

**HALIFAX TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Bechtel called the meeting to order followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Supervisors Bechtel, Bruner and Hoover are present. Solicitor Bruce Warshawsky, Roadmaster Corey Stazewski and Secretary Carolyn Nye are present. Supervisors Paul and Shultz are absent. Engineer Tom Wilson is on vacation and Adam Davis is sitting in for him.

RECORDING MEETING: The Secretary is the only person recording the meeting tonight.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Chairman Bechtel announced an executive session was held prior to this meeting at 6 p.m. to 6:53 p.m. regarding the DONCO litigation.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: **Bonnie Anderson** is attending the meeting regarding a complaint. Chairman Bechtel asked if Bonnie could address this later on the agenda under the Roadmaster report regarding nuisances. **Flo Mallonee, Chad Lebo, Scott McBurney and Norma Shearer** were called on and deferred comment. **Mike Snody** asked about status of the Middle Road water issue. The Roadmaster has nothing new on the issue. Chairman Bechtel reiterated the discussion and intention of the Township per the previous meeting on this subject. **Steve Shreffler** defers comment. **Emily Hoffman** came to talk about HARA and will address the issue under New Business. **Bev Pierce** defers comment. **Frank Wilmarth** introduced Bev Pierce who is a Penn State Master Gardner and is helping Frank at Ft. Halifax Park.

SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT: Paid Interim Bills – Supervisor Hoover made a motion to approve the paid interim bills, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 3-0. **Current Unpaid Bills** – Supervisor Hoover made a motion to authorize payment of the current bills, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 3-0. **July 8 Minutes** – Supervisor Hoover made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 3-0. **Financial Report** – The Board reviewed the report and had no comments.

EMC REPORT: No report submitted.

PARK COMMITTEE REPORT: Chairman Bechtel read from the report submitted by Supervisor Shultz. A park committee meeting was held July 31. Issues addressed at the meeting were 1. New Sign (change to “Welcome To” instead of “Future Home Of” at no cost to the Township). 2. Corn Crib Project. 3. Penn State Master Gardners 4. Buffalo Park Road. 5. Mowing Update. 6. High School Woodshop Batteau Project (agenda item for Sept.). 7. Boy Scout Initiatives. 8. Educational Considerations. **Motion:** Supervisor Bruner made a motion for the approval of two students to do their thesis on Fort Halifax, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, vote called, motion carried 3-0.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: Flo Mallonee reported there were no agenda items for the August 5 meeting; therefore the meeting was cancelled.

ENGINEER REPORT: Adam who is sitting in for Tom Wilson read the July 31 Engineer Report.

SOLICITOR REPORT: The Solicitor reported he will work on the Noise Ordinance this week. All other items for action/discussion are on the agenda.

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ROADMASTER REPORT: Corey provided his July report. **Nuisances: Kline** – still progressing, will review next month. **Masser** – The grass is mowed. The Board agreed to not act on the items on the truck. **Motion:** Supervisor Bruner made a motion to consider the nuisance abated, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, vote called, motion carried 3-0. **Lot - North River Road** – Bonnie Anderson brought a complaint about the lot north of 1091 North River Road which involves tall grass and weeds, a dilapidated shed and a deteriorating trailer. **Motion:** Supervisor Hoover made a motion to send a pre-nuisance letter regarding the tall grass and weeds, the dilapidated shed and deteriorating trailer, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 3-0. **Property at 421 North River Road** – The Township is in receipt of an email from a resident complaining of numerous garbage bags being left to accumulate on a resident's porch for weeks on end. The bags have been torn open and contents strewn about on the property. **Motion:** Supervisor Hoover made a motion to send a pre-nuisance letter to the resident addressing the trash issues, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 3-0. **Harman Property at 1059 North River Road Regarding Abandoned Deteriorating Trailer** – **Motion:** Supervisor Hoover made a motion to move ahead with the enforcement action, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 3-0. **Takacs Letter** – The Board and the Solicitor discussed the issues in the letter and determined that there are no Township issues to address. **Motion:** Supervisor Hoover made a motion to send a letter to Ms. Takacs and inform her there are no actionable nuisance issues and invite her to come to the next board meeting, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 3-0. **Dale Hoover Property** – There are septic pipes installed once again in the ground which is in violation of the Township's previous notification to the landowner and tenant. **Motion:** Supervisor Bruner made a motion to notify the SEO and have him investigate the situation and report his findings to the Board and consult with the Solicitor if necessary, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, vote called, motion carried 3-0. **PennDOT Auction - Motion:** Supervisor Hoover made a motion to authorize Corey to look at trucks and bid up to \$25,000.00 with Ken Bechtel as the liaison, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 3-0. **Cedar Shopping Center Property at Triangle (Formerly known as Colonial Commons):** Patricia Powley brought up about the appearance of the lot with the tall grass being allowed to grow without regular maintenance. There are concerns about the appearance of the property in full view of the public. The Board agreed to have another letter sent to Cedars about the issue and invite a representative to come to the next public meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE: The Secretary informed the Board and public of the exact amount the Township received for scrap metal accumulated from the cleanup day in May and taken to Coleman's Surplus which is in the amount of \$1,452.55 and the pull fee for the bins for the cleanup day cost \$3,311.50.

