

**Amity Township Board of Supervisors
Reorganization Meeting Agenda
January 2, 2007**

Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

The January 7, 2008 meeting of the Amity Township Board of Supervisors, held at the Municipal Township Building, 2004 Weavertown Rd., Douglassville, Berks County, Pennsylvania, was called to order at 7:00 PM by Vice Chair Richard Gokey. The following were in attendance:

SUPERVISORS

Richard Gokey,
Kim McGrath
Scott Stepp
Robert Yanos
Paul Weller

STAFF

Charles E. Lyon, Manager
JoAnne Sowers-Smith, Secretary/Treasurer
Noel Roy, Chief of Police
Brian Boland, Solicitor/Kozloff Stoudt

Nomination/Election of Temporary Chairperson

Motion by Mrs. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Weller, to open the floor for nominations for Temporary Chairperson. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Yanos moved, seconded by Mr. Weller, to nominate Mr. Gokey as temporary Chairperson. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mrs. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Weller, to close the floor for nominations for Temporary Chairperson. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Gokey was unanimously elected Temporary Chairperson.

Nomination/Election of Temporary Secretary

Motion by Mr. Weller, seconded by Mrs. McGrath, to open the floor for nominations for Temporary Secretary. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Yanos, to nominate JoAnne Sowers-Smith as temporary Secretary. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mrs. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Yanos, to close the floor for nominations for Temporary Secretary. Motion passed unanimously.

JoAnne Sowers-Smith was unanimously elected Temporary Secretary.

Nomination/Election of Chairperson

Motion by Mrs. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Yanos, to open the floor for nominations for Chairperson for the year 2008. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Yanos to nominate Richard Gokey.

Motion by Mr. Yanos, seconded by Mrs. McGrath, to close the floor for nominations for Chairperson for the year 2008. Motion passed unanimously.

Upon the vote, four members voted in favor of Mr. Gokey. Mr. Stepp opposed. Mr. Gokey was duly appointed Chairperson for year 2007.

Nominations/Election of Vice Chairperson

Motion by Mr. Weller, seconded by Mrs. McGrath, to open the floor for nominations for Vice Chairperson for the year 2008. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Gokey, to nominate Kim McGrath as Vice Chair.

Motion by Mrs. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Yanos to close the floor for nominations for Vice Chairperson for the year 2008. Motion passed unanimously.

Upon the vote, Mr. Gokey, Mr. Weller and Mrs. McGrath voted in favor of Mrs. McGrath. Mr. Stepp and Mr. Yanos opposed. Mrs. McGrath was duly appointed Vice Chairperson for the year 2008.

Upon a motion by Mr. Yanos and seconded by Mr. Gokey and passed unanimously the following slate was appointed for 2008:

Secretary/Treasurer JoAnne Sowers-Smith

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Kathie Benson

Township Manager Charles E. Lyon

Roadmaster Charles E. Lyon

Planning Commission Secretary Kathie Benson

Pension Actuary Redmond Consulting Ltd

Pension Administrator Investors Trust

Assistant Tax Collector Gail Fronheiser

Solicitor Kozloff Stoudt

Township Engineer LTL Consultants

Code Enforcement Officer LTL Consultants

Zoning Officer and Building Code Official Steve Loomis

Sewer Enforcement Officer LTL Consultants

Sewer Engineer Arro Consulting

Fire Marshall Richard Ford

Assistant Fire Marshals Richard Ford, Jr., Frank Burzynski, James Munda and Thomas Walters

Vacancy Board James Elliot

RATS Liaison Charles E. Lyon

Recycling Coordinator Kim McGrath

Township Depositories Sovereign Bank, and National Penn Bank

Environmental Advisory Council Marlin Zechman

Zoning Hearing Board Alfred Greenawalt

Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor Buckley, Brion, McGuire, Morris and Sommer, LLP

Appointed Auditors Long & Barrell was appointed Township Auditors by adoption of *Resolution 08-01*.

Recreation Board Gerald Kupp

Library Liaison Scott Stepp

Fire Company Liaison Kim McGrath

Pension Trustees Upon a motion by Mr. Gokey, seconded by Mr. Weller, Kim McGrath, and Robert Yanos were appointed Trustees for the Municipal Employees and Police Pension Plans. Motion passed 5-0.

