TOWNSHIP OF FALLS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

DOROTHY VISLOSKY, SUPERVISOR

ROLL CALL:

ROBERT HARVIE, JR., CHAIRMAN

JONATHAN SNIPES, VICE-CHAIRMAN

JEFFRY DENCE, SECRETARY-TREASURER

PHILIP SZUPKA, SUPERVISOR

PRESENT

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 Manager Peter Gray, Township Solicitor Michael Clarke, and Township Engineer James Sullivan.

PRESENT

PRESENTATION OF LIBERTY USO CHECK

Member Dence said a fundraiser was held in May called, "Que for the Troops." It was held at the Falls Township Community Park. Member Dence presented Mr. John Kerner of the Liberty USO with a check in the amount of \$18,790.65. Mr. Kerner graciously thanked the board for these funds. He said this money will cover more than a quarter of their entire food budget for the entire year for the Liberty USO. Mr. Kerner said from August through the end of the year, they will have somewhere in the neighborhood of 15,000 troops coming in from Iraq and Afghanistan. This money will also help them restore some of the services they have had to cut back on. They provide care packages and one of the popular items in the care package is a 100-minute international phone card. Right now they have just completed a program called "United Through Reading," where a soldier reads a book, it is copied onto a DVD, and then sent to their children. Mr. Kerner said they provide vouchers for travel and other items. They have counseling and therapy programs for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Mr. Kerner said July 4th is coming up and our independence is bought and paid for by the men and women who serve our country. Please take a moment to appreciate this fact. Mr. Kerner encourages everyone to send a contribution to one of the organizations that help our service men and women. Mr. Kerner invited the board to join him early this Saturday morning, June 25th in welcoming some troops back home. Mr. Kerner said the USO motto is "Until they all come home." Their mission statement is to enhance the quality of life for the military and their families wherever they may be. Mr. Joe Brooks, President and CEO of Liberty USO, said their organization serves from Lake Erie to the Delaware River and all of Central and Southern New Jersey. They do that with six paid staffers and the only way they can do what they do is with the support of their volunteers. Mr. Brooks said that Mr. Kerner is one of the 300 volunteers who work 35,000 hours a year. The USO's work is 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. On behalf of the 169,738 folks they served in 2010 and on behalf of the 37,123 folks they served through April 30th, thank you. This money will go a long way. Member Dence said they started planning this event back in December. Just about everyone in the township building was

involved and everyone did a fantastic job. He hopes to be able to do this again next year. Chairman Harvie thanked Member Dence and Mr. Tom Christine for their help with this event. Member Vislosky told Mr. Kerner that she would like to join him this Saturday in welcoming the troops at McGuire.

ITEM # 1 CONSIDER AWARDING INSURANCE POLICY FOR 2011/2012 (PROPERTY/GENERAL LIABILITY/PUBLIC LIABILITY)

Manager Gray said the township received quotes for insurance from Mr. Gerry Vaughan Insurance Managers. The period of coverage is from June 18, 2011 to June 18, 2012. Three insurance companies provided quotes. They are: National Casualty in the amount of \$398,905, Travelers in the amount of \$264, 802, and Trident/MRM in the amount of \$342,285. Member Snipes moved to award to Travelers the general liability insurance to the township in the amount of \$264,802; Member Szupka seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 2 CONSIDER PROPOSAL FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR ACT 537 UPDATE

Mr. Tom Beach from Remington, Vernick and Beach Engineers spoke about their proposal for engineering services for the ACT 537 update. The proposal is in the amount of \$42,000. Mr. Beach said this is a plan that the DEP requires to be updated every 15 years. The purpose is three-fold: 1) to protect the health, welfare, and safety of the residents by putting together a plan to correct any malfunctioning septic systems, overloaded treatment plants, and things of that nature; 2) to prevent future sewage disposal problems from occurring by working with our planning group to determine what areas seek future development; and 3) to provide for prevention of ground water contamination in the Commonwealth of PA. Member Dence asked why the township has to pay for this and not the Township of Falls Authority. Mr Clarke said this is a requirement by the DEP. It is a planning tool and they want the municipality to cover all the things that Mr. Beach just mentioned. The DEP requires the municipality to do the ACT 537 Plan and not the authority. Member Snipes moved to award the proposal for the Act 537 update in the amount NTE \$42,000 to Remington, Vernick and Beach; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM #3 CONSIDER BUILDING INSPECTION PROPOSAL

Chairman Harvie said over the past few years, the township has started to do more of the inspections with our own employees, but some of the inspections still have to be performed outside of township personnel. In regard to the memo dated June 8, 2011, it indicates that the amount we would be paying for the services would stay the same as the current company we are using. The only difference is that if the inspectors need to do inspections in the field, they would be reimbursed for the mileage from here in this building to the site in the field. Member Szupka said this has come up before. He questions if we have done anything to get our own employees certified so we can be self-sustaining. Manager Gray said Mr. Tom Bennett has been encouraging his staff members to get these certifications.