SEO REPORT: Report was reviewed with no comments.

OLD BUSINESS: Noise Ordinance – The Solicitor will work on the ordinance this week.

Fireworks Permit/Ordinance – The Solicitor indicated no permit is needed to set off commercial fireworks but a bond is required. The Board instructed the Secretary to contact Tom Troutman and ask his advice on the bond amount.

Snow Removal Policy – The Solicitor provided a draft for the Board to review and be discussed at the September meeting.

Representative to Water Shed Upgrade Committee – **Motion:** Supervisor Hoover made a motion to appoint Bob Artman as a representative to the Water Shed Upgrade Committee, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 3-0.

Sealmaster Bill – **Motion:** Supervisor Hoover made a motion to transfer the cost of the Sealmaster bill from the Liquid Fuel Account to the General Account, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 3-0.

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Halifax Wooden Nickel/Bill Hale – Mr. Hale has requested release of the Financial Security pertaining to the Halifax Wooden Nickel Plan. The Solicitor indicated a memorandum of understanding needs to be drafted.

Motion: Supervisor Hoover made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to draft a Memorandum of Understanding regarding release of the financial security on the plan contingent upon payment of all outstanding bills, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 3-0.

Request for Brush Cutting/Reed Township – Motion: Supervisor Bruner made a motion to set the rate of \$110/hour for use of the boom mower which includes a township employee as operator, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, vote called, motion carried 3-0. Corey will contact Reed Township and inform them of the rate.

Volunteer Worker Waiver – Motion: Supervisor Bruner made a motion to approve the Volunteer Worker Waiver with changes indicated by the Solicitor, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, vote called, motion carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS: HARA Grant/Emily Hoffman – Emily Hoffman representing HARA asks the Township to support an effort by HARA for grant money to make improvements/changes to the pool area. **Motion:** Supervisor Bruner made a motion to agree on a letter of support for HARA, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, vote called, motion carried 3-0. Emily indicated a grant is being pursued for approximately \$150,000.00.

HATS (Harrisburg Area Transportation Study) – HATS sent a survey to the township and provided a copy of the Borough's completed survey for the township to review and comment. Chairman Bechtel indicated his concern is the 90 degree turn large trucks have to make to turn onto 147 and 225 from the Borough. The Board concurs with the Borough's input/concerns. The Secretary will contact HATS with the township's input.

Ag Security Area Request – Motion: Supervisor Hoover made a motion to approve the resolution to allow the part of land in Halifax Township owned by Neil and Sally Snyder to be included in Jackson Township Ag Security Area, seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 3-0.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: High School Woodshop Project, Snow Removal Policy and Noise Ordinance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Planning Commission Meeting September 4 at 7 p.m. and Township Meeting September 9 at 7 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Supervisor Hoover made a motion to adjourn at 9:02 p.m., seconded by Supervisor Bruner, vote called, motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Nye
Secretary