

Amity Township Board of Supervisors
Meeting Minutes
January 3, 2011

Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag

The January 3, 2011 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 Chairperson Robert Yanos. The following were in attendance:

SUPERVISORS

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

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. Weller, seconded by Mrs. McGrath, to open the floor for nominations for Temporary Chairperson. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Weller, seconded by Mr. Jones, nominated Robert Yanos as temporary Chairperson. Motion passed unanimously.

Nomination/Election of Temporary Secretary

Motion by Mrs. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Jones, to open the floor for nominations for Temporary Secretary. Motion passed unanimously.
Mrs. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Jones, nominated JoAnne Sowers-Smith as temporary Secretary. Motion passed unanimously.

Nomination/Election of Chairperson

Motion by Mrs. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Weller, to open the floor for nominations for Chairperson for the year 2011. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Weller, seconded by Mrs. McGrath nominated Robert Yanos.

Motion by Mrs. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Weller, to close the floor for nominations for Chairperson for the year 2011. Motion passed unanimously.

Upon the roll call vote, all members voted in favor of Mr. Yanos. Mr. Yanos was duly appointed Chairperson for year 2011.

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 2011. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stepp, seconded by Mr. Weller, nominated Kim McGrath.

Motion by Mr. Weller, seconded by Mrs. McGrath, to close the floor for nominations for Vice Chairperson for the year 2011. Motion passed unanimously.

Upon the roll call vote, all members voted in favor of Mrs. McGrath. Mrs. McGrath was duly appointed Vice Chairperson for the year 2011.

Slate of Appointments for 2011:

Upon a motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Weller and unanimously passed the following slate of appointments was affirmed as presented:

Secretary/Treasurer	JoAnne Sowers-Smith
Assistant Secretary	Kathie Benson
Assistant Treasurer	Jean Szvetecz
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
Zoning Board Solicitor	Buckley, Brion, McGuire, Morris & Sommer, LLP
	LTL Consultants
Township Engineer	Steve Loomis/LTL Consultants
Code Enforcement Officer	Steve Loomis/LTL Consultants
Zoning Officer	Steve Loomis/LTL Consultants
Sewage Enforcement Officer	Long & Barrell
Appointed Auditors	Fulton Bank, National Penn Bank, First Niagra
Township Depositories	Joe Peterson
	Majid Alsayegh
Economic Development Council	James Munda
Economic Development Council	Marlin Zechman
Fire Marshal	James Elliot
Environmental Advisory Council	JoAnne Sowers-Smith
Vacancy Board	Charles E. Lyon
Open Records Officer	Charles E. Lyon
Assistant Open Records Officer	Tom Bosler
RATS Liaison	Neil Pestcoe
Zoning Hearing Board	Arro Consulting
Zoning Hearing Board	Steve Loomis
Sewer Engineer	
BCO	

Alternate BCO	Linda McCue
Fire Company Liaison	Terry Jones
Safety Committee	Paul Weller
Assistant Tax Collector	Gail Fronheiser
Bond Limit Recommendations	
Secretary/Treasurer	\$5,000,000
Asst. Treasurer	\$5,000,000
Secretary III	\$100,000

Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Yanos to appoint Terry Jones as Emergency Management Coordinator. Motion passed 5-0. Mr. Weller pointed out that Mr. Jones has all the necessary certifications.

Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to appoint Terry Jones to the Planning Commission. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mrs. McGrath to appoint Scott Weller to the Recreation Board. Motion passed 4-0-1. Mr. Weller abstained.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

None

MINUTES

Mr. Yanos moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to approve the minutes of December 15, 2010. Motion passed 5-0.

FINANCE

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

\$ 95,783.26	General Fund
\$ 53,542.92	Sewer Fund
\$ 1,436.00	Fire Fund
\$ 5,905.36	Liquid Fuels
<u>\$156,667.54</u>	Total

REPORTS

Code Enforcement The December report was presented to the Board for their review.

Streets/Parks Mr. Howell-Clarke reported that Truck 68 needs new tires, he is getting prices. During the snow storm, one truck slid into a ditch and had to be removed by a wrecker.