Member Szupka said he supports that our staff be reimbursed or given some kind of incentive to get certified. Member Vislosky asked about the length of time for a person to be certified in a certain area. Manager Gray said a person would need to study for an examination and then take the examination the next time it becomes available. He can find out how long this process would take. Member Snipes said the fees would be comparable to what they are paying now. He is comfortable as long as we are looking to certify some of our employees. Chairman Harvie asked Manager Gray about incentives or reimbursement. Manager Gray said they do get reimbursed for these classes. Chairman Harvie said B.I.U. had been doing a lot of inspections then we changed to another company. Member Vislosky said the more we farm out the less control we have over our money. A good example would be the legal fees. Member Snipes moved to award the building inspection services to Remington, Vernick, and Beach following the fee schedule outlined in the June 8, 2011 memo; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who voted no. (4-1) Member Dence moved to provide 60-days notice of termination for the agreement with Keystone; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who abstained from the vote. (3-0-1)

ITEM # 4 CONSIDER AUTHORIZING NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD BID FOR 2011 ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Manager Gray said the township received three quotes for the 2011 Road Improvement Program. The quotes were from: General Asphalt Paving Co. in the amount of \$3,175,892.12; James D. Morrissey in the amount of \$3,250,183; and Scott Building Corporation in the amount of \$4,199,909.50. Chairman Harvie said with mill and overlay it would bring the General Asphalt Paving Co. amount to \$3,663,795.07. The board is asked to consider awarding the notice of intent to award the bid for the 2011 Road Improvement Program to General Asphalt Paving Co. Mr. Sullivan said the roads to be completed are: a portion of Winding Way, Vernon Road, Allendale Drive, the second part of Alden Avenue, and Rose Avenue. Roads for mill and overlay are: Penns Grant Drive, Independence Drive, Justice Lane, Federal Lane, Musket Drive, Centennial Drive, Allendale Drive and the deadend road off of Independence Drive. Member Szupka said General Asphalt Paving had more issues than when James D. Morrissey did the work. There were more change orders with General Asphalt Paving Co. It is his belief that because of the quality of work and the timeframe, James D. Morrissey is the one they should be looking at. Member Vislosky said we may be \$200,000 under-budget, but that usually translates to change orders. She is concerned about this. Member Dence said there are problems with James D. Morrissey, but these types of things are going to come up no matter who is doing the job. Member Vislosky asked Mr. Sullivan if they would be in order if they favored James D. Morrissey in this action. Mr. Sullivan said he doesn't see any legal issues, but James D. Morrissey would cost you a couple hundred thousand dollars more than General Asphalt Paving Co. Mr. Clarke said the law is clear. You must award to the lowest responsible bidder. Unless they can prove that General Asphalt Paving Co. is not a responsible bidder, you must award the bid to them. Member Snipes moved to award the notice of intent to award the bid for the 2011 Road Improvement Project to General Asphalt Paving Co. in the amount of

\$3,663,795.07; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 5 CONSIDER CHANGE ORDER FOR BOAT RAMP AT QUAKER PENN PARK

Manager Gray said they received a June 10, 2011 memo from Mr. Sullivan concerning change order # 1 for the boat ramp at the Quaker Penn Park. This change order is in the amount of \$156,676.30 to the original contract amount. Mr. Sullivan gave an explanation of the change order. They are eliminating the landscape package, eliminating some of the paving, and grading of the grass features has been eliminated in favor of grading for the baseball field. One of the big items is the electrical work for the security camera and the payment kiosk. Another major item is the installation of 45 timber support pilings for the concrete ramp in lieu of the original design which went into the cove. Further geo-technical evaluations required them to use concrete docks because the location of the ramps was moved from the cove to the river. This was forced on us by the Army Corps of Engineers. Member Vislosky said change orders can destroy you. An indicator is that we probably went out to bid before we should have. She said they should have contacted the Army Corps of Engineers sooner than they did. Chairman Harvie said they had started working with the Army Corps almost from the start of this project. Member Snipes said the kiosk work was not in the original plan; it was at the request to meet the needs of our residents. The scheduled opening date is Thursday, June 30th. Member Dence moved to open public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) Mr. Guido Mariani said the boat ramp is here and you have to make it function properly. Make sure that the charges for the use of that boat ramp cover the maintenance. Any future needs of the boat ramp should be covered by the fees. Member Dence moved to close public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) Member Snipes moved to approve change order #1 for the Quaker Penn Boat Ramp in the amount of \$156,676.30; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Szupka and Member Vislosky who both voted no. (3-2)

