

November 21, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Mahoning Township Supervisors was held this evening at the Mahoning Township Municipal Building at 5:30 PM.

Members of the Board present:

Ken Woodruff, Chairperson

Bill Lynn, Vice Chairman

T. S. Scott, Supervisor

Solicitor Ryan Tira

Township Engineer John Mazich, Uni-Tec

Treasurer, Ken Houck

Secretary Joe Oberdorf

Dean VonBlohn

Also in attendance were:

Leslie Young, Fire Chief

Joe Sylvester, Danville News and Michael Lester, Press Enterprise

Henry Eyer, Rose and Bill Pursel, Joseph Diehl, Sue Kauwell, Linda Weaver, Marlene Gunther, Richard Spotts, Betsy Hack, Lori and Glen Cromley, Ryan and Vanessa Troup, Carl Appleman, Robin Kessler, Tom Landi, Robert and Mary Snyder, Kevin Young, Jackie Woodruff, Linda Neddoff-Weckter, Jonathan Fellin, Pam Stettler, Chris Daly, Chris Doherty and Patrick O'Connell

Meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Marlene Gunther said there was a correction to be made of the minutes of October 17, 2016 on page 2, paragraph 3 and that was not her who asked the question. The Board then approved the Minutes of the October 17<sup>th</sup> regular meeting and the Workshop on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November 2016 after motions by Supervisors Scott and Lynn noting the change.

Treasurer Ken Houck then presented the Financial Report for October 2016 which was approved by the Board. Houck again noted the report is on the Township's Website tomorrow.

Solicitor Ryan Tira (1) reported the Board had an executive session on October 26, 2016 and (2) on finding a solution regarding the Handicapped Parking on Bloom Road, he had an ordinance that would require a letter from the person requesting a Handicapped Sign and the person would also have to show a valid handicapped placard and be a resident of the township. The sign will be required to be renewed every year. He will advertise the ordinance for the next regular meeting. Supervisor Scott and Vice Chairman Lynn made motions to proceed with the ordinance. Motions carried.

Dean showed the Board photos of an intersection of Fairview Drive and Kaseville Road regarding a line of sight problem reported to the Zoning Officer. The photo #1 shows a line of sight clear up to 485 feet looking North towards Red Lane and photo #3 shows a clear line of sight to 525 feet looking South towards Bloom Road. VonBlohn also noted that he had two members of the Mahoning Street Department with him and all agree there is more than adequate sight distance to safely turn onto Kaseville Road

Township Engineer John Mazich then reported the township should schedule a workshop time for the MS 4 and discuss if any other municipalities would want to attend. He reported the township will receive formal notification March 2017 and will have 180 days (September 17, 2017 to apply for permit coverage under the DEP's PAG-13 NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Small MS4s state permit. The MS4 program will require meeting six minimum control measures and complete a permit application package.

Leslie Young, Fire Chief East End gave the report that was presented at the workshop showing Grass and Wood Fire 2, Motor Vehicle Accidents 3, False Alarms 2, Investigation 1 and 10 location where fire prevention was presented to various groups.

Edward Oberholtzer of the Thomas Beaver Free Library then spoke reporting the library has an inventory of 35,000 books and a potential population of over 21,000 people that may use the library in the Danville, Riverside, Rush and Mahoning Township districts. He further noted they are currently facing a deficit of \$135,000 for the year of 2017. He also noted they do have an endowment of 1.9 million dollars that is being used to help offset the deficit and Danville gives them "in kind" service of free water and sewer service. Riverside Borough, Liberty Township and Washingtonville Borough makes donations annually to the library but Mahoning Township in the past has not made any donations. VonBlohn told the gentleman to contact the American Legion for a possible donation. Supervisor Scott made a motion that Mahoning Township donate \$100 for the fourth quarter of 2016 and a \$100 for the next four quarters in 2017. Vice Chairman Lynn excused himself from voting as his wife works there. Chairman Woodruff seconded the motion. Marlene Gunther then reported the County Commissioners had asked for the library to open their books but the library has not responded to the request the assets and liabilities yet. She also expressed the Commissioners had discussed a library tax but that has not been passed. She also heard a suggestion the library sell some old books to offset the deficit. Pam Stettler asked if the Township had a policy to control the possible many requests for donations. Chairman Woodruff reported the township does not currently have a policy. The Supervisors again moved to donate to the library. Motions passed.

Chairman Woodruff was asked by the Tax Collector Marlene Gunther to reimburse her for expenses which included conference fees and lodging while attending a convention. The cost of the invoice is \$379.78. Motions were made by Supervisor T.S. Scott and seconded by Vice Chairman Bill Lynn to approve the expenditure but Lynn reminded her that approval to have expenses paid by the township is required prior to attending any conference or convention. Motions were passed.

Chairman Woodruff reported the next item on the agenda was the appointment of the qualified building inspectors for Mahoning Township. Supervisor T S Scott moved to appoint BIU (Building Inspection Underwriters and NEIC (North East Inspectors Company) be Mahoning Township's official inspectors. Supervisor Scott reported the main points of having two inspection groups and the agreements will allow any party to opt out of the contract at any time without cause. Both vendors are to conduct surveys to the customers served for their opinions to be presented to the township and he also noted the costs to the customers is the same or both vendors. A question was asked if the township had approached more than the two vendors to which Supervisor Scott reported that three other vendors were contacted. This was seconded by Vice Chairman Bill Lynn. Motions passed.

