

**TOWNSHIP OF FALLS
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

ROLL CALL:

ROBERT HARVIE, JR., CHAIRMAN	PRESENT
JEFFRY DENCE, VICE-CHAIRMAN	PRESENT
JEFFREY ROCCO, SECRETARY	PRESENT
JONATHAN SNIPES, SUPERVISOR	ABSENT
BRIAN M. GALLOWAY, SUPERVISOR	PRESENT

The meeting commenced at 7:00 p.m. with roll call and salute to the flag. All Board members were present with the exception of Member Snipes. Also present were Township Manager Peter Gray, Township Solicitor Michael Clarke, Township Solicitor Lauren Gallagher, and Township Engineer James Sullivan.

A moment of silence was held in memory of the victims of the Washington shooting.

Mr. Clarke said following the Board of Supervisors meeting on August 20, 2013, the Board held an Executive Session to discuss personnel and potential litigation. Following the Board of Supervisors meeting on September 3, 2013, the Board held an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

**PRESENTATION TO LEVITTOWN/FAIRLESS HILLS RESCUE SQUAD FOR
THEIR LIFE SAVING EFFORTS AT THE LA FITNESS CENTER**

Fire Marshal Rich Dippolito and Mr. Steve Hare from the Levittown-Fairless Hills Rescue Squad spoke of a life-saving effort on the morning of July 14, 2013. Mr. David Franklin experienced sudden cardiac arrest while working out at L.A. Fitness Center. L.A. Fitness patrons (including two nurses and a doctor) and L.A. Fitness employees immediately began life-saving efforts including CPR and use of an AED. Emergency responders including EMS and the Falls Township Police Department also helped with this effort. All of those involved were recognized and commended for their combined efforts in saving Mr. Franklin's life. Mr. Hare encouraged everyone to learn CPR. Chairman Harvie thanked Mr. Dippolito for putting this presentation together.

**ITEM # 1 PUBLIC COMMENT – FIVE MINUTE LIMIT PER PERSON
FORTY-FIVE MINUTE MAXIMUM**

Ms. Lois Lambing, Secretary of the Parks and Rec Board, spoke about the Parks and Rec Board's suggestion of looking to get a community center in the township. They feel this is something that is needed. Ms. Lambing said their next meeting will be held on Monday, October 7, 2013 at 7 p.m. in this room, here in the township building. They invite the public to attend and look for their input, questions, and comments regarding a community center.

Chairman Harvie said they did have some conversations and looked at possibly renting out Village Park Elementary School, but the school district already leased out all of the space in that building. Ms. Lambing said it might work out if they could obtain space in either St. Francis Cabrini School or St. Joseph The Worker School.

Mr. Guido Mariani said that during the last meeting, Member Dence said that a vacuum leaf service would create a fire hazard because the leaves would end up in the street and people park their vehicles in the street. Mr. Mariani said a leaf vacuum service does not require residents to place leaves in the street. They pick up the leaves, which are placed at the edge of the lawn, by using a vacuum hose. The leaf vacuum truck drives by each property and the hose picks up the leaves and debris. Mr. Mariani said that Chairman Harvie said we have more seniors than any other township in Bucks County. Mr. Mariani said if we can spend \$1.3M for less than 1% of our residents who happen to be seniors, then we ought to provide a service like this for 100% of our seniors and 100% of our residents. Mr. Mariani said the leaves can be a hazard, if left in the street, but with the leaf service, after it vacuums the leaves, it goes along the curb to the next house. These trucks are used year round to clear debris. They are extremely efficient. He would ask you again not to consider this service, but to implement this service. Mr. Mariani said it is not as expensive as you think. Member Dence said the issue is not really about purchasing the equipment. There is no way they would be able to vacuum the leaves because of problems with manpower. Leaves are on the curbs and cars are in the streets. Member Dence said he would love to have a vacuum because he dislikes bagging leaves. It is too hard to get to every house to get to the leaves. Chairman Harvie said they look into this every year or so and this would require a lot of manpower. You have to get the leaves picked up and constantly take them somewhere. We have eighty-two miles of road in Falls Township and you have to go up and down both sides of the roads. Mr. Mariani said you simply tell people on certain days you can park on a certain side of the street and on other days on park on the other side. Mr. Mariani said these machines are not that expensive. They are extremely efficient. Many other townships use them and there is no reason why we can't have it here in Falls Township. Mr. Mariani said if the expense is an issue, then the township should get together with Waste Management. Chairman Harvie said Waste Management already provides free leaf pick-up service. Member Dence said they will contact a couple of places and see how they provide this service.

Mr. Andy Dell said another option with leaf pick up is to sub-contract the work and put this out to bid. A lot of landscapers already have this equipment. The township could have a schedule to pick up possibly once or twice a season. Maybe each landscaper gets one or two sections to see how it works out. If the numbers don't work, then nothing is lost.