ITEM # 6 PUBLIC COMMENT - FIVE MINUTE LIMIT PER PERSON FORTY-FIVE MINUTE MAXIMUM

Mr. Roland Kenney thanked the Animal Control Officer, Officer McShane, for rescuing ducklings and bunnies from the storm grates at the Avenrowe development. Mr. Kenney said there are a lot of motorists who speed on Pennsylvania Avenue. He would like to know if they can set up a speed trap or take alternative steps to prevent this. Chairman Harvie said they will bring this issue to the attention of Chief Wilcox and have the traffic guys take a look into this.

Mrs. Dorothy Vislosky spoke about the conduct at some of the Pennsbury School Board meetings. She said a gentleman started a rant at the school board meeting after everyone applauded a plea for civil treatment. The speaker started on Mr. Simon Campbell because Mr. Campbell was in favor of trying to alter the power of teacher's unions. Mrs. Vislosky said she had wanted to talk about the need for not raising taxes. She was talking about an

issue and then she said she wanted to talk about the good teachers that her children had and when she was finished speaking, Mr. Wayne DeBlasio stood up and screamed that she had two illegal children in this school. She let that go and then said that he commented on her residency. She said these are outlandish statements with no backup and no shred of proof. Mrs. Vislosky said she has given up trying. She thinks it is outrageous that these things are allowed to happen. Mrs. Vislosky said when she was in Florida she had two heart attacks and was fighting for her life. She said the money in this township is disappearing fast. She has twelve books in partial stages of completion that contain facts that cannot be disputed.

Mr. Donald Acevedo said he was the owner of a former business, Dontonio's Pizza, on New Falls Road. Before Mr. Acevedo sold the building, he said a gentlemen came in and told him about the proposed school near the Vermillion Square Shopping Center. The man said there was a problem with the school, but it would not matter because he heard the board decided it was not going in there. Chairman Harvie said the school project was approved. He said at the first hearing the developer did not address the traffic issues so they asked them to do a traffic study. They came back with the report and the board found it to be a thorough report and then the school was approved. Mr. Acevedo was told that Mrs. Vislosky made a fortune off of KOIZ and she and Mr. Dayton made a ton of money off of the landfill deal.

ITEM # 7 MINUTES - MAY 18, 2011

Member Dence moved to approve the minutes of May 18, 2011; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Szupka and Member Vislosky who both voted no. (3-2)

ITEM #8 ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Sullivan said the opening of the Quaker Penn Boat Ramp is Thursday, June 30th. The 2010 Road Improvement Project continues to move forward. It should be completed by the middle of July. Member Snipes asked about the lay down area at Gamesa. Mr. Sullivan said it is a stone area where they lay down their windmill poles before they get transported away from the site. Member Dence asked if the end of the 2010 Road Program would interfere with the beginning of the 2011 Road Program. Mr. Sullivan said they are connected, but they won't be in the way of each other. Member Snipes moved to approve the May, 2011 Engineering Report; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 9 BILL LIST - JUNE 21, 2011

Chairman Harvie gave some information in regard to the bill list. Member Vislosky said it was suggested by the Democratic Club that she had voted no for the police department, the fire department, and other things. She said that is a lie. She was accused of voting no when a staff member's loved one passed away. Member Vislosky said she votes no on all of the invoices because she wants to see them broken down. Member Vislosky said she had two brothers and two sisters who died during this term and she didn't know that they send flowers. Member Snipes moved to approve the bill list dated June 21, 2011 in the amount

of \$2,131,709.38; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Szupka and Member Vislosky who both voted no. (3-2)

ITEM # 10 EXECUTIVE SESSION - There was no Executive Session held.

