

Board of Supervisors – October 21, 2014

**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	ABSENT
JEFF BORASKI, 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 Galloway who had a family commitment this evening. Also present were Township Manager Peter Gray, Township Solicitor Lauren Gallagher, and Township Engineer James Sullivan.

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

Member Dence said at the last meeting, there were some comments made by Mr. Lavinthal in regard to the road program. Mr. Sullivan provided a response to those comments. Much of the grass has been planted in the last 90 days. Most of the area looks good and the contractor is still re-seeding. Mr. Sullivan suggested that we offer the option of planting sod at the owner's expense and that is something they can look into for next year. The seed specs have been independently verified and it is the same seed spec that the Bucks County Conservation District approved. Mr. Sullivan had some topsoil independently tested and the pH was very high. Mr. Sullivan had at least two pH tests that came back normal long before Mr. Lavinthal brought this up. The summary of the top soil is that starter fertilizer is applied to the topsoil in a 16-nitrogen/26-phosphate/10-pot ash mixture prior to the application of the seeding.

**ITEM # 2 CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS – 80 MAIN STREET – TMP #
13-020-261 – REMOVAL OF EXISTING SHINGLES AND REPLACE
WITH NEW SHINGLES ON MAIN HOUSE AND GARAGE**

Manager Gray said this item was approved the Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) Board on October 13, 2014. Member Dence moved to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 80 Main Street, removal of existing shingles and replace with new shingles on main house and garage; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 3 CONSIDER ADOPTING ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 209,
SECTION 7, BY REZONING CERTAIN LANDS IDENTIFIED AT
BUCKS COUNTY TMP # 13-028-088-002 FROM LI –LIGHT
INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT TO PIP – PLANNED INDUSTRIAL PARK
DISTRICT**

Mr. Thomas Hecker represents the applicant, Waste Gas Fabricating, located at 450 New Bold Road. Mr. Hecker gave a brief explanation of this project. The applicant wishes to

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have a 2.42-acre parcel zoned the same as their larger parcel so they will have one single zoning classification. Member Rocco moved to approve Ordinance 14-11, adopting ordinance amending Chapter 209, Section 7, by rezoning certain lands identified at Bucks County TMP # 13-028-088-002 FROM LI – Light Industrial District to PIP – Planned Industrial Park District; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 4 CONSIDER PROPOSAL FROM REMINGTON & VERNICK ENGINEERS FOR THE GREEN LIGHT GO PROGRAM AT THE INTERSECTION OF MILL CREEK RD AND LEVITTOWN PARKWAY

Remington & Vernick has submitted a proposal for a grant which will pay for improvements and traffic signalization, specifically to improve safety and mobility by reducing congestion and improving efficiency of existing traffic signals on state highways. The grant application is a 50/50 grant so for every dollar the township puts in, the state will match dollar for dollar. Chairman Harvie said one of the concerns could be that whenever you get involved in state grant work you can be forced to do a lot of things if you accept the grant money. There are not a lot of sidewalks in this area and Chairman Harvie asked if we would have to do a lot of this work. Since the township already has an approved HOP by PENNDOT, they cannot come back and modify the plan because it was already accepted by them. Member Dence moved to approve the proposal from Remington & Vernick Engineers in the amount NTE \$1,900 for the Green Light Go Program at the intersection of Mill Creek Road and Levittown Parkway; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 5 CONSIDER HEART & LUNG INSURANCE PROPOSAL FROM DELAWARE VALLEY INSURANCE TRUST

Manager Gray said this is something new from Delaware Valley Insurance Trust (DIVIT). DIVIT is offering heart and lung coverage to its trust members for an annual premium of \$30,036, effective January 1, 2015. Member Dence moved to approve the premium of \$30,036 for the Heart & Lung insurance proposal from Delaware Valley Insurance Trust, effective January 1, 2015; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 6 CONSIDER CHANGE ORDER # 2 FOR THE FALLS TOWNSHIP ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Sullivan said this is for work over and above the contract cost with PA American for meter pit work and additional water services. The cost is \$37,585 to the original contract and will be reimbursed to the township by PA American. Member Boraski moved to approve change order # 2 for the 2013 Falls Township Road Improvement Program in the amount of \$37,585; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

