

**Harmar Township Municipal Building  
Township Board of Supervisors  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
Thursday, February 18, 2016**

**PRESENT**

Patricia A. Janoski	Chairperson
Robert Seibert	Vice Chairperson
Linda Slomer	Supervisor
Robert Exler	Supervisor
Emiliano Cresta	Supervisor
Donna Piper	Secretary/Treasurer
Charles Means	Solicitor
Larry Seiler	Engineer

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Chairperson called the Board of Supervisor's Regular Business Meeting of February 18, 2016 to order at 7:05 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. John Colpo brought attention to the dangerous condition of the lead based paint on the Bessimer & Lake Erie Railroad wherein paint chips have been falling into the Allegheny River; which is upstream from various public water intakes. Mr. Colpo suggested that a letter be sent to the PA Department of Environmental Resources.

Mr. Stanley Malak commented on the lack of forward progress on obtaining portraits of the Denny's for the municipal building.

Mrs. Margaret Cook mentioned that the Tribune Review is placing public announcements in all community editions.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

Mrs. Slomer asked how the Meeting Agenda was changed with regard to Board Comments at the beginning of the meeting and no Public Comments at the end of the meeting. Mr. Seibert stated that the items were discussed by the Board at the meeting in January.

Mrs. Slomer asked if anyone was aware of the activity on Rich Hill Road. Mr. Seiler stated, the site in question is a timbering operation permitted to Redland Brick.

Mrs. Slomer stated, the Board discussed giving the Secretary/Treasurer an increase in salary in Executive Session after the January meeting and asked why the item was not on the Agenda for discussion. Mrs. Slomer stated that she would like to make a motion to have the item added to

the Agenda. Mr. Seibert stated that he felt that the Board was not yet prepared to discuss this personnel issue in a public meeting and needed more time to discuss the among themselves. Mr. Seibert suggested that the item be added to the meeting agenda in March and that a salary increase would be retroactive to January 1. Mrs. Slomer agreed to table the issue until March.

Mrs. Slomer asked how certain items are getting on the Agenda. Mrs. Slomer stated, there are items on the Agenda and she is not aware as to how they are being added. Mr. Seibert stated, there are specific items that are administrative in nature in which the Secretary/Treasurer automatically adds. Mr. Seibert also stated that a few items on the agenda were prompted by himself and that he had contacted the Board Chair and asked permission to have the Secretary/Treasurer add them to the agenda. In addition, Mr. Seibert explained, an email was sent to Board members asking for objections to add certain items to the Agenda; and that items were added by default due to no objections.

Mrs. Slomer is concerned that things are happening and there is no communication among members of the Board. Mrs. Slomer further asked Mr. Seibert how he came about being on Channel 11 News. Mr. Seibert answered, Channel 11 called him to speak about the tax decrease and he declined and that Channel 11 then contacted the Office. The Office Clerk then called Mr. Exler who declined because his wife was in the hospital. Mr. Seibert further explained that Channel 11 called back and he then agreed to meet them within 10 minutes from the time of the call. Mrs. Slomer accepted the explanation of Mr. Seibert; however believes that Channel 11 News does not contact specific persons for interviews.

Mrs. Slomer went on to explain that she always emails the Board with a synopsis of discussions and activities when she represents the Board/Township at events/meetings. She asked that other Board members do the same.

Mrs. Slomer asked how Mr. Exler came to represent the Township at the Harmar Water Authority Meeting and made reference to Mr. Exler's comment in regard to selling the Water Company. Mr. Exler stated that he went to the Harmar Water Authority Meeting as a citizen to question the rates being charged to customers in Harmar Township as compared to Cheswick Borough and Springdale Township. Mr. Exler also stated that he said (in the Authority Meeting) that it would be cheaper for Harmar residents if the water company was sold to Oakmont...then the citizens of Harmer would get water at one half the cost. Mr. Colpo in attendance and also an Authority Board Member, testified to the truth of Mr. Exler's explanations.

Mrs. Slomer again asked that all Supervisors notify all other Supervisors of their activities when representing the Township.

Mrs. Slomer asked the Secretary/Treasurer if the 2015 Financial Audit was complete and requested that the Auditor present the Audit to the Board of Supervisors. Dr. Piper stated that she would set-up the presentation.

Mr. Cresta too would like the Board to keep lines of communication open among Board members. Mr. Cresta stated, the Board has had the Agenda now for two days and has had plenty of opportunity to review the items on the Agenda and ask questions.

Mr. Seibert explained that Mr. Exler was trying to do a good thing by asking the Authority Board how they could be charging the residents of Harmar a higher prices than is charged to Cheswick Borough and Springdale Township. Mr. Seibert explained that Cheswick Borough and Springdale Township purchases water at bulk rates; and after stating that the Harmar rates could not be reduced, the Authority has a plan to lower rates even further for Cheswick Borough and Springdale Township. Mr. Cresta asked the length of Harmar's contract with the Authority. Mr. Seibert answered, thirty years.

