

**Upper Paxton Township Board of Supervisors  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
July 11, 2012**

Those in attendance: Ron Hepner and Joseph Snyder, Supervisors, Betty Warfel, Secretary/Treasurer; Peter Howland, Esquire; Randy Witmer, Zoning Officer; Steve Quigley and Lahn Masser.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ron Hepner at 7:00 p.m. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**Public Comments:**

Lahn Masser addressed the Board to inquire whether he would be allowed to place his fifth-wheel camper on a property he owns in Paxton during the summer months when he is home from Florida. The property contains approximately 2 acres of land. Randy Witmer, Zoning Officer, had discussed the matter with Mr. Masser prior to the meeting and had informed him that, unless the Supervisors made an exception, he would need to have a land development plan prepared, have soil testing done, and have a well drilled and a septic system installed. In response to Mr. Masser's inquiry as to whether he would be allowed to use a holding tank, Witmer stated that holding tanks are not allowed under the Township's Code of Ordinances. Attorney Howland stated that performing all items required to be compliant under the Township's zoning regulations would be very costly for Mr. Masser. Chairman Hepner advised Mr. Masser that whatever the Zoning Officer has told him is required in order to comply with the Township's regulations would be necessary for him to use the camper as he has requested.

Minutes of the June 11<sup>th</sup> Workshop meeting and the June 13<sup>th</sup> Regular Monthly Meeting were reviewed by the Supervisors. Joe Snyder made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the June meetings. Second by Ron Hepner. All in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer Warfel presented a monthly financial statement, quarterly all accounts reconciliation report, and list of bills for payment. Following review of the treasurer's report, Joe Snyder made a motion to pay the bills. Ron Hepner seconded the motion. With all in favor, motion carried.

**New Business:**

Request to Act as Co-Applicant on Local Municipal Sharing Grant : Steve Quigley, of the Ned Smith Center addressed the Board to request that the Township agree to act as Co-Applicant on the Center's application for a gaming grant so that the Center would be eligible to receive sponsorship from the Dauphin County Commissioners as a non-contiguous municipality. The Center desires to obtain funds to purchase a four-wheel drive utility vehicle and associated emergency response equipment, which will be utilized to address medical or fire emergencies on the Center's 500 acres of wooded property and 12 miles of trails. This equipment would be accessible by local EMT and fire personnel to provide additional support to brush fires or other remote location emergencies on other properties within the Township. The Center plans for apply \$50,000. This would include the cost of the vehicle (\$10,000), medical equipment, trailer to transport it, and expansion of a shed currently on the grounds to house it when not in use. Joe Snyder voiced his issues and concerns with the planned acquisition of this vehicle. As only two Supervisors were present, and Vice-Chairman Snyder voiced his intention to oppose the request, a motion could not be brought up for a vote at this time.

## Old Business

Water Company Road Stormwater Drainage Issue: Supervisors informed Steve Quigley that a plan to make the necessary improvements on Water Company Road had been approved. Eastern Industries has agreed to provide the cost of trucking up to 150 tons of Rip Rap for these improvements. Work at the site will begin as soon as the Township's road crew has completed other roadwork projects that have been scheduled.

Early Bird/Night Owl Storage Land Development Plan: No new information has been received and the developers have not contacted the Township Office.

Proposed Sign Ordinance for Middle & Etzweiler Roads: Supervisors discussed with Attorney Howland the dangers posed by the lack of signage at this intersection. Maps of the roads in question were reviewed and discussed. Locations for the two stop signs and one yield sign were indicated on the maps. Howland will prepare an advertisement and Ordinance for adoption at the September monthly meeting. Other signs, such as "dangerous intersection" could be placed on the roadway without the need for enactment of an Ordinance.

Private Road Issue on Guys Road: Supervisors explained the problem with public transportation using Guys Road as a thru-way from Route 209 to Hoy Road. This is a private road that served as a field road until the 911 emergency system had the road named and it appeared on GPS systems. Marion Landis, who resides at the north end of Guys Road, has requested that the Township assist her with obtaining proper signage to prevent the public from using this unpaved road across her property. Chairman Hepner inquired whether the Township would be allowed to assist Ms. Landis in purchasing and installing "Private Property" and "No Outlet" signs. Ms. Landis would incur all costs for this signage. Attorney Howland advised that the Township would be allowed to assist Ms. Landis as a courtesy. The permission for the owner of the property located at the Route 209 end of this road would need to be obtained before signs could be placed at this location.

Dauphin Meadows Landfill Permit Modification Request: John Oren, of DEP, contacted Chairman Hepner to inform the Board that the 60 days required to receive comments or questions on the permit modification request has expired. However, Oren would be agreeable to coming to meet with the Supervisors at the Township Office to answer any questions they might have about the requested changes to the Dauphin Meadows Permit. Following discussion, Hepner stated that he will set up a meeting with Mr. Oren for Supervisors to gain further information about the modifications that Dauphin Meadows plans to make at the landfill site.

Burned-out Duplex House in Lenkerville: Tracy Lower continues her efforts to clean up the burned out home on Maple Street. Supervisors have made site visits and determined that progress has been made in this process. Ms. Lower has informed Ron Hepner that she has a contractor who wishes to purchase and fix up the house.

ATV Use issue at Scott Long's Home: Mr. Long did not respond to the certified letter mailed to his residence following the June monthly meeting. Ron Hepner visited Mr. Long's home to set up a meeting with him at the Township Office to discuss this matter. Mr. Long agreed that he will meet with Supervisors on Friday, July 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. Hepner requested that Randy Witmer attend the meeting to answer any zoning questions that may arise.

Repair of Township's Property at New Water Line in Lenkerville: Roger Wilhelm has voiced concern that Rip Rap along the new line on the Township's property has been removed. The water line project is now complete. Ron Hepner will speak with Jere Troutman to inquire what landscaping work may be done on the Township's property along the new water line.

Estimate for Repairs to be done on the Maintenance Building Roof: Joe Snyder obtained an estimate from Woody Stroup for labor only to paint both sides of the roof on the old section of the equipment garage. The estimated cost for labor was \$780.00. The Township would purchase the 20 to 25 five-gallon buckets of paint at an estimated cost of \$1,750. Total estimated cost of the project would be \$2,500. No estimate for work needed on the salt shed roof was obtained. Joe Snyder made a motion that the Board accept Elwood Stroup, Jr.'s bid of \$780.00 for the labor on the equipment building roof. Ron Hepner seconded this motion. All in favor, motion carried. Snyder will inform Stroup that his bid has been accepted and request that he let the Supervisors know when he can start the work so that we can order the materials.

Correspondence received Regarding Upper Dauphin Tax Office: Attorney Howland provided copies of correspondence between Jason Confair, Esquire, and Jeff Engle, Esquire, with respect to the sale of the Upper Dauphin Income Tax Office to Powell, Rogers & Speaks for review by the Supervisors. A Writ of Summons has been filed to allow the law firm engaged by the school districts and municipalities to pursue discovery in this matter. If requested information is deemed to be unavailable, there may be a possibility that financial records will need to be re-created from bank records.

Dauphin County Tax Collection Committee Meeting: Supervisors reviewed a report on the June 18<sup>th</sup> DCTCC meeting provided by Secretary Warfel. Keystone Collections and J.P. Harris are both doing a commendable job and tax revenues have increased since both of these agencies have taken over the collection process.

**Public Comments:** None

With no further business to be discussed, Ron Hepner made the motion to adjourn. Joe Snyder seconded the motion. With all in favor, meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty A. Warfel, Secretary