

**TOWNSHIP OF FALLS
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

ROLL CALL:

ROBERT HARVIE, JR., CHAIRMAN	PRESENT
JEFFRY DENCE, VICE-CHAIRMAN	PRESENT
JEFFREY ROCCO, SECRETARY-TREASURER	PRESENT
BRIAN GALLOWAY, SUPERVISOR	PRESENT
JEFF BORASKI, SUPERVISOR	PRESENT

The meeting commenced at 7:05 p.m. with roll call and salute to the flag. All Board members were present. Also present were Township Manager Peter Gray, Township Solicitor Michael Clarke, and Township Engineer James Sullivan. A moment of silence was held in memory of elected official and long-time Falls Township resident Mrs. Dorothy Vislosky.

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

Mr. Roland Kenney said they will be losing one of the workers from Pennsbury Manor. She will be leaving this area. Mr. Kenney said Holly Nights will be held at Pennsbury Manor on December 4th and 5th. These are the most beautiful nights at Pennsbury Manor. Mr. Kenney said Mrs. Vislosky spent most of her life serving the people of Falls Township. He respected her and thinks it would be appropriate to have a plaque or statue placed at Lake Caroline. Mr. Kenney said he can still remember Congressman Fitzpatrick bringing a flag from overseas and presenting it to Mrs. Vislosky.

Mr. Guido Mariani said with the proposed budget presentation, he thinks it would be a good idea to include a final study on the Earned Income Tax (EIT). During the past meeting, this board took no action on the EIT even though the results from Econsult Solutions indicated the number of Falls Township residents paying an EIT increased significantly from 20% to 48%. Mr. Mariani said he wants to see phase 2 because he doesn't know how you can make a decision without knowing the range of revenue estimated from phase 2. Mr. Mariani said his estimates are \$2M at 30%; \$2.6M at 40%, \$3.3M at 50%, \$4M at 60%, \$4.6M at 70%, and over \$5M at 80%. Mr. Mariani said members of this board don't support an EIT because they say it would increase taxes for some Falls Township residents. He asks why they would support a candidate for Governor who will increase the Pennsylvania income tax for all wage earners, not just for some. Mr. Mariani said to increase our services you have to look for other sources. Revenue cannot remain stagnant and savings have not increased in four years. Mr. Mariani asked how we can pay for a new township complex without reducing our reserves or paying necessary fees. Mr. Mariani asked when the township will expand its tax base. He asked to please stop subsidizing other municipalities by up to \$4M or more. He said that is our money, it belongs in Falls Township, and that is where he wants to see it. Mr. Mariani said he cannot rationalize why the board will not enact an EIT.

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Mr. Edgar Lituma said the last time he was here, he asked about the \$975,000. Mr. Lituma said there are lots of soccer and baseball fields that need to be fixed. Last October, the contractor was going to come and fix the soccer fields, but they were never fixed. Mr. Lituma said that since soccer season is now over, he hopes they will come back and fix the fields. Chairman Harvie said one of the things they are looking at is using the open space money for each of the four sports organizations to do different work on the fields and different work on the complexes. Chairman Harvie said they haven't yet approved the budget. If it is approved in its current state, that is one of the things they plan to use the money on. Member Dence said the contractor did come back in October of last year. Mr. Sullivan said he believes the contractor is still in their maintenance bond, but they did come and fix the fields. Mr. Lituma said the issue with geese and seagulls has gotten significantly worse.

Mrs. Gloria Lituma asked about the EIT and where it stands. Chairman Harvie said the board does not plan to take any action on the EIT. Mrs. Lituma said she, and many other residents, work in New Jersey and appreciate the board keeping it the way it is now. Mrs. Lituma said she watches the meetings on the television and the times listed do not match up with the video of the meetings. She asked if they could please update the schedule.

**ITEM # 2 CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS – 53 OLD LOCUST STREET
– TMP # 13-032-044 – REMOVE OLD ROOF AND INSTALL NEW
ARCHITECTURAL SHINGLES ON THE MAIN ROOF**

Member Rocco moved to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness to remove the old roof and install new architectural shingles on the main roof at 53 Old Locust Street, TMP # 13-032-044; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

