**Amity Township Board of Supervisors**

## **Meeting Minutes**

## June 5, 2013

## **Call to Order/Pledge to the Flag**

The June 5th, 2013 meeting of the Amity Township Board of Supervisors, held at the Township Municipal Building, 2004 Weavertown Rd., Douglassville, Berks County, Pennsylvania, was called to order at 7:00 PM by Vice Chairperson Robert Yanos. The following were in attendance:

### SUPERVISORS

Robert R. Yanos, Vice Chair

Richard Gokey

Paul Weller

### STAFF

JoAnne Sowers Smith, Secretary/Treasurer

Charles E. Lyon, Manager

Brian Boland, Solicitor/Kozloff Stoudt

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Yanos announced the passing of Jean Szvetecz on May 24, 2013. She will be sadly missed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)**

None

McAfee Storm water Issue Mr. McAfee of Hillview Road asked the Board to address the drainage problems on his property. Storm water runs across other private property onto his causing damage. Mr. Gokey stated he felt this was an issue between private property owners. Mr. Boland stated he could look at the ordinance to see if discharging storm water onto other properties is addressed. Mr. Yanos stated that the engineering had been done, but the project stalled when one property owner would not allow a catch basin to be installed on his property. With the state of the economy, there are no funds to complete the project. The Board decided to go look at the property and asked Mr. McAfee to come back for the first meeting in July.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Gokey to approve the minutes of May 15, 2013. Motion passed 3-0.

**FINANCE**

Mr. Gokey moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to approve the following disbursements:

Disbursements: $ 65,766.55 General Fund

 $ 28,868.23 Sewer Fund

 $ 4,933.90 EDU Fund

$ 12,257.20 Liquid Fuels

 $111,825.88 Total

Motion passed 3-0. The Manager discussed the financial statement, pointing out that the latest EIT payment was higher than expected, but that the transfer taxes were lower than last year. A higher than expected percentage of real estate taxes has been collected to date.

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

***Code Enforcement:*** The Board confirmed that property maintenance problems should be placed on a regular mowing schedule and the properties will be liened if the mowing bill is not paid.

***Roads:***  Mr. Yanos asked if there were any complaints about the tar and chip project. Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Gokey to authorize the painting of yellow center lines on Weavertown Lane, Geiger Road and Amity Park Road at a cost of $2065.00. Motion passed 3-0. Sharon Meschter of Pinewood Road stated that when it is foggy, the lines help her stay on the road.

**CONSULTANT’ REPORT**

***Mr. Boland*** stated he has nothing to report at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

***Pension Allocation:*** Mr. Yanos moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to approve the pension allocation adjustment from 60/40 equities/fixed income to 70/30 equities/fixed income to take advantage of the recent market turnaround. Motion passed 3-0.

***Transfer of Funds:*** Mr. Gokey moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to approve the transfer of $200,000 from the sewer operations fund to the capital improvements fund (09) as recommended by the auditor, William Maslo. Motion passed 3-0.

***Code Enforcement Training***: Mr. Gokey moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to approve the accessibility training for Steve Loomis at a cost of $10. Motion passed 3-0.

***Boone Area Library Request:*** Michelle Kehoe, director of the library requested $3416.00 to repair the roof. Mr. Gokey stated that in 2008 the Township doubled its contribution to the library. He didn’t feel that the Township has any more money to give to the library. Mr. Yanos stated that the Township is going to be in negotiations with the Teamsters soon and the Board can’t be giving out money to anyone that comes in and asks. Mr. Gokey stated he felt the library board should seek donations from private organizations.

EMPLOYEE/OFFICIAL REPORTS

**Manager** Mr. Lyon presented estimates for phase 5 and 7 of I&I repairs. The Manager presented a proposal to buy out the contract with ECON for the LED lights at a cost of $13,612. Mr. McMahon of ECON, stated that he recouped his risk because of the great rate the Township got for electric. He proposed that the Township realize these savings by buying out the contract. Mr. Yanos stated that he didn’t have a problem with it if the money can be found. The manager presented a financial spreadsheet reconciling unanticipated revenues and expenses to see where the money could come from. Mr. Lyon stated he is also looking at replacing intersection lighting with LED bulbs. Savings to the Township could amount to $20,000 yearly. The Board was in favoring of pursuing. The response to DEP was sent to the DEP intermediary and is waiting for his comments. Mr. Lyon stated that a meeting with DEP and Senator Schwank was scheduled for July 22 in Harrisburg. Union Township has invited Amity representatives to attend. If the permit issues are resolved before then, Mr. Lyon may not want to take the engineer. Mr. Lyon presented cost estimates to make the repairs to the 662 line. He has been in contact with UGI regarding relocating their gas line. Mr. Boland is still pursuing the Goodwest discharge issue with Douglass Township’s attorney. Mr. Lyon reported that potential buyers have asked whether the Dech property could be rezoned commercial or residential. Mr. Yanos stated any rezoning needed to follow the comprehensive plan. Mr. Weller stated that there needs to be a valid reason to change zoning. Mr. Lyon reported that he had spoken to the school regarding the tennis court lights. School representatives stated that they did not see any urgency to leave the lights on. The tennis coach has been given a key for the lights so he can turn on the lights and instructions that the lights must be turned off by 10PM. The Manager stated he would like to discuss restructuring the office staff in executive session and would like authorization to advertise for a position. Mr. Weller moved to authorize the advertisement. Mr. Gokey seconded. Motion failed 2-1. Mr. Yanos opposed.

**Chief of Police**

The Chief presented a note of commendation to the Board for the officer’s actions during a recent motorcycle accident. A summary offense has been filed for false alarms. Certified letters have been returned by the post office. The manager suggested having the sheriff serve the letters.

###### SUPERVISORS

Mr. Yanos asked how many residents from Amity serve on the Boone Area library board. The manager replied one.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jacob Wister and James Kriner were in attendance from Boy Scout Troop 597 working on their Communication Badge. Mr. Kriner of 2 Galahad Lane commended the Board on managing the Township’s tax money.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION& ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a motion by Mr. Gokey and seconded by Mr. Weller and duly passed, the meeting was recessed to executive session at 8:48PM.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnne Sowers Smith

Secretary/Treasurer