Mr. Paul Messish asked who does the administrative work for Harmar. Mr. Seibert answered, the Authority.

In conclusion, Mr. Seibert stated, the bulk rates should not be tied to Harmar Township's residential rates.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Guys Run Road letter of Complaint: The Chair presented a letter of complaint received from a resident along Guys Run Road in regard to excessive vehicular speeds. Mr. Seiler stated that he will follow-up with PADOT.

Request for donation from Allegheny Valley School District for Steps to Awareness 5k: Dr. Piper stated that she contacted the Chief to possibly donate police services for the event as an in-kind donation. The Chief said the District uses the local fire companies and has never requested police assistance. The Board tabled the item.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

Letter from Brayman Construction: The Chair presented a letter from Brayman Construction that recognized Bruno Moretti, Emergency Management Coordinator for his agency's assistance with the Hulton Bridge Demolition project.

National Engineer's Week: Mrs. Slomer thanked Mr. Seiler and Senate Engineering for all of their work and assistance over the years as the Township's Engineer.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mrs. Slomer made a motion to approve the December 17, 2015 minutes. Mr. Exler provided the second. Mr. Seibert and Mr. Cresta abstained. The motion was carried by a majority of the Board.

Prior to voting on the January 4, 2016 meeting minutes, Mr. Seibert explained that the motions for 2016 Vice Chair position, during the Organization Meeting needs to be clarified. Mr. Seibert explained that Ms. Janoski made a motion for Mr. Seibert as Vice Chair. The Chair then called for a second on the motion for Mr. Exler as Vice Chair. Mr. Means reviewed the minutes as

written and stated that the minutes were written accurately and could be voted upon. Mr. Means then suggested that the Board clarify their intent as to the Vice Chairman position.

Mrs. Slomer made a motion to approve the January 4, 2016 Organization Meeting Minutes. Mr. Exler provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously. The Chair then clarified that the intent of the Board was to appoint Mr. Seibert as the Vice Chair.

Mr. Seibert made a motion to approve the January 4, 2016 Regular Business Meeting Minutes. Mr. Exler provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The Chair made a motion to approve the December 2015 Financial Reports. Mr. Exler provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously.

As per the Agenda, the Secretary/Treasurer recommended that the Board table the January 2016 Financial Reports.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Means stated that he had reviewed the contract as submitted to him by the Secretary/Treasurer in regard to Building Inspection, Zoning and Code Services that will be discussed later on the Agenda.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Terrace Drive Phase III – CD 42: The Township selected the Terrace Drive Retaining Wall Phase III as their area-wide AVNCOG project for 2016. Senate recommends that the Township authorize Senate to proceed with the preparation of design and bid documents.

Guys Run Road Bridge: The bridge on Guys Run Road closest to Campbell's Run Road will be closed during reconstruction of the the bridge over Guys Run. Construction is to begin in spring of this year.

2015 Chapter 94 Annual Report was prepared and submitted to the Sewage Authority.

2016 Paving Program: Senate Engineering recommends that the Township name Old Rt 910 and the Soccer Parking lot to the 2016 Paving Program.

Soccer Field Improvements: Recommends that the Board authorize Senate to proceed with work. Mr. Seiler reported that he and the Secretary/Treasurer met with a representative from Pitt Ohio and that Pitt Ohio may be willing to donate to the project.

Mr. Seibert made a motion to authorize Senate Engineering to proceed with the Soccer Field Improvements consisting of: new fencing, relocation of electric poles, improvements to the back lot (across stream), improvements to the concession stand and ADA restrooms, the completion of

a 4-pin land survey on property located at end of Acme Avenue and possible screening/fencing, and all other items that may be necessary and/or recommended by the Engineer.

Mrs. Perrett asked how many Harmar people use the field vs out of town people. Mr. Exler said that Harmar kids use the football and baseball fields in adjoining municipalities and that kids from adjoining municipalities use the Harmar soccer fields.

Mr. Malak said that the Harmar Soccer fields bring families to Harmar and they spend their money at places in Harmar.

Mrs. Jewart asked how much money is in the budget for soccer field improvements. Mr. Seibert stated that monies in Capital Improvement Fund will be used as well as solicited donations.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Resolution #5-2106: Sewage Facilities Planning Module for Shults Ford Harmarville Associates. Mr. Seibert made a motion to approve the Planning Module. Mr. Exler provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution #5-2016: Signature Cards for First Commonwealth Bank adding Emiliano Cresta as signatory. Mr. Exler made a motion to approve Resolution #5-2015. Mr. Seibert provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution #7-2016: Resolution appointing third party building inspection agency for building, code, and zoning services. Ms. Slomer made a motion to appoint Bureau Veritas as the third party agency with the change to effectuate on February 21, 2016. Mr. Exler provided the second. Mr. Cresta asked how the administrative billing would be handled. Dr. Piper answered that billing would be handled by the agency and the Township does not have any billing responsibilities. The Chair called for a vote and the motion was approved by a majority of the Board. The Chair voted no.