ITEM # 2 DISCUSSION ON THE THREE ARCHES 300TH ANNIVERSARY

Manager Gray announced the Three Arches 300th Anniversary celebration to be held on Saturday, October 19th at the Three Arches historic building. Mrs. Liz Reese, caretaker of Three Arches, provided some information on this event. The time of the celebration is 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will be held rain or shine. Mrs. Reese said she appreciates the support

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she is getting for this event. It is a special day that they will be hosting. They have family members attending from the states of Florida, Arizona, Maryland, California, Georgia, and some others. They will take a look back at the last three hundred years. The entire community and the Board of Supervisors are invited to attend this free event. There will be crafts for the kids, games, and a house tour. For more information, or to volunteer, please call 215-547-7823 or send an e-mail to: tea2006@gmail.com.

ITEM # 3 CONSIDER AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE THREE ARCHES HISTORIC BUILDING RENOVATIONS

Chairman Harvie said they have contacted four companies about doing work at the Three Arches historic building. At this moment, they are still in negotiations with one of those companies and are not quite ready to move forward on this right now. Member Galloway moved to table the award of contract for the Three Arches Historic Building renovations; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 4 CONSIDER PROPOSAL FOR WEBSITE SERVICES FOR THE TOWNSHIP

Manager Gray said the township received a quote for website services from Catapult Web in the amount of \$499 per month for a total of \$17,964 for a three-year period. Mr. William Schwartz provided information about Catapult Web. He said they propose to redesign and redevelop the Falls Township website. Web services will include a news tool, event calendar, components allowing posting of agendas, meetings, and meeting minutes, and training. Member Rocco said a few months ago, they wanted to find out if there was a more efficient way to manage the website. The Content Management System (CMS) would allow township employees to update the pages as opposed to one technical person to update the site. Chairman Harvie said the school where he works has a similar website where every teacher has access to their own page on the website. We want to avoid the situation we have here where one person is responsible for anything that needs to be changed on the entire website. This new website would allow each department to update their own pages. Everything is included in this package, including updates, maintenance, and training. Member Rocco moved to approve the 3-year website services contract with Catapult Web in the amount of \$499 per month for a total of \$17,964; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 5 DISCUSSION ON TRAFFIC CALMING IN FALLS TOWNSHIP

Chairman Harvie gave some information on reports that were tabulated in regard to vehicle speed on two different township streets. Member Dence said before Member Rocco and Member Galloway were here, they did have a presentation by our old traffic engineer as to what people can do. The PDF presentation is still on the township website. Lt. Hank Ward said the top problem areas are Austin Drive, Mill Creek Road (in front of the park), and lower Thornridge Drive. He said Pennsylvania is the last state to allow municipal police officers to use radar. Member Dence said one of the things they could do is to install speed

bumps, but he knows a lot of people don't like them. Lt. Ward said most people who speed are people who live in those places. If citizens have a problem, they should call and report it to the police department. They will set up the speed spy out there. They will put out the sign with the actual speed and then about three days after that they will do an enforcement check. Chairman Harvie said one of the requests they have is to put up stop signs, but PENNDOT does not allow us to put up stop signs in an effort to control speeding. Lt. Ward said police visibility is helpful. Chairman Harvie said the police have a procedure in place. The things people can do is to not speed and if there is an area where there is a speeding issue, contact the police and they will do what they can. Mr. Tom Beach from Remington, Vernick, and Beach, said there is a lot of data out there, but the most effective way to cut down on speeding is police enforcement. Measures such as installing speed bumps, striping the streets, raised intersections, and using chevrons have some benefit, but they do slow down emergency vehicles. In residential areas, they have seen some improvement at intersections, if you narrow the intersection down. It is not as effective with people who live in these areas because they get used to it. Member Dence said the former engineer suggested forming a committee. The problem they have, as a board, is what to do when they hear about a problem. Member Galloway moved to open public comment; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Mr. Andy Dell said this is a problem that is not fixable. Police presence is the best enforcement. The offenders will perpetually be newer drivers and people who live in those sections. Without the police presence, this problem will continue. If the speeders get tickets, it won't take long to lose their license in this state. Redesigning the roads, narrowing them, or making people stop will be a waste of money. Member Galloway moved to close public comment; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Chairman Harvie thinks there is a combination of things they can do to help with this problem. If all of those things combined slow people down, even a little bit, then it will help. Lt. Ward said getting the public involved is a great thing. The police department needs to be informed when there are problems. Member Dence said he would like to get some data as to what helps, what doesn't help, and then talk about it again next month. Mr. Beach will provide some information to the board. Chairman Harvie thanked Lt. Ward and Mr. Beach for their input.