Elected Auditors Upon a motion by Mr. Yanos, and seconded by Mr. Weller, Joseph Bacciaglia and Gretchen Schubert were appointed to two year terms as elected auditors. Motion passed 5-0.

2008 PSATS Convention Voting Delegate Upon a motion by Mr. Weller, seconded by Mrs. McGrath, Richard Gokey was appointed as Voting Delegate to the 2008 PSATS Convention. Motion passed 5-0.

2008 PSATS Convention Alternate Upon a motion by Mr. Gokey, seconded by Mr. Yanos, Kim McGrath was appointed as Voting Delegate Alternate to the 2008 PSATS Convention. Motion passed 5-0.

Planning Commission Upon a motion by Mr. Yanos, seconded by Mrs. McGrath, Paul Weller was appointed to the Planning Commission for a four year term. Motion passed 3-1-1. Mr. Weller abstained and Mr. Stepp opposed. Upon a motion by Mrs. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Weller, George Ferensick was appointed to the Planning Commission for the remaining two year term, vacated by Scott Blumenstock. Motion passed 5-0.

Economic Development Advisory Council Upon a motion by Mr. Yanos, seconded by Mrs. McGrath, Edwin Selwin was appointed to the EDAC. Motion passed 5-0.

Emergency Management Coordinator Upon a motion by Mr. Yanos, seconded by Mr. Weller, Kevin Neiswender was appointed Emergency Management Coordinator. Motion passed 5-0.

Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator Upon a motion by Mrs. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Weller, Derrick Nester was appointed Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator. Motion passed 5-0.

Upon a motion by Mr. Yanos, seconded by Mrs. McGrath the reorganization meeting of

2008 was adjourned at 7:20PM. Motion passed 5-0.

The regular meeting of the Amity Township Board of Supervisors commenced at 7:21 PM by Chairperson Richard Gokey.

ANNOUNCEMENTS none

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

None

MINUTES

Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Gokey to approve the Minutes of December 18, 2007. Motion passed 4-0-1. Mr. Stepp abstained.

FINANCE

Moved by Mrs. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Gokey, and passed 4-0-1, Mr. Yanos abstaining, to approve the following disbursements:

Disbursements:	\$ 85,266.87	General Fund
	\$ 22,085.07	Sewer Fund
	\$ 15,671.82	EDU Fund
	\$ 16,480.57	Traffic Impact Fund North
	\$ 627.43	Recreation/ Park Fund
	<u>\$ 11,008.90</u>	<u>Liquid Fuels</u>
	\$151,140.66	Total

FIRE COMPANY REPORT Chief Richter presented his yearly report and officers for 2008.

EDAC Bob Elsas reported that the EDAC will discuss the 422 interchange at their next meeting. He stated that the Township needs to make it more accessible and more effective.

EAC Jennifer Huha reported that the EAC was working with the County to provide radon pamphlets to all residents in the Township. Mr. Gokey asked if there was grant money available to supply the residents with radon kits. She stated they are also working on an environmental resource inventory. Mr. Yanos moved, seconded by Mrs. McGrath to appoint Scott Stepp as liaison to the EAC for 2008. Motion passed 5-0.

RECREATION BOARD Risa Marmontello reported that the Rec Board had designated the fees from the I & G development to Amity Community Park. She stated that the Rec Board would like to pursue reevaluating the rec fees collected from developers. Mr. Boland stated that he should have the report from Doug Haring shortly. Ms. Marmontello reported that the Forest Stewardship Committee had compiled the results from the survey

and comments from people that had attended the meetings. She stated that January 17 was the presentation of the information and last chance for input from the public.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

EDU Policy Discussion Mr. Yanos moved to table. Motion passed unanimously.

Weavertown Traffic Study Mr. Yanos moved to table. Motion passed unanimously. The Board preferred to wait until the engineer was present to discuss.

Resolution 08-02 Fee Schedule Mr. Stepp moved, seconded by Mr. Gokey to approve Resolution 08-02. Motion passed 5-0.

2008 Meeting Dates Mr. Yanos stated it was important to have the same attorney at the Supervisor's meetings. After discussion it was decided that the meeting dates would be changed to the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. The Zoning Hearing Board would discuss alternate dates for their meeting. Mr. Yanos moved, seconded by Mr. Stepp to authorize the advertising of the new meeting dates. Motion passed 5-0.

