

Amity Township Board of Supervisors
Reorganization Meeting Minutes
January 4, 2010

Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

The January 4, 2010 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 7:11 PM by Chairperson Kim McGrath. The following were in attendance:

SUPERVISORS

Kim McGrath, Chair
Scott Stepp
Robert R. Yanos
Paul Weller
Terry Jones

STAFF

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

Nomination/Election of Temporary Chairperson

Motion by Mr. Yanos, seconded by Mrs. McGrath, nominated Scott Stepp as temporary Chairperson. Motion passed unanimously.

Nomination/Election of Temporary Secretary

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

Nomination/Election of Chairperson

Motion by Mr. Weller, seconded by Mrs. McGrath, to open the floor for nominations for Chairperson for the year 2010. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stepp nominated Kim McGrath.

Mr. Jones nominated Robert Yanos

Motion by Mr. Yanos, seconded by Mr. Weller, to close the floor for nominations for Chairperson for the year 2010. Motion passed unanimously.

Upon the roll call vote, all members voted in favor of Mr. Yanos. Mr. Yanos was duly appointed Chairperson for year 2010.

Nominations/Election of Vice Chairperson

Motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mrs. McGrath, to open the floor for nominations for Vice Chairperson for the year 2010. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Jones nominated Kim McGrath.

Motion by Mr. Yanos, seconded by Mr. Weller, to close the floor for nominations for Vice Chairperson for the year 2010. Motion passed unanimously.

The Secretary recorded the vote cast by unanimous ballot for Kim McGrath as Vice Chair for 2010. Mrs. McGrath was duly appointed Vice Chairperson for the year 2010.

Slate of Appointments for 2010:

Upon a motion by Mr. Yanos, seconded by Mr. Stepp the following slate of appointments was affirmed as presented:

Secretary/Treasurer	JoAnne Sowers-Smith
Assistant Secretary	Kathie Benson
Assistant Treasurer	Jean Szvetcz
Township Manager	Charles E. Lyon
Roadmaster	Charles E. Lyon
Planning Commission Secretary	Kathie Benson
Pension Actuary	Redmond Consulting Ltd
Pension Administrator	Investors Trust
Pension Trustees	Charles E. Lyon
	JoAnne Sowers-Smith
	Kathie Benson
Solicitor	Kozloff Stoudt
Alternate Solicitor	Paul Ober & Associates
Township Engineer	LTL Consultants
Code Enforcement Officer	Steve Loomis/LTL Consultants
Zoning Officer	Steve Loomis/LTL Consultants
Sewage Enforcement Officer	Steve Loomis/LTL Consultants
Appointed Auditors	Long & Barrell
Township Depositories	Fulton Bank, National Penn Bank, Harleysville Bank
Planning Commission	George Ferensick
Economic Development Council	Robert Elsas
Economic Development Council	Oddvar Norheim
Vacancy Board	James Elliot
Recreation Board	Harold Boyer
Open Records Officer	JoAnne Sowers-Smith
Assistant Open Records Officer	Charles E. Lyon
RATS Liaison	Charles E. Lyon
Zoning Hearing Board	James Mazzoni
Sewer Engineer	Arro Consulting
BCO	Steve Loomis
Alternate BCO	Linda McCue
Assistant Tax Collector	Gail Fronheiser
Bond Limit Recommendations	
Secretary/Treasurer	\$6,000,000
Asst. Treasurer	\$6,000,000
Secretary III	\$100,000

The Board discussed the appointment of the Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor. Mr. Yanos stated that he felt the Solicitor did not follow the ordinances as closely as he would like. It was the consensus of

the Board that their concerns should be relayed to the Solicitor. Mr. Stepp moved to appoint Jeff Sommer of Buckley, Brion, McGuire, Morris & Sommer, LLP for 6 months and the Board should discuss their concerns with Mr. Sommer during that time. Mrs. McGrath seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

The Board discussed the appointment of the Emergency Management Coordinator. The Manager and the Chief suggested that a staff member could serve as Deputy Emergency Manager for back up. Mr. Yanos asked Richard Ford if he would be interested in the position. Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Jones to appoint Richard Ford as Emergency Management Coordinator for 2010. Motion passed 5-0. Mr. Weller suggested that Mr. Ford recommend to the Board a candidate for Deputy Emergency Manager. Mr. Jones moved to table the appointment of Deputy Emergency Manager. Motion passed 5-0.

Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Stepp to appoint James Munda as Fire Marshal for 2010. Motion passed 5-0.

Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to appoint Dwight Buckwalter to the Planning Commission for a four year term. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Stepp moved to table the appointments for the Environmental Advisory Council. Motion passed 5-0.

Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to appoint Kathie Benson as Recycling Coordinator for 2010. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Stepp to appoint Terry Jones as Fire Company Liaison for 2010. Motion passed 5-0.

The Board discussed the Library Liaison position. Mr. Stepp stated that there are three representatives from Amity on the Library Board and one of them should be the Liaison. Mr. Weller stated that he would like to see the minutes from the Library Board. Mrs. McGrath stated she could contact Kim Finkbiner to see if she would be the Liaison.

