

**Upper Paxton Township Board of Supervisors
Regular Monthly Meeting
October 9, 2013**

Those in attendance: Ron Hepner, John Orr and Joseph Snyder, Supervisors; Betty Warfel, Secretary/Treasurer; Peter Howland, Esquire; Bill and Marjorie Bezubic; Tom and Ruth Ann Shaffer; and Bill Burch.

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

Public Comments: None

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the September 11th monthly meeting and the September 25th workshop meeting were reviewed by the Supervisors. John Orr made a motion to approve the minutes of the September monthly and workshop meetings. Joe Snyder seconded the meeting. With all in favor, motion carried.

Financial Report: Treasurer Warfel presented a monthly financial report and list of bills for payment. Upon review of the Treasurer's report, Ron Hepner made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the monthly bills. Second by John Orr. All in favor, motion carried.

Old Business:

1. Bill and Marjorie Bezubic, 996 Emerald Lane, addressed the Board regarding a barking dog issue. The barking appears to be coming across the Hottenstein Glen from the Holly Lane/Route 25 area. The barking has been occurring for several years and is consistent for hours during both daytime and nighttime hours. More than one dog appears to be barking. The State Police, the State Dog Warden and Millersburg Borough Police are unable to aid the Bezubics in remedying this problem. One option would be for the Bezubics to pursue a private right of action against the dogs' owner. No other residents in the neighborhood have complained about the barking. The Township does not currently have an ordinance that directly addresses barking dog issues. Chairman Hepner will attempt to determine who owns the dogs and will speak with the owners about the issue.

2. Supervisors discussed the Robert Martin Subdivision Plan. To date, no comments have been received from the Dauphin County Planning Commission. Bill Burch advised that the owners of the property have a limited timeline for executing the Agreement of Sale. The Supervisors have no problem with the proposed Plan. Ron Hepner made a motion to approve the Robert Martin/Helman Subdivision Plan. Second by John Orr. With all in favor, motion carried.

3. Attorney Howland reported that he has scheduled a phone conference with Kristen Ritchey to discuss modifications to the proposed Comcast Franchise Agreement. The 15-year term appears to be a typical time frame for most of the franchise agreements. Howland has several comments to discuss with Ritchey including payment of audit fees. Therefore, progress has been on the agreement, but a final agreement has not been agreed upon.

4. Supervisors reviewed information regarding truck weights and materials provided by Roadmaster Erdman in order to determine a price for the sale of salt, anti-skid and salt/anti-skid mix. Following consideration, John Orr moved that the price for the materials should be determined by the base price of the material on a 6,800 pounds per scoop for salt, 6,900 pounds per scoop for anti-skid, and 6,450 pounds per scoop for mixed salt/anti-skid. Joe Snyder seconded the motion. With all in favor, motion carried.

5. Tom Shaffer addressed the Board with respect to items included in the Township's newsletter. Shaffer stated that the newsletter was generally a good idea. Shaffer expressed his opinion that extending the life of roads using cracksealing and seal coat is not a new plan of action and has been the practice of the Board for many years. Shaffer also clarified that the interest income from the Dauphin Meadows was used for the Township's general expenses and allowed the Supervisors to eliminate the real estate tax. The Special Reserve Account, the principal of the Dauphin Meadows settlement monies, was set up to provide emergency services for residents in the event of a catastrophic event occurring in the Township.

6. Most responses received with respect to the first newsletter have been positive. Supervisors discussed a complaint received regarding an alleged violation of the grass/weed ordinance in Rabbit Hill Estates.

7. Supervisors reviewed the spreadsheet outlining labor, materials and seal coating costs for Kahler Road. Total cost, not including costs for Township equipment, was \$45,345.78. Approximately ¾-mile of roadway was repaired in this project. During preparation of the 2014 budget, decisions to have the road crew do preparation work or hire outside contractors to handle entire projects will be made.

8. The Board reviewed estimates received from Meckley's Limestone Products and S.S. Witmer to do patchwork on Summers Road. The areas which need to have patchwork done have drainage issues. Orr and Snyder were not in favor of patching these spots without determining the source of the problem causing breakup of the road surface. This area of Summers Road will be put on the list of road projects for 2014.

9. Chairman Hepner has received correspondence from the Millersburg Area Ambulance Relief Association advising that this organization will not be able to accept funds from the 2013 Commonwealth allocation of foreign fire insurance tax. Ron Hepner made a motion to write a check for the entire allocation of \$26,951.60 payable to the Millersburg Area Volunteer Fire Fighters' Relief Association. Second by John Orr. With all in favor, motion carried.

10. Supervisors proceeded to discuss language added to the Employee Personnel Policy Manual to more clearly define the normal work week for full-time employees and hours required to determine an employee as a full-time worker. John Orr made a motion to adopt the revised Employee Personnel Policy Handbook. Second by Joe Snyder. All in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

1. The Board reviewed a request for donation from Sun Home Health Care. Following discussion, John Orr moved that the Board not give a donation to Sun Home Health Care. Joe Snyder seconded the motion. With all in favor, motion carried.

2. Supervisors considered attending a Floodplain Management Workshop to be held at the Dauphin County Conservation District on October 18th. No Supervisors will attend this workshop.
3. A Special Budget Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 6th at 9:00 a.m.
4. Ron Hepner reported on inquiries he has made regarding shredding services. Hepner also reported that electronics collection at Spring Cleanup Day may have to be handled in a different manner and may prove to be more expensive.
5. Pennsy Supply is no longer providing street sweeping services. Hepner will discuss this matter with the road crew in order to obtain their input on other service providers.
6. A certified letter has been sent by Zoning Officer Randy Witmer to DS Recycling outlining code violations.
7. Lisi Oil Company would deliver off road fuel to the Township shop. Ron Hepner will discuss the possibility of arranging this service with the road crew.
8. Attorney Howland reported that Frank Clark, Esquire, informed him that the Millersburg School District is concerned regarding the reduction of real estate tax assessment granted to Metal Industries, Inc. This reduction will not affect the Township because there is no real estate tax collected on any M.I. properties.

Public Comments: None

With no further business on the agenda, Ron Hepner moved to adjourn. John Orr seconded the motion. With all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty A. Warfel,
Secretary