

**TOWNSHIP OF FALLS  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

**ROLL CALL:**

<b>ROBERT HARVIE, JR., CHAIRMAN</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>JONATHAN SNIPES, VICE-CHAIRMAN</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>JEFFRY DENCE, SECRETARY-TREASURER</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>JEFFREY ROCCO, SUPERVISOR</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>
<b>BRIAN GALLOWAY, SUPERVISOR</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>

The meeting commenced at 7:00 p.m. with roll call and salute to the flag. All Board members were present. Also present were Township Finance Director Betsey Reukauf, Township Solicitor Michael Clarke, and Township Engineer James Sullivan.

**PRESENTATION FROM COUNTY COMMISSIONER ROBERT G. LOUGHERY**

Bucks County Commissioner Robert Loughery introduced himself. He said he plans to get out to all fifty-four municipalities to introduce himself, get to know each municipality as well as the elected officials, and to tell you about the priorities in the county and also his focus on particular efforts. Mr. Loughery said there are many things that the county is involved with and he will speak about a few. One priority is dealing with and managing the budget. At the county their budget is a little over \$460M and about half is geared toward health and human services. Recently, in order to meet the budget, they had some difficult decisions to make. They did have to have some lay-offs; about 26 people in total. Mr. Loughery said it has been a difficult task managing their budget, but the staff is doing a great job with this task. They challenge their team to make multi-year budgets. Mr. Loughery said about 80-85% of the dollars that go to the health and human services comes from the state. With those dollars being reduced, it puts them in a position of where they need to think about how they can still be able to provide services. One of the big projects that has been on the front-burner is construction of the new Justice Center. They anticipate that being completed in the spring of 2014. They will need to decide what to do with the existing courthouse and they have hired a firm that will do the re-use planning for the current center. One particular item they have been paying close attention to is economic development. About two years ago, the county formed a Commissioners' Economic Development Council (CEDC) to improve economic development and promote coordination between the economic development agencies. The overall idea they are looking at is how they can have a more seamless economic development effort with the many agencies involved in economic development. They have been working closely with the different entities that are involved in that. One of the core objectives is to engage municipalities in economic development. They just launched an initiative called the Municipal Economic Development Initiative. The idea is to provide resources and expertise from the Planning Commission to the municipalities as it relates to economic development issues. They have staff on board to help work on these issues. They have been working with three boroughs who signed up. They are working on issues so they can improve



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economic development in their communities. One other issue has to do with the communication radios. We were under an FCC mandate to move from one frequency to another frequency. We had a deadline of January 1, 2013. That deadline has been removed but the mandate is still there. This will cost the county about \$40M when it is done. This will include the equipment, infrastructure, and radios. The county will borrow the money, purchase the radios, and then loan the money to the municipalities, fire company, or EMS at the same rate. Chairman Harvie said Falls Township has that money in our budget for this year. Since we have not yet purchased the radios, he would imagine they will just continue and carry that money over to next year's budget. Mr. Loughery believes those funds will not have to be expended until 2013. Member Snipes asked about the services regarding revitalization. Mr. Loughery said they would sit down with us, find out if there are any issues, and try to do some planning. They don't have the capacity to do design plans, but they can work with you to look at issues such as zoning or other issues that would lead up to design plans. Their Planning Commission would work with you to go through the beginning aspects of an area or potential project as it relates on a planning level. They would work with you to prep and provide information for early on planning. Board members thanked Mr. Loughery for speaking this evening.

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

Mr. Roland Kenney welcomed Mrs. Reukauf to the meeting and wished Manager Gray a speedy recovery. Mr. Kenney said the last meeting was only shown on cable for two days. Member Rocco said from what he understands, it was a Verizon issue. Mr. Kenney said at the last meeting he mentioned Officer Fox's death. The president of the senior center is Officer Fox's Grandmother. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Officer Fox.