ITEM # 11 MANAGER COMMENT

- 1. Member Snipes moved to approve the extension for the Viking Associates project to September 30, 2011; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)
- 2. Member Dence moved to authorize advertisement for the New Falls Road and Tyburn Road Traffic Signal Improvement Project and the Village of Nottingham Street Light Replacement Project; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who abstained from the vote. (3-0-1)
- 3. Manager Gray presented information about the Verizon T-1 connection at the boat ramp. It is a 2-year agreement with a monthly cost of \$450. Mr. Matt Markey spoke about the need for the Verizon T-1 connection at the boat ramp. He said there is no signal in that area right now and an emergency phone in that area is necessary. Member Snipes moved to approve the business service agreement with Verizon for services at the Quaker Penn Boat Ramp; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Szupka and Member Vislosky who both voted no. (3-2)
- 4. Manager Gray said the Parks and Rec Department continues to accept Pinewood Pool memberships. At this time the summer camp program is full. The Falls Township Summer Concert Series will be held from 6-8 p.m. every Sunday evening in Phase I of the Falls Township Community Park. There will be a teen dance on Thursday, June 23rd from 7:45 10:30 p.m. This event is for teens ages 12-16 and the price is \$3 a person. Family Movie Night will be held on Saturday, June 25th. For more information, please call 215-949-9000 X220, X221, or X222.
- 5. Manager Gray has mylars ready for signature, for the Eleanor Roosevelt School.

ITEM # 12 BOARD COMMENT

Member Vislosky responded to Norma Lindbloom's comments from a prior meeting. Member Vislosky said Mrs. Lindbloom's comments are a lie. Member Vislosky said there was the meeting with the three young people who came in here and wanted justice from this board. She left the meeting to speak with them. They went in the back room and Member Vislosky looked at the papers they brought for this whole board to examine. She told the three students that she would listen to them. She said she investigated this and can tell you that Falls Township had better take a second look at what they have done because there is one person who she believes did not get due process. She advised the labor attorney to take a second look. She believes there was a gross injustice done. Member Vislosky said she has tried to get her own stationary. She said they force her to pay hundreds of dollars to the pay-to-play guys. She said they don't have time to make changes to the minutes at meetings and comment on consequential things. Member Vislosky said she doesn't have to lower herself to get into arguments with people who are ignorant and do not do their homework.

Member Dence no comment.

Member Szupka said school has ended and children are out riding their bikes. Be extra vigilant out there for the youngsters and the older citizens who don't use sidewalks, but walk in the street. Member Szupka said although he does enjoy fireworks, some people set them off in their back yards or out in the street. He doesn't condone it, but if you are going to do it, try to be safe. Be aware of the aftermath and what is falling out of the sky. Member Szupka wished everyone a good holiday.

Member Snipes said he was glad to see we are moving toward completion of the boat ramp. He wants to be able to attend the opening on the 30th and he hopes other board members will be able to be there as well. Chairman Harvie said they don't necessarily have anything planned for a celebration, but they may try to do some kind of ceremony at some point.

Chairman Harvie reminded board members and the public that they will have one meeting during the months of July and August. It will be held on the third Tuesday of these two months. Chairman Harvie echoed Member Szupka's comments about the fireworks. He said it is certainly something that our police are getting phone calls about. Please make sure you are not setting off things that are flammable near your neighbor's property or your own property. Please be smart. There was an article and picture in the newspaper today about a traffic calming program in Newtown Township. Chairman Harvie said he wanted to let people know this is not what Falls Township is thinking about doing. We are not in favor of creating obstacles. Chairman Harvie said the boat ramp will open on June 30th. You can get your day passes and season passes here at the township building. The site will be patrolled by park security and the township police. The fees will be reduced since the boat ramp will not be open for the full season. The reduced price for residents is \$50 for the year and the reduced price for non-residents is \$100 for the year. The boat ramp will be open 24 hours a day and there are lights in this area. Be smart, be safe, and be courteous of other boaters. Please take care of this park. It will only be as nice as the users keep it. Chairman Harvie said they have openings on the Disabled Person's Advisory Board. One of the jobs is to take a look at businesses and keep an eye out for advice they can give the township and/or business owners in terms of how they can be conscious of those who have a disability of some type. You do not have to be disabled to be on this board. They are looking for people who want to give back to the community. The board meets about once a month. Please contact the township at 215-949-9000 or at website www.fallstwp.com if you are interested in serving on this board. This is a community that needs volunteers.

Member Snipes moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Jeffry Dence, Secretary