

**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 7:03 p.m. with roll call and salute to the flag. All Board members were present with the exception of Member Galloway. Also present were Township Manager Peter Gray, Township Solicitor Lauren Gallagher, and Township Engineer James Sullivan.

GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR THE CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

Lieutenant Nelson Whitney said they held an 8-week Citizens Police Academy Program for 25 citizens of the community. This program acquaints our citizens with what the police officers do every day. The 8-week program exposed the citizens to training in the use of force, firearms, SWAT, interviewing and interrogation techniques, use of the polygraph, accidents and accident investigations, traffic stops and traffic enforcement, internet safety, and search and seizure. They also had the opportunity to go to the district court and the Bucks County radio room. In addition, they had a K-9 demonstration and were able to allow the participants to ride along with some of the officers while out on patrol. Lt. Whitney thanked the Board of Supervisors, Chief Wilcox, and Manager Gray for allowing them the resources to do this program. Lieutenant Whitney, Corporal Wolverton and Officer Yeager presented the citizens with certificates. Mrs. Joann Cosgrove thanked everyone for giving them the wonderful opportunity to do this program. Chairman Harvie thanked the police department for all of their work with this program.

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

Mr. Roland Kenney said when he is out in public and sees someone with a hat from the armed forces, he thanks them. This coming Memorial Day weekend we need to honor all of them. Everyone should thank our veterans.

Mr. Guido Mariani asked if the township has taken any action concerning the Earned Income Tax (EIT). Chairman Harvie said there was a letter to the editor from the Chairman of the Falls Township Republican Committee who lied about Chairman Harvie and Member Dence. Chairman Harvie said the Republican Chairman said they are absolutely enacting

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the Earned Income Tax (EIT), they are going to raise taxes for everyone, and they are wasting money on attorneys who earn \$600 per hour. Chairman Harvie said what they did do was to ask Manager Gray to look at some areas around us and they found that Middletown and Bristol Township are the only two municipalities that have an EIT. They haven't talked anymore about it because the majority of Falls Township residents are not paying it right now. Chairman Harvie said that Mr. Mariani stated that 96% of the communities are paying an EIT, but that is not what they are finding in our area. Mr. Mariani said he does not understand why we are not moving on it and doesn't understand the information that the municipalities around us do not have an EIT. Mr. Mariani gave examples of the amount of money that could be brought into the township. He said if they could increase the Pennsbury School District income by more than \$2M, what would be our rationale for not doing this? This is year after year. Mr. Mariani said we have spent millions of dollars on projects that serve an insignificant minority of residents in this township. Why hesitate to satisfy the majority of our residents' needs.

ITEM # 2 PRESENTATION BY URS ENGINEERS FOR THE TRENTON AVENUE CORRIDOR PCTI STUDY

Chairman Harvie said that at our last meeting, Mr. Douglas Robbins, Project Manager with URS, gave a detailed presentation on the findings and recommendations on the Trenton Avenue corridor PCTI study. Tonight the board will look at the plan and these recommendations. Mr. Robbins said final changes include: grammatical changes, a recommendation to add the number of parking spaces, a change to the name of the trail, and some changes to signage. Chairman Harvie said some recommendations are very low cost and can be done by our Public Works Department. There are also more elaborate things where they can look at different issues with the property owners, improve public access and improve signage. Member Dence moved to accept the Trenton Avenue Corridor PCTI Study; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 3 CONSIDER NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD BID FOR CONSTRUCTION AT QUAKER PENN PARK BOAT RAMP

Manager Gray said T&M Engineers has reviewed bids which were publicly opened on May 14, 2014 for this project. Three bids were received as follows: ABC Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$60,726.39; Atlantic Subsea, Inc. in the amount of \$80,720; and Double D Marine Construction, LLC in the amount of \$116,770.02. It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors issue a notice of intent to award the bid to ABC Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$60,726.39. Chairman Harvie said we will receive \$53,000 from the insurance company which will pay for most of this. Member Boraski asked if ABC is familiar with the boat ramp now. Mr. Sullivan said they did the dredging this year. Member Rocco asked where the solar lights would go. Mr. Sullivan said they go on top of the box. This bid includes a \$5,000 contingency which may or may not be spent. Member Rocco moved to issue the notice of intent to award the bid for construction at Quaker Penn Park Boat Ramp to ABC Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$60,726.39; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 4 CONSIDER PURCHASE OF BULLET PROOF VESTS FOR THE FALLS TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

Manager Gray said the police department has received two quotes to purchase bullet proof vests. Samzie's Uniforms provided the lowest quote of \$761.20 per unit. Lt. Hank Ward said it is recommended that new vests be purchased every five years. Member Boraski asked if there are any vests being purchased for new hires. Lt. Ward said no, because they are custom fitted. Member Boraski asked what they do with the old vests. Lt. Ward said they sometimes take them down to the shooting range. Member Dence moved to approve the purchase of 52 bullet proof vests from Samzie's Uniforms in the amount of \$39,582.40; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 5 MINUTES – MAY 6, 2014