Regarding the Safety Committee Liaison, Mr. Stepp suggested the Manager be the Liaison. Mr. Lyon stated that because of the accreditation a Supervisor must sit on the committee. Mr. Weller stated he could serve. Mr. Yanos moved, seconded by Mrs. McGrath to appoint Mr. Weller as Safety Committee Liaison for 2010. Motion passed 5-0.

The regular meeting of the Amity Township Board of Supervisors commenced at 7:49 PM by Chairperson Mr. Yanos.

ANNOUNCEMENTS none

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

None

MINUTES

Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to approve the minutes of December 16, 2009. Mr. Yanos asked about the fire company insurance on the Chief's vehicle. Mr. Boland stated a letter was sent to the carrier asking for clarification of coverage and to attend the next Supervisor's meeting. He stated he was asking for a letter from the carrier stating that family members are covered while using the vehicle for personal use. Mr. Boland stated that the agent said they were covered. Motion passed 5-0.

FINANCE

Moved by Mrs. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Weller, and duly passed to approve the following disbursements:

\$ 37,032.41	General Fund
\$ 15,538.46	Sewer Fund
\$ 3,580.40	Traffic Impact Fund (14)
\$ 1,261.20	Fire Fund
\$ 6,302.19	Liquid Fuels
<u>\$ 63,714.66</u>	Total

With the exception of the check for Pa. Municipal Managers Assn. for \$150.

REPORTS

Code Enforcement The December code enforcement report was presented to the Board. Mr. Yanos asked the Shirey property. Mr. Boland replied that Mr. Shirey is applying for a new zoning permit because his existing permit expired. Mr. Jones asked about the Davidheiser property. Mrs. McGrath stated that enforcement needs to move forward. Mr. Jones also asked about the Tollgate Road properties. The Manager stated he would look at them.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Jones to authorize the issuance of two checks, one for \$7591.00 for the difference in the appraisal and one for \$4000.00 for legal fees to Martha Boisson for the settlement of an easement agreement for the Monocacy Creek Interceptor. Motion passed 5-0. Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mrs. McGrath to adopt Resolution 10-02 appointing Long and Barrell as auditors for the Township accounts for 2009. Motion passed 5-0. Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mrs. McGrath to authorize the Chair to execute the filing of condemnation of the McCarthy property at 27-29 Tollgate Road. Motion passed 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 10-01 Fee Schedule Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to approve the fee schedule with the changes as recommended by LTL Consultants for the SEO charges. Motion passed 5-0.

Root Control Amityville Area Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to approve the expense. Mr. Jones was of the opinion that this treatment was a waste of money. He felt it would be better to grout with a rust inhibitor. Mr. Yanos moved to table the issue. Motion passed 5-0.

Zoning Hearing Board Recommendation- Blacksmith Subdivision The developer is requesting relief from setback requirements. Mr. Yanos stated that if the relief was required because the underground detention facility was being removed an exception could be made. But if not, then the ordinance should be followed. Mr. Yanos asked if the hearing could be moved to February so the Board could be provided more information. Mr. Boland will contact Mr. Sommer to relay the Board’s concerns.

EMPLOYEE/OFFICIAL REPORTS

Manager. The manager reported that he would like to forward John Althouse’s request for early retirement to the Actuary. The Board asked the Manager to apprise Mr. Althouse of what is transpiring.

A snow plowing accident was reviewed. Mr. Jones suggested getting quotes from Triad Trucking in Limerick for repairs.

Mr. Lyon reported that the Interceptor is proceeding.

A pandemic vaccination clinic was held and approximately 250 doses of the vaccine distributed. Act 537 contingency plans will be ready shortly.

The manager reported that during recent storms, one of the flood pumps at the sewer plant failed. Mr. Lyon authorized an emergency repair.

The manager reported that he had received stormwater complaints from residents in Woods Edge. He had asked the engineer to review the drainage plan and report at the next meeting.

Mr. Lyon reported that Senator Rafferty's office had contacted him to discuss the AWIP project.

Chief of Police Chief Shuebrook reported the same level of activity last month. Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Yanos to approve the promotion of Jamie Milesosky to Corporal effective January 1, 2010. Motion passed 5-0.

The Chief reported that Officer Gauby had successfully completed some college courses and was requesting tuition reimbursement of \$1500 for 2009. Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to approve the reimbursement. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Yanos asked the Board if they want to do a review of the Chief. The Chief stated he would appreciate feedback from the Board. Mrs. McGrath asked if mileage information on the vehicles could be provided. Mr. Jones asked if he could see the breakdown in repair costs for vehicles over 100,000 miles.

SUPERVISORS

Mr. Yanos asked about a sewer complaint at the DeAngeli's residence over the weekend. The manager responded that sewer crews were dispatched and the line was opened on Saturday night. There apparently was a lot of grit in the line, probably from recent storms and snow melt. Mr. Jones suggested the Township institute a property transfer inspection to see if sump pumps are draining into the sewer system.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Jones to recess to executive session at 9:18PM

Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Yanos to reconvene the meeting at 9:45PM. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mrs. McGrath to authorize Chief Shuebrook to make the final decision on whether to send Officer Smith to a training seminar, pending the Chief's further review. Motion passed 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:46PM on motion by Mrs. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Jones, and duly passed.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnne Sowers-Smith
Secretary/Treasurer