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution 11-01 Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to adopt Resolution 11-01 appointing Long and Barrell as auditors for the Township funds for 2010. Motion passed 5-0.

Amity Fire Company disbursement Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Jones to disburse the same amount that was given earlier to Monarch Fire Company less the amount of the lease payment. Motion passed 5-0.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Mr. Boland stated he had filed a motion in court to force the attendance of Bancorp executives at deposition in the Pondview matter. A hearing is set for February.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 11-02 Fee Schedule Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mrs. McGrath to approve Resolution 11-02 amended fee schedule for 2011. Motion passed 5-0.

Zoning Hearing Recommendation for Villa at Morlatton Phase IV Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Jones to recommend that the Zoning Hearing Board approve the applicants request for waivers for lot coverage on Lot 2 and 3, landscaping requirements and combined uses. Motion passed 5-0.

Zoning Hearing Recommendation – Lynn Readinger Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Yanos to recommend that the Zoning Hearing Board approve the applicant’s variance request to split a vacant lot off from the lot with the house on Valley Road to create a second lot. Motion passed 5-0.

Zoning Hearing Recommendation – Cooke The Board made no recommendation.

Resolution 11-03 Disposal of Records Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Jones to approve the resolution disposing of specified records. Motion passed 5-0.

EMPLOYEE/OFFICIAL REPORTS

Manager. Mr. Sassaman of Arro Engineering was present to provide the Board with an update on the Sewer Plant expansion. He and the Manager felt that the Board should not proceed with the expansion at this time, but perform necessary repairs at the plant instead. Repairs include: continued I & I work, repairs to the equalization tank and aerators, repairs to the line on 662 in the vicinity of the “Crab Shack”, cleaning and inspecting of the digester covers and house inspections. Mr. Jones stated he would like to see comparable costs to change the digesters to aerobic covers. He also stated that a property transfer inspection would eliminate the need for house flow drains and illegal connection inspections. He asked if there was any significant change from the I & I work previously performed. Mr. Sassaman stated that they have seen changes in the integrity of the lines, but the amount of flows depended on rainfall. Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to authorize Arro to send a letter to DEP to amend the schedule for implementation of the Act 537 plan. Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to approve a change order for additional liners under the Video Pipe Services contract at an approximate cost of \$7000. Motion passed 5-0. The Manager reported that the contractor that broke the sewer line at Lake Drive will reimburse the Township for the repairs and any fines that may be incurred from DEP because of the break. Mr. Lyon presented his thoughts on the lighting changes to the SALDO for the Board’s review and comment. The Manager reported that he had received three letters from the Teamster’s regarding their grievances. Mr. Boland stated he has a draft letter to send in response. Mr. Yanos moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to authorize the purchase of tires for Truck #68 not to exceed \$3000. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Yanos presented to Risa Marmontello a plaque for appreciation of service as a member of the Recreation Board. Mr. Boyer, chairman of the Rec Board stated he appreciated her service. Ms. Marmontello presented a proposal to treat invasive on Monocacy Hill as part of the Schuylkill Highlands grant. The cost is \$1565.00. Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Stepp to approve the proposal. Motion passed 5-0.

Chief of Police The Chief reported that they had received a tip that someone was going to rob the former Havana Joes. Officer Gauby was on site and made the arrest. Officer Smith is doing follow up work on some outstanding issues. The Chief explained that he would like to send all the corporals to an instructor course at a course of \$400 per student. The consensus of the Board was to let the Chief make the decision on where to send the corporals for the course. The Chief suggested sending

Corporal Scherer to a higher education and leadership course at Northwestern University. Mrs. McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Jones to authorize sending Corporal Scherer to the training. Motion passed 5-0. Chief Shuebrook reported that the Berks Chiefs Association had hosted a testing consortium that created a master list of candidates. Out of 325 people that applied, 157 passed the test. Physical tests will be performed at Kutztown University.

SUPERVISORS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Thomas Kirchner asked if the Township was still plowing state roads under contract with PennDot. Mr. Lyon replied that the Township plows all the roads except the “numbered roads” and River Bridge Road.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Mrs. McGrath and seconded by Mr. Weller and duly passed, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50PM.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnne Sowers-Smith
Secretary/Treasurer