There was a correction to the first paragraph of the May 6, 2014 minutes. Member Boraski was not present for the May 6, 2014 meeting. Member Dence moved to approve the May 6, 2014 minutes, as amended; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Boraski who abstained from the vote. (3-0-1)

ITEM # 6 ENGINEERS REPORT

Mr. Sullivan gave an update on the 2013 Road Program which is continuing in the Hedgerow section of the township. Member Dence said they spoke earlier about the contractor leaving vehicles and material in the neighborhood. Mr. Sullivan will make sure that does not continue to happen. Mr. Sullivan said they will start the water main on Makefield Road sometime this week, at the same time PECO will be doing gas main work. Member Rocco asked if AutoZone will be coming before them in June. Mr. Sullivan said they should appear on the third Tuesday in June. Member Dence moved to accept the April Engineers Report dated May 16, 2014; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 7 BILL LIST

Member Rocco asked about the \$7,000+ payment to the Bucks County Courier Times. Manager Gray said that covers advertising for the Zoning Hearing Board, and posting of various jobs and ordinances. Member Boraski moved to approve the May 19, 2014 bill list in the amount of \$2,752,955.91; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 8 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Gallagher said there was an Executive Session held prior to the meeting. The board discussed two matters of litigation.

ITEM # 9 MANAGER COMMENT

1. Member Dence moved to approve escrow release #2 to Mercer Court in the amount of \$158,707.98; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
2. Member Rocco moved to approve the Puss and Boots land development extension to July 25, 2014; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
3. Member Dence moved to approve the New Seaview/Lubricycle land development extension to August 15, 2014; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
4. Manager Gray said the Pinewood Pool will open on Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. The Falls Township Summer Camp Program is accepting applications for ages 5-13. The six-week camp begins on June 30th. On-line registration is available for both programs.
5. Manager Gray said mylars are ready for Pexco and Motoroom.

Member Dence moved to approve Resolution # 14-15 for the price of out-of-town visitors, weekly pool passes for the Pinewood Pool in the amount of \$25 or a maximum of \$50 per week; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 10 BOARD COMMENT

Member Boraski wanted to acknowledge the new Parks and Rec staff and the new programs, especially the township's kickball program which will begin soon. He appreciates their hard work and getting the community involved.

Member Dence announced the June 6th Que for the Troops event and the June 7th Falls Township Family Festival. He said there will be a lot going on with crafters, vendors, games, and fireworks.

Member Rocco – no comment.

Chairman Harvie said the township will go to one meeting per month for the months of June, July, and August. It will be held on the third Tuesday for each of these months. Due to restrictions by state and federal agencies, the work on the boat ramp and repairing the pilings won't start until sometime after July 1st. Chairman Harvie said they spoke earlier about a letter to the editor that was in the Bucks County Courier Times. There were inaccuracies regarding the Earned Income Tax (EIT) which Mr. Mariani has raised several times over the past few months. Townships and boroughs are allowed to pass this type of tax. If a community passes an EIT, residents of that community, no matter where they work, pay into that community. If your community does not have an EIT and where you work does, then you pay the EIT there. You can only pay EIT in one location; not twice. Chairman Harvie said he understands Mr. Mariani's point that if a lot of people in Falls Township are paying the EIT, then having one here doesn't raise taxes. It means that taxes

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you are paying somewhere else would come here instead. Chairman Harvie said their findings are that they don't believe that majority of Falls Township residents are paying one so that it would be a tax increase for most people. This is not something they are looking at. The letter to the editor said that they are wasting money, Member Dence is not allowed to call the solicitor, and the solicitors are getting \$600 per hour. This is not true. When there are two solicitors here at this meeting, they only pay for one of them and the rate that they approved in January is \$170 per hour which is in line with what other municipalities pay. To distort facts or invent your own facts is unacceptable. Coming up on Memorial Day, this is insulting. We remember people who sacrificed their lives to make this country the way it is. Chairman Harvie said he is proud that members of his family fought in every war, back to the Civil War. He remembers those people who lost their lives and he thinks about that sacrifice. He himself, asks if he is living up to that sacrifice. There are people in this country who don't act very great. He questions everyone to think about the people you are electing and supporting, the way we treat each other, and if we are living up to the sacrifices of those who lost their lives to bring us to where we are today. The Memorial Day Parade, which is put on by the American Legion Post 834 in Fallsington, will be this Sunday starting at 12:30 p.m. at Pennsbury High School and ending in Fallsington. We thank the American Legion for their service and their work in putting this parade together for everyone.

Member Dence moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



Jeffrey Rocco, Secretary