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ITEM # 7 MINUTES – OCTOBER 7, 2014

There was a change to page 7 of the minutes. In Member Rocco's comments, the last two sentences were said by Member Dence, not Member Rocco. Member Dence moved to approve the October 7, 2014 minutes as amended; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 8 ENGINEERS REPORT

Mr. Sullivan gave an update on the road program. Work is 100% complete on eight of the nine roads. There will be a punch list now and a punch list in the spring. Most of the items have to do with grass. Member Dence said for the township road program, you can get updated information every two weeks on the township website. Member Rocco asked for an update on Superior Motors. Mr. Sullivan said the bollards are in place, but they may be a little too close to the cars. They plan to do some striping to define the main entrance to the site. Member Dence moved to accept the September Engineers Report dated October 17, 2014; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 9 BILL LIST

Member Rocco moved to approve the October 21, 2014 bill list in the amount of \$2,347,089; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 10 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Gallagher said there was an Executive Session before the meeting. The board discussed a matter of personnel and a matter of potential litigation.

ITEM # 11 MANAGER COMMENT – There was no Manager comment.

ITEM # 12 BOARD COMMENT

Member Dence – no comment.

Member Rocco – no comment.

Member Boraski – no comment.

Chairman Harvie said there will be leaf collection on November 15th and November 29th. Chairman Harvie said there are only two pick up dates this year and he believes it is in the agreement to have more than two. Manager Gray will look into this. Chairman Harvie said leaves need to be in paper leaf bags or 30-gallon trash containers without lids. As a reminder, the next meeting will be held on Monday, November 3rd, due to Election Day on Tuesday, November 4th. Chairman Harvie said there was a resident in Elderberry asking about the flood zone. The township has been working with FEMA for several years to try to get them to change the flood maps. They have areas of North Park, Elderberry, and Thornridge in a flood zone causing most of the people living in those areas to have to pay for flood insurance despite the fact there has never been any flooding. The township has

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worked very hard with FEMA and FEMA has agreed to take North Park out of the flood zone. Maps will become official this coming March. It is the responsibility of each homeowner to let your bank know not to pay for flood insurance anymore. T&M Engineers did some survey work this summer in Elderberry and have forwarded that information to FEMA to try to convince FEMA that those maps have to change too. FEMA is limited by their budget and they cannot make new maps without the resources for funding. While we have submitted the information to them to change the maps, this will likely not happen soon. In the meantime, the township is committed to doing everything we can. Our staff engineer and code enforcement recently went through training to learn about the community rating system dealing with restrictions on the government and storm water and things we can do here. For people who believe they are wrongly put into a flood zone, you can ask for a Letter of Map Adjustment (LOMA). You will have to hire your own surveyor to do some work and then submit the information to FEMA. There will be a cost, however, it is much less than the flood insurance cost you are paying. The township will continue to work on this and push very hard. Regarding the Falls Township newsletter that was recently sent out, Chairman Harvie thanked the administration and staff for putting together a useful document. He also thanked Manager Gray as well as Rose Molle, our Township Secretary. He said there is a lot of good information in the newsletter. Chairman Harvie said several board members are wearing pink ties this evening to promote breast cancer awareness. It is one of the leading killers of women in this country and we ask that all women take care of themselves. It is a disease that cuts across both genders. It is important to get a physical and mammogram and do as much as you can to eliminate that killer. It is something he takes very seriously as he has lost family members to cancer. The earlier you catch it, the much better the outcome you are likely to have. Chairman Harvie thanked board members and the professionals for all of the work they put in.

Ms. Bridget Carfagno asked to speak. She asked the board to do what they can to install street lights on business northbound Rt. 1 toward Trenton, and going toward Oxford Valley Road, near Snipes. Mr. Ed Conkel at PENNDOT suggested Ms. Carfagno collect signatures to promote the request for these street lights. Ms. Carfagno gave the board a copy of the signatures she collected and asked the township for help with this request.

Member Rocco moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.



Jeffrey Rocco, Secretary