Resolution #8-2016: Amendment to Harmar Township Fee Schedule to reflect adjusted fees for building inspection and zoning permits. Mr. Seibert made a motion to approve the amended Fee Schedule. Mr. Exler provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution #9-2016: Appointment of members to the Pension Board of Trustees. Mr. Exler made a motion to appoint Mrs. Slomer as Chairman of the Pension Board and to also appoint Mr. Cresta to the Pension Board. Mrs. Slomer provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution #10-2016: Resolution to adopt the Allegheny County 2015 Hazard Mitigation Plan as the official mitigation plan for Harmar Township. Mr. Siebert made the motion and Mr. Exler provided the second. The motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution #11-2016: Resolution to adopt the Emergency Management Operations Plan for Harmar Township as prepared by Bruno Moretti, EMS Coordinator. The Chair made the motion and Mr. Cresta provided the second. The motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution #12-2016: Execution of Agreement with Morrow Refuse for the 2016 Annual Trash Pick-up. Mr. Siebert made a motion to enter into the Agreement with Morrow Refuse. Mr. Exler provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously.

Resolution #13-2016: Resolution to repeal resolutions #26-2012, #5-2014 and #10-2014. Mr. Siebert made a motion and Mr. Exler provided the second. The motion was carried unanimously.

Pension Advisory Services: Mr. Seibert made a motion to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to advertise for Pension Investment/Advisory Services. Mr. Exler provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously.

2016 Paving Program: Mrs. Slomer made a motion to adopt the 2016 Paving Program as recommended by the Municipal Engineer and to authorize Engineer to prepare and advertise bid packets. Mr. Cresta provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously.

CD-42 Terrace Drive Retaining Wall: Mrs. Slomer made a motion to authorize the Municipal Engineer to prepare and advertise bid packets for a project total of \$60k using \$20k COG Wide grant monies for the project. Mr. Exler provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously.

HVAC Maintenance Services: Mr. Seibert made a motion to have the Secretary/Treasurer request proposals for maintenance services of the Municipal Building's HVAC System. Mr. Cresta provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously.

CITF & GEDF Grant Applications: Mr. Seibert made a motion to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to submit project grant applications to CITF and GEDF grants. Mr. Exler provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously.

DCNR Grant Application: Mr. Seibert made a motion to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to submit a project grant application to DCNR. Mr. Exler provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously.

Local Government Academy Grant: Mr. Seibert suggested that the grant application for a summer intern be tabled until next year so as to be placed in the budget.

Pitt Ohio offers clean fill to the Township: Mr. Seiler explained that Pitt Ohio has offered to haul approximately 500 cubic yards of clean fill to the Township's Soccer Field for field improvements. Mr. Seibert made a motion to accept the offer. Mrs. Slomer provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously.

Request to Purchase New Police Vehicle: The Board reviewed the quotes for a new police vehicle as provided by the Chief. Mr. Seibert made a motion to purchase a 2016 Ford Expedition

at a cost of \$33,000 to be paid from the Capital Improvements Fund. Mrs. Slomer provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously.

Request to Purchase Body Cameras and Cameras for Police Vehicles: The Board reviewed the quotes for vehicle cameras as provided by the Chief. After much Board discussion, Mr. Seibert made a motion to purchase cameras for the police vehicles at a cost of \$17,880 to be paid from the Capital Improvements Fund. Mr. Exler provided the second and the motion was carried unanimously.

Intergovernmental Cooperation Project through the COG for the sharing of manpower and equipment: After much discussion, the agenda item was tabled. The consensus was that most of these types of projects do not work.

Township Auditors: Dr. Piper reported that the Township currently has only one Auditor. Mr. Siebert asked if a request for volunteers could be provided in the local paper. Dr. Piper also stated that the vacancy is listed on the web site.

Acme Park Play Structure: Mr. Seibert made a motion to authorize placement of the play structure for sale on MunicBid and to authorize the Secretary to obtain proposals for the installation of the new play structure. Mr. Exler provided the second.

2016 Newsletter: Discussion ensued about a 2016 Newsletter and whether it should be like the postcard that was sent last year to announce the Annual Trash Pick-up Schedule. Mr. Seibert suggested that a one sheet (front and back) newsletter be mailed. Dr. Piper stated that the postage on a full sheet is the same as the postage on a postcard. Discussion also ensued in regard to the distribution of the Newsletter (mailed or distributed by foot). Mr. Seibert offered to help with the Newsletter project.

Codification of Ordinances: Dr. Piper reported the death of the consultant hired to complete the codification services. Mr. Seibert made a motion to authorize the Secretary/Treasurer to obtain proposals to finish the codification project. Mr. Exler provided the second. The motion was carried unanimously.

There being no further business before the Board. The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna J. Piper, PhD