Mr. Guido Mariani said his response to board comment at the last meeting regarding Biles Island is that he considered the entire proposed program as it was distributed here. The supervisors approved the master plan in 2010, based on township residents' input. Mr. Mariani said he thinks the input was primarily from environmental groups, not township residents. The board then agreed to spend up to \$420,000 on engineering costs and other expenses to complete the DCNR grant. At the last meeting after voting to spend \$45,000 for Act Engineers to continue, ACT asked for an additional \$220,000 for additional design and permitting. Mr. Mariani said Biles Island is a recreational environmental program that includes four phases. Phase 1 includes boardwalk, bird-watching, fishing pier, and so on. His concern is that he doesn't think it will stop at phase 1 and believes it will continue. It goes through phase 2, phase 3, and ends with phase 4. Mr. Mariani suggested that people get a copy of this plan. He thinks local and regional environmental groups want to use our money to satisfy their agenda. He doesn't see any firm commitment for funding except what will come from Falls Township and asks how many private sector investors have shown interest in this. Mr. Mariani does not believe this project will stop at phase 1. He thinks it will take something like a casino to support this. This township cannot afford this program and he wishes you would consider this whole thing. Mr. Mariani said we don't want it and most of all we cannot afford it.



Mr. Edgar Lituma said the concession stand in phase 1 of the Falls Township Community Park could really use a water heater. They need it for the concession stand and restrooms. Mr. Lituma asked why the township doesn't want to pay for it. Mr. Lituma asked about the status of the soccer fields and the culvert bridge project. Mr. Sullivan said the work on the soccer fields should start next week. Regarding the bridge culvert, they are going out to bid for the installation next week. They will not have the bids back until the end of October and then they have to go through the review process. The earliest they could start the construction is in December. Chairman Harvie said they have purchased the culvert, now the township has to find a contractor to install it. Chairman Harvie said there are state laws and a bidding process that the township has to follow. In terms of the water heater, there is an issue with the Health Department. Once they start putting in more equipment, they have to put in a grease trap which would cost about \$40,000 to do. Chairman Harvie said if they put in any more equipment, the Board of Health classifies it as a kitchen and then they have to put in things like the grease trap. Mr. Lituma said he would appreciate the board looking into that further.

**ITEM # 2 CONSIDER T&M PROPOSAL FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE 2013 ROAD PROGRAM**

Mrs. Reukauf said the township has received a proposal from T&M Associates for professional engineering services for the 2013 Road Improvement Program. The roads scheduled for full-depth reconstruction are: Valley Road, Peaceful Drive, Bernard Drive, Rice Drive, Floral Drive, Walton Drive, and Fletcher Drive. The roads scheduled for mill and overlay are: Bernard Drive, Christina Court, Annamarie Drive, Angela Avenue, Laura Way, Lesha Drive, Rice Drive, Andrew Drive, Mark Anthony Court, Kirby Drive, Hedgerow Drive, and Howley Drive. The total cost of the proposal is in the amount of \$717,908. Mr. Sullivan said there are five major tasks involved in this project. They include: 1) Survey and base mapping; 2) Subsurface utility investigation and coordination; 3) Engineering design services; 4) Bid phase services, and 5) Construction observation and administration. Mr. Sullivan said it is possible that some of the mill and overlay roads may need to be changed to full-depth reconstruction. The duration of the project is about nine months. The construction costs are estimated to be \$5.5M. Member Galloway moved to award the engineering services for the 2013 Road Program to T&M Associates in the amount of \$717,908; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

**ITEM # 3 CONSIDER RESOLUTION FOR AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT OF SALE OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT**

Mrs. Reukauf said the township has five surplus vehicles available for auction. The vehicles are as follows: 1996 Ford Bronco, 2002 Chevrolet Impala, 2005 Ford Crown Victoria, 2004 Ford Crown Victoria, and a 1995 Chevrolet Caprice Classic. Member Galloway asked when the auction would take place 30 days after. Mr. Clarke said as soon as they advertise, he can look at the requirements and then set up a date and time. Member Rocco asked how the auction would work. Mrs. Reukauf said the township would receive sealed bids.