ITEM # 6 CONSIDER PURCHASE OF MOTOROLA RADIOS FOR FIRE AND POLICE

Manager Gray said at the September 3, 2013, Lt. Ward's request was approved for the purchase of Motorola radios for the Fire Marshal's office and police department. The amount was approved for NTE \$720,000. There was a price change resulting in an increase of \$22,231.90. In addition, the township will need to have the old radios removed and the new radios installed. It is expected that the installation will be greater than \$18,000. Due to this, the board is asked to consider the authorization to advertise for the installation of the radios. Lt. Ward said these radios are very complex. There was \$1.2M budgeted for these radios and after completion, there should be about \$227,000 left not spent. Member Dence moved to authorize the purchase of fire and police radios in the amount of \$742,231.90; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

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ITEM # 7 CONSIDER AUTHORIZING TO ADVERTISE FOR INSTALLATION OF MOTOROLA RADIOS FOR FIRE AND POLICE

Member Dence moved to authorize advertisement for the installation of Motorola radios for fire and police; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 8 CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING 2014 MINIMUM MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION (MMO) FOR THE POLICE PENSION PLAN

Member Galloway moved to approve Resolution # 13-26, establishing the 2014 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$1,741,005; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 9 CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING 2014 MINIMUM MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION (MMO) FOR THE NON-UNIFORM PENSION PLAN

Member Galloway moved to approve Resolution # 13-27, establishing the 2014 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan in the amount of \$107,057; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 10 CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING 2014 MINIMUM MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION (MMO) FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS PENSION PLAN

Member Galloway moved to approve Resolution # 13-28, establishing the 2014 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the Public Works Pension Plan in the amount of \$57,381; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 11 CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR REPAIRS TO THE PINWOOD POOL

Manager Gray said Mr. Joe Arnao is requesting that the township authorize advertisement for repair and restoration work at the Pinewood Pool. The amount of \$19,000 was budgeted for this work. These are repairs that are needed for the kiddie pool. Member Dence moved to authorize advertisement for repairs to the Pinewood Pool; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 12 MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

Member Rocco moved to approve the minutes from September 3, 2013; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 13 ENGINEERS REPORT

Mr. Sullivan said eight of the thirteen roads from the 2012 Road Program will be substantially complete in the next few weeks. For the senior center, they are waiting for transfer of service to the new transformer, then landscaping can be completed. The 2013 Road Program will begin shortly. The first roadwork will be done on Valley Road. Member Dence asked about the length of time it is taking to complete the 2012 Road Program. Mr. Sullivan said it is a manpower issue. We gave them until August 31, 2013 to complete the project and every day past the deadline, the contractor is subject to a penalty of \$900 per day. For the 2013 Road Program, we are using a different contractor. Member Rocco asked about the Quaker Penn Park Baseball Field project. Mr. Sullivan said they are meeting with contractors this week to take over the work from the other contractor and make sure the work is done properly and expeditiously. They are also working with their field consultant. Member Galloway moved to approve the August Engineers Report dated September 13, 2013; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 14 BILL LIST

Member Galloway moved to approve the bill list in the amount of \$2,744,006.75; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 15 EXECUTIVE SESSION – There was no Executive Session held at this time.

ITEM # 16 MANAGER COMMENT

1. Member Dence moved to approve the Conditional Use application extension for Verizon Wireless to the date of October 13, 2013; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
2. Manager Gray said Mercer Court mylars are ready for signature.

ITEM # 17 BOARD COMMENT

Member Galloway – no comment.

Member Rocco – no comment.

Member Dence said they had a good discussion tonight on traffic calming.

Chairman Harvie said the township received a letter from someone who is interested in a position on the Disabled Person's Advisory Board. They will contact the individual to see if they are still interested. Chairman Harvie said they had a meeting with representatives from the Pennsbury School District and County Commissioner Diane Marseglia about drainage problems on Chatham Road which are leading to mosquito problems. It is a very wet

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environment. Water does not drain properly in this area and the county does not maintain it. They agreed it was not Pennsbury's problem. Ms. Marseglia is committed to trying to find a solution to this problem. Chairman Harvie said they spoke about a problem with township meetings on the website. There was one meeting, held on May 22, 2013, where the equipment failed and the meeting was never recorded. Chairman Harvie said the gun buy-back program is scheduled for Saturday, October 19, 2013. There will be more details forthcoming. Chairman Harvie wished township residents of the Jewish faith a Happy Yom Kippur and Happy Rosh Hashanah. He hopes everyone had a good holiday. Chairman Harvie thanked everyone for a good meeting.

Member Galloway moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.



Jeffrey Rocco, Secretary

