoption of the amended SALDO. **Earned Income Tax** – The Solicitor prepared a resolution for adoption of the various tax rates and for the contract with Keystone for 2012. **Strohecker Tax Appeal** – The School District approved and now have to wait for the Court to respond before the end of December. The Township will then be advised of the amount to refund the Stroheckers.

**ROADMASTER REPORT:** Corey has no other information other than what is on his report for October. Supervisor Stopfel stated the State Forrester approved the mulch application to the trees at the park. He wishes to give his compliments to the township employees for doing a good job. Chairman Bechtel stated Corey provided a job application from a Gary Weaver who has an inspection license and Corey thought maybe Gary could inspect the vehicles at the Township instead of taking them out to a garage. The Board does not wish to address this at this time.

**ADMINISTRATIVE: Advertising Board Meetings and Planning Commission – Motion:** Supervisor Hoover made a motion to advertise the Township Meetings the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m., the Township Reorganization Meeting January 3 at 7 p.m.; also, the Planning Commission Meetings the first Monday of the month at 7 p.m. except for September which will be on Wednesday, September 5 and the Planning Commission Reorganization Meeting on January 3 at 6 p.m., seconded by Supervisor

### **SEO REPORT –**

**OLD BUSINESS: 2012 Budget – Motion:** Supervisor Hoover made a motion to approve the 2012 Budget, seconded by Supervisor Eppley, vote called, motion carried 4-0.

**Harn Issue** - It was agreed by the Board for Bruce to send a letter to Mr. Harn and let him know that if the Township is not in receipt of a solid proposal of payment that is acceptable by the next meeting, we will move forward with the scheduling of the sale.

**Nuisance Updates** – Dale Shoop provided an updated written report for the Board. Questions were raised about the Bitting property which has been a nuisance issue. The Board will instruct Dale to follow-up on this nuisance.

**Master Site Plan** – Jim Eppley provided a Final Payment Request packet for the Board to review and sign off on and indicated DCNR will submit another check upon receipt and review of this packet. Chairman Bechtel feels that this subject matter Jim provided be reviewed by the entire Board and discussed December 19 after the SALDO Hearing. **Motion** – Supervisor Eppley made a motion to authorize advertising a public meeting to follow the SALDO Hearing to include considering the adoption of the resolution pertaining to the Final Payment Request and any other business that comes before the Board, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, vote called, motion carried 4-0.

**Grant Checks** – Supervisor Stopfel indicated she is ready to closeout the tree grant process. In kind donations are a part of the matching fund. Corey will provide an itemized cost report which includes

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all who had a part in planting the trees. The deadline for this submission is December 31. Supervisor Stopfel indicated once this is provided, the Township will be in receipt of a check and the money will be used to pay Mr. Kutt for the trees. She indicated she has the bill from Mr. Kutt.

**NEW BUSINESS: Fire Company Agreement** – Supervisors Bechtel and Shultz attended the latest Fire Company Meeting to discuss the agreement and the Fire Company requested a two-year contract. **Motion:** Supervisor Hoover made a motion to authorize a two-year contract, seconded by Supervisor Stopfel, vote called, motion carried 4-0.

**2012 Tax Resolution/ Keystone EIT Resolution:** – **Motion:** Supervisor Hoover made a motion to waive the reading of the resolution, seconded by Supervisor Stopfel, vote called, motion carried 4-0. **Motion:** Supervisor Hoover made a motion to approve the 2012 Tax Resolution, seconded by Supervisor Stopfel, vote called, motion carried 4-0.

**Grant Checks:** Supervisor Stopfel stated the Tree Grant is ready to be closed out. In kind donations are a part of the matching funds. The Deadline is December 21. The Township will receive the remaining money and then George Kutt can be paid for the trees. The total grant is \$8,400 and this will be for paying of the trees and gator bags next Spring. Once everything is completed, she will provide Township with the completed file.

**Gaming Grant:** Chairman Bechtel indicated he received a letter from Mark Stewart from the Gaming Grant Advisory Board who is requesting a resolution from the Board authorizing the Gaming Grant Application. Chairman Bechtel indicated per the letter from Mr. Stewart it was mentioned there were persons who communicated concern about the grant. The Chairman also mentioned initially the grant policy was not followed. It was not formally decided in any meeting to go forward with this grant. There were communications via emails from Board members with concerns about the grant and the inclusion of the buildings in this grant. As stated by Chairman Bechtel, he was not aware that Supervisor Stopfel formally put in for the grant until he heard a rumor from someone in the Township. Upon hearing this, Chairman Bechtel indicated he authorized the Secretary to call downtown to inquire about the grant application submission and request a copy of the application. Chairman Bechtel stated the Grant Policy was past in a township meeting prior to application of this grant. Supervisor Stopfel stated Alice Trowbridge of Larson Design told her to ask for \$300,000.00 for this grant. Supervisor Stopfel also stated that the grant would match DCNR's grant; for example. if DCNR would give \$100,000.00 then the Gaming Grant would be \$100,000.00 as matching funds. Chairman Bechtel feels this issue should be part of the agenda for the December 19 public meeting after the SALDO Hearing scheduled for that date. It was agreed to have this put on the agenda for the December 19 meeting.

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:** No discussion.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

SALDO Hearing/Special Meeting December 19 at 6 p.m.

Planning Commission Reorganization Meeting January 3 at 6 p.m.

Township Reorganization Meeting January 3 and January 9 Regular Board Meeting both at 7 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Supervisor Hoover made a motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m., seconded by Supervisor Stopfel, vote called, motion carried 4-0.