Supervisor Scott presented that Mahoning Township will have an "Open House" at the Municipal Building on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December beginning at 10 am until noon and that East End Fire Company will also have an "Open House" on that day. The entire building will be opened and staffed with employees and you can see the various offices such as Zoning, Secretary, Treasurer, Police, and Street Departments. There will be snacks, food and gifts will be available. All personnel will be available to you for any discussion. The East End Fire Company will display their trucks and equipment plus fire hats for the kids. The League of Women Voters will be here to assist anyone with information regarding election petitions and required forms.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Woodruff noted the Budget for 2017 with final adjustments. The Proposed Budget shows revenues of \$2,764,870, General Expenses of \$1,407,545, Police Expenses of \$674,677 and Street Expenses of \$636,400 with a surplus of \$46,248. Vice Chairman Lynn then moved to adopt the "Tentative" Budget for 2017 which will be advertised in the local newspaper during the next few weeks. Supervisor Scott seconded the motion and the motions were passed.

Chairman Woodruff noted that taxes remain the same for 2017 that are currently in effect for 2016. (Property tax 1.588 of which show 1.384 Township and .024 Fire Company, Per Capital of \$10.00, Realty Transfer Tax ½% and Local Earned Income Tax of ½%). This will be on the agenda for the December regular meeting.

Chairman Woodruff also reported the Board had an executive session of the 18<sup>th</sup> of October.

Chairman Woodruff reported there was an error made by the past secretary regarding "Longevity Pay" for Street Employees Eyer and Baylor. This error was for the last 10 years and amounts to Baylor receiving \$5,500.00 and Eyer receiving \$6,600.00 plus this year's payments of \$2,500 Baylor and \$2,600 to Eyer. Attorney Melissa Kelso and Treasurer Ken Houck researched the problem and made the following recommendations. Motions to pay the amount was made by Supervisor Scott and seconded by Vice Chairman Lynn. Longevity is a type of reward payment of \$50.00 per year with a maximum cap. Motions passed.

Treasurer Houck asked the Board of Supervisors to open an account with Service First. He reported that Service First can have one account which can handle all the escrow accounts (escrow account are the funds required to be retained by the township from developers that must comply with the Mahoning Township Subdivision Ordinance. If the developer fails to install the infrastructure properly the township would use these funds to correct problems. When the township received a deed of dedication of the various infrastructure such as road paving, street lights, water and sewer lines, the amount left is returned to the developer after a specific time) but show individual statements for each escrow account. He reported there is no charge (service fees) and he also got a look at their on-line which is available for Mahoning. Service First will also provide the treasurer a check reader which is used to deposit checks into the various township accounts. Treasurer Houck also would like to set up a credit card with Service First to keep all accounts under one umbrella. A question was asked the current credit card Bank of America is used for what type of purchases. Treasurer Houck reported it is used when supplies are needed quickly and this was echoed by the secretary who needed toner for his copier for the many reports. Supervisor Scott reported that his wife is a Financial Service Specialist for Service First and he further noted that Service First will not have her be given any access to materials regarding the township. Motions of approve the requests were made by Vice Chairman Lynn and seconded by Chairman Woodruff. Motions passed. (2) yeas.

Chairman Woodruff noted the changes of the budget shown last week to this week is the \$60,800 owed to the township and this would increase the revenues now shown and the street department want to replace the F 350, 19-year-old pick-up truck in 2017. Another two items were the additional expense for the truck and winter services \$5,000 and \$5,000 for IT (Office 365 contract). Supervisors Lynn and Woodruff made motions.

Marlene Gunther visited Representative Masser regarding a tax credit for East End relating to fire training and ems. Fire Chief Young is aware of the program.

Bloomsburg Attorney Patrick O'Connell reported that Mahoning Township has sued the Board of Supervisors concerning their vote to dissolve the Mahoning Township Municipal Authority. He reported the lawsuit claims the supervisors' vote does not reflect the will of the electorate. He reported the lawsuit is bogus and the authority is wasting a lot of the authority money and they should fight this lawsuit "tooth and nail" and he would be happy to assist the township in their effort. He further noted that he has not met any person out on the street that believes the Authority should survive.

The supervisors would not comment of the lawsuit and Solicitor Tira said he had just received a copy of the suite late Monday afternoon. (today).

Jonathan Fellin asked a question regarding the \$60,800 owed to the township in lieu of taxes. Sue Kauwell helped explained how the system works with Geisinger and some of their building being exempt as Oberdorf has only had three months to learn their system. Chairman Woodruff also noted the procedure (agreement). Sue Kauwell also noted that Geisinger wanted to be a good neighbor and the County Chief Assessor and other local government officials came up with this agreement. Mahoning receives an additions amount because of Geisinger being located within the township because of the services provided to Geisinger from the township. Oberdorf did note their agreement shows a 2 ½ % increase every year. Chairman Woodruff reported the agreement and he was part of the 3 taxing bodies with the County, Geisinger and Mahoning Township and he will get a copy to the person.

Sue Kauwell noted the Budget as presented was much easier to read that past budgets.

**Adjournment:** The Supervisors Scott and Lynn then moved to authorize and approve the October checks and payrolls and the supervisors adjourned the meeting. Motions carried.

This meeting was recorded on tape.

Joe Oberdorf, Secretary