**ITEM # 3 2015 PROPOSED BUDGET PRESENTATION AND
AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE**

Mrs. Betsy Reukauf, Finance Director, presented the proposed 2015 Budget. She said the tax millage rate remains at 7.22 mils. Mrs. Reukauf presented highlights of the proposed budget, breakdown of the rates, departmental budget, and a comparison with other municipalities. Next year's proposed capital projects include various police purchases, renovations and paving projects at the Three Arches, community park improvements, fence replacement, the New Falls Road sidewalk project, and equipment for the Public Works department. There are tax funds of \$20,078,580 and non-tax funds in the amount of \$54,793,607 for the total of \$74,872,187. The 2015 budgeted spending is in the amount of \$32,556,101. The 2015 Budget is open for advertisement/viewing and is expected to be adopted at the December 16, 2014 meeting. Member Galloway said this was a fine presentation. He said a lot of work goes into this and looks forward to further discussion. Member Boraski asked about the .34 mils for the fire hydrants. Mrs. Reukauf said this is for maintenance and repair of fire hydrants within the township and equates to \$108,233. Member Dence said Mrs. Reukauf spends a lot of time working on this and they all sat down with Manager Gray to look at this. Member Dence said there were a lot of projects that were presented in the budget and they may not all agree on some of these projects.

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Member Rocco said this was an excellent job. He said four cents of every dollar comes to the township and that number seems low. He asked how the budget is advertised. The budget will be advertised in the newspaper, on the website, at the local library, and is available for viewing in the township building. Chairman Harvie said tonight is when they vote to advertise the budget. This is a budget that may include minor changes between now and when it is actually approved. There may be an item here or there that might change, but no major changes are anticipated. Member Galloway moved to approve advertisement of the 2015 Budget as presented; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 4 CONSIDER RESOLUTION FOR VIKING ASSOCIATES SEWAGE FACILITIES PLANNING MODULE

Member Galloway moved to approve Resolution # 14-33 for the Viking Associates Sewage Facilities Planning Module; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 5 ENGINEERS LIST

Mr. Sullivan said today was the last day for the docks at the Quaker Penn Park Boat Ramp. The Vermillion Hills drainage project is out to bid. Bid opening will be held on December 10th. Mr. Sullivan said for the 2013 Road Program, most of the major construction is complete and the punch list has been delivered to the contractor. Major items such as grass will be extended to the springtime. Member Dence asked about the major problems on the road program punch list. He has only seen them doing small items and asked about the drainage ditch problem on Floral. Mr. Sullivan said that is on the punch list and they have been instructed to take care of this as soon as possible. Member Dence moved to approve the October 2014 Engineers Report dated November 14, 2014; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 6 BILL LIST

Chairman Harvie provided information on the bill list and said there was a question on one bill, in the amount of \$220,340.05, which was removed. Member Galloway moved to approve the bill list in the amount of \$2,226,099.85; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 7 MINUTES – NOVEMBER 3, 2014

Member Dence moved to approve the November 3, 2014 minutes; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 8 EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an Executive Session held prior to the meeting. Mr. Clarke said the board discussed personnel potential litigation and heard a proposal; information for improving the landscaping portion of the road program.

ITEM # 9 MANAGER COMMENT

- A. Member Dence moved to extend the Buckingham WAWA Retail project to February 21, 2015; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)
- B. Member Rocco moved to extend the W. G. Lincoln Properties project located at 640 Lincoln Highway to February 21, 2015; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)
- C. Member Dence moved to extend the Extra Space project located at 915 Lincoln Highway to February 19, 2015; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)
- D. Member Dence moved to extend the New Seaview/Lubricycle project to February 15, 2015; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)
- E. Member Galloway moved to extend the Premium Excavating project located at 269 Canal Road to January 31, 2015; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)
- F. Member Galloway moved to extend the Silvi Concrete project to January 31, 2015; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)
- G. Member Galloway moved to extend the project at 38 Cabot Boulevard project to February 17, 2015; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)
- H. Manager Gray has mylars ready for AutoZone.

ITEM # 10 BOARD COMMENT

Member Rocco sends thoughts and prayers to the family of Mrs. Vislosky. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Member Rocco said the budget was well done. In regard to the EIT, it was his intention to find out who was already paying it. It came in at 48%, which wasn't enough for him. He doesn't want to have another conversation on it for a while. Member Rocco said he and Member Dence were at the Mercer Court townhouse opening next door and said they are quite nice.

Member Galloway expressed condolences to the family of Mrs. Vislosky. He hopes everyone will enjoy their Thanksgiving holiday.

Member Dence echoed comments for sympathy to Mrs. Vislosky's family. Member Dence wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Member Boraski said he is glad they spoke about the EIT. The numbers just don't support this and it is a tax increase for the rest of the people. He has also heard a lot of negativity towards it.

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Chairman Harvie said for the EIT, it was not enough of an increase for the board to move forward with it, so this is a dead issue. Chairman Harvie wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and hopes people will spend time with their families. Chairman Harvie thanked the township staff for all the work they do and the time spent on the budget.

Member Dence moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.



Jeffrey Rocco, Secretary