Pulte Homes EDU Refund Request Mr. Boland stated that he would notify Greystone Capital Partners of Pulte's request and give them an opportunity to make arrangements with Pulte regarding their refund. Greystone would then report the results to the Township.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Boland presented Resolution 08-01 (appointing Long & Barrell as auditors) to the Board for signatures. Mr. Boland stated that he could make available an afternoon for the new Supervisors to discuss ongoing issues. Mr. Gokey stated it might be a good idea to have the engineers available as well.

NEW BUSINESS

Ralph Hartzell Vacation Rollover Request . Mr. Yanos moved, seconded by Mrs. McGrath to approve 3 day vacation rollover for Ralph Hartzell without setting precedence. Motion passed 5-0.

SMO Report and Request for Direction Steve Loomis had set forth a procedure for those residents that had not complied with the SMO ordinance. Mr. Gokey moved, seconded by Mr. Yanos to follow the procedure, provided that the letters are sent certified mail and that it is specified that this ordinance is mandated by the State. Motion passed 5-0.

EMPLOYEE/OFFICIAL REPORTS

Manager. The manager reported that there had been a sewer break along 422 over the Christmas holiday. Three businesses had been affected. The Township obtained an emergency permit from PennDOT, but only a small portion of the shoulder had been disturbed. A temporary patch would be in place until a permanent one can be put on in the spring. Mr. Lyon reported that the Pondview development had been sold and new agreements were being prepared with the new developer. The Manager stated we should soon have a tentative agreement with Service Electric to review. The Manager reported that almost all the right of way agreements for the Monocacy Interceptor had been sent to the property owners. We had received two back executed. Heritage would like to have a status meeting to review their development's status. Mr. Lyon stated he could put

together an updated status report after the meetings with the involved property owners had been concluded and then send it to Heritage. He didn't see the necessity for a meeting until the meetings with property owners are concluded.

Mr. Lyon reported that the developer for Arbour Green would probably be coming before the Board to review and discuss the required improvements to the existing sewer line.

Chief of Police The Chief requested to attend a Civil Service Workshop. Mr. Yanos moved, seconded by Mrs. McGrath to approve. Motion passed 5-0. Mr. Yanos moved, seconded by Mrs. McGrath to send the three corporals and the Chief to "Advanced Supervision School" at \$360 per person plus meals and mileage. Motion passed 5-0. Mrs. McGrath asked if there would be sufficient coverage with four officers gone at one time. The Chief stated that a senior officer would be in charge.

Supervisors Mr. Yanos asked if the Board wanted to reopen the Budget. Mr. Weller stated that he was concerned about using the Township's reserves to balance the budget. He stated that next year the Board will have to raise taxes. Mr. Gokey stated that the Township still would have a million dollars in reserve, but he was concerned about the transfer tax. Mr. Stepp stated that if the Township had the money it should be used instead of raising taxes. Mr. Yanos stated he was concerned about the condition of the Township's roadways. He stated he would like to be conservative with legal expenses and would like to increase recycling revenues. He also stated he would like to have a strategy session at some point to outline goals and objectives. Mr. Gokey stated that perhaps the Board members could put together their own goals in anticipation of this strategy session.

Mr. Gokey stated he thought the Board has the makeup to go in the same direction and he hoped to position Amity as the business friendly township in Berks County. By soliciting more economic development to the Township, the tax burden could be decreased.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Risa Marmontello asked if yard waste was counted towards the recycling grant. Mrs. McGrath stated it was counted but not credited towards the grant. Mr. Yanos stated he would like to collect all the glass in the Township. Mrs. McGrath stated that they were working on the Fire Companies.

Terry Jones asked about the SMO ordinance. He stated that his neighbors are unclear about what is going on. Mr. Weller stated that the letter that was sent out was very clear.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was adjourned to executive session to discuss administrative wages, and personnel issues at 8:45PM on motion by Mr. Stepp, seconded by Mr. Yanos, and duly passed.

The meeting reconvened at 9:25PM. Mr. Stepp moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to approve a 2.75% wage increase for non-uniform, non-contract (non-collective bargaining) employees for 2008. Motion passed 5-0. The increase is consistent with the 2008 budget.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, Mr. Stepp moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to adjourn the meeting at 9:26PM. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnne Sowers-Smith
Secretary/Treasurer