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Member Snipes moved to approve Resolution # 2012-23, authorizing advertisement of sale of surplus equipment; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

**ITEM # 4 CONSIDER AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT FOR AUDIT OF FINANCIAL RECORDS**

Mrs. Reukauf said the township is requesting authorization to advertise for the audit of the December 31, 2012 financial statements. Request for proposals will be sent out to local auditing firms. The board is asked to consider authorization for advertisement. Member Dence moved to authorize advertisement for audit of financial records; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

**ITEM # 5 CONSIDER PURCHASE OF CAMERAS FOR AREAS AROUND THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMPLEX**

Mr. Matt Markey spoke about the purchase of cameras for the municipal building complex. The camera purchase will increase the quality of existing cameras and fill in gaps in coverage from the existing cameras. Mr. Markey and Lt. Airey have identified all of the locations and looked at technology and how much would be able to be transferred to the new complex, once built. These cameras can easily be transported and transferred to the new facility. Member Dence said Mr. Markey and Lt. Airey have been looking at this for quite some time and these cameras are needed. Mr. Markey said there will be eleven cameras with twenty-seven angles covered with better technology. Member Snipes asked if these cameras would allow remote viewing. Mr. Markey said yes, they could remote view from the police vehicles, from home, or when in the building. Mr. Markey said these cameras would be purchased off of the Co-Stars list. Member Dence said in the past they have spoken about businesses being able to get on line with the cameras. He asked if this would be covered. Mr. Markey said this is part of it as it ties into the same server, and they are still looking into that option. Chairman Harvie said right now there is a local business where we are trying to use their facility as an antenna and there is still some difficulty. Mr. Markey said Falls Township is still trying to use cameras at key locations, but there are some issues. It is being pursued. Member Snipes moved to authorize purchase of the camera equipment from RF Design & Integration, Inc. in the amount NTE \$40,811; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

**ITEM # 6 EXECUTIVE SESSION – There was no Executive Session held.**

**ITEM # 7 MANAGER COMMENT – There was no Manager Comment held.**

**ITEM # 8 BOARD COMMENT**

Member Rocco – No comment.

Member Dence – No comment.



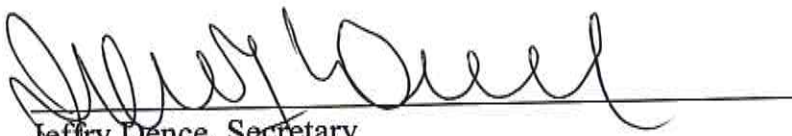
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Member Snipes announced an Oldies But Goodies Night with Jerry Blavat to be held on Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at Levittown Fire Co. No. 1. The time of the event is 7 p.m. to midnight. Price is \$30 per person. For tickets or more information, please call 215-945-4231 or 215-791-1309.

Member Galloway – No comment.

Chairman Harvie said at the last meeting, he neglected to make mention of the Jewish holidays. For Jewish residents of the township, Chairman Harvie wishes them a Happy Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Happy New Year. Chairman Harvie apologized for the oversight. Chairman Harvie spoke about the Voter I.D. requirement. He said earlier today there was a decision from the Pennsylvania State Judge regarding the voter identification law which was passed and was the subject of a lot of discussion and debate. While the law could stand as-is, the requirement of the law that the voters could not vote if they did not present identification, could not stand. If you go to the polls on Election Day and you are asked for picture identification and you do not have one, they are not permitted to keep you from voting. The major concern is that it has to be a specific kind of picture identification. There was a lot of concern and a lot of people worried about this. The judge's decision clears the roadblock for people who are going to vote. Chairman Harvie reminded the public to be sure to vote in the correct location. Up until the end of this week is the deadline for registering to vote. Member Snipes asked about the issue of the identification and the requirement for an expiration date. He asked if anyone could make that clear why they are asking for an expiration date. Mr. Clarke said in many ways he thinks they were trying to limit it to a certain type of identification such as a driver's license. He doesn't think it was ever fully explained why the identification had to have an expiration date on it. Member Dence spoke about an issue with his grandfather with obtaining identification. Member Snipes said now that is not an issue for this election, he hopes more people will get out to vote. Fallsington Day will be held on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. Since this is fire prevention month, it is important to change the batteries in your smoke detectors. Many of the local fire departments are having open house. When you go to Fallsington Day, the schools, churches, and shops have things going on and the firehouse also has an open house at that time. Member Rocco said the Fallsington Elementary School will have a big truck for the kids to play video games. Chairman Harvie thanked everyone for their time and hopes Manager Gray is feeling better soon.

Member Dence moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

  
Jeffrey Dence, Secretary