**Amity Township Board of Supervisors**

**Meeting Minutes**

## July 2, 2014

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

The July 2, 2014 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 Chairperson Kim McGrath. The following were in attendance:

### SUPERVISORS

Kim McGrath, Chairperson

David Hackett

Terry Jones

Paul Weller

### STAFF

Kathie Benson, Assistant Township Secretary

Kent Shuebrook, Chief of Police

Brian Boland, Solicitor, Kozloff/Stoudt

Steve Loomis, Code Enforcement

**PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)**

None

**MINUTES**

Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Jones to approve the June 18, 2014 minutes, as presented. Motion carried, 4-0.

**FINANCE**

Mr. Jones moved, seconded by Mr. Weller to approve disbursements as follows:

$ 57,091.98 General Fund

$ 21,652.14 Sewer Fund

$ 1,761.18 Liquid Fuels

$ 1,872.00 Fire Fund

$ 3,898.82 Traffic Impact(North)

$ 3,898.83 Traffic Impact(South)

$ 5,979.49 EDU Fund

$ 96,154.44 Total

Reviewing the costs for Kozloff Stout Mrs. McGrath questioned expenses for a Sewage Management Ordinance enforcement as billed. Mr. Boland stated the costs associated with the enforcement hearings have been presented to the judge for reimbursement to Amity.

**REPORTS**

***Code Department -*** Mr. Loomis reviewed there have been two(2) other new home building permits approved this year, bringing the total to four(4) to date. Mr. Boland advised the Proposed Sewer Mapping Areas and possible SMO enforcements have been discussed with Mr. Weber. Both would like to review and discuss further with Mr. Loomis. Mr. Jones questioned if Mr. Loomis had heard anything further about property transfer maintenance inspections? Mr. Weller stated Mr. Weber was going to provide samples from other townships for their review. Mr. Jones questioned the water situation at 216 Ivy Lane. Mr. Loomis reported he walked the property at 133 Redwood earlier this week with the property owner and viewed the location of the pipe. His visual observation showed the grass at the end of the pipe did not appear to be washed away nor did the ground seem saturated. The pipe is from one rain leader from the roof that spills off about 300 sq ft of roof. There are four other leaders that take the remaining water to a different location. Mr. Loomis went back tonight during the rain event and observed the water coming out and spilling onto the property at 133 Redwood Dr. To prove the pipe at133 Redwood Dr is the cause of water in the basement at 216 Ivy Lane it would require placing die in the pipe and locating it in the basement. Mrs. McGrath questioned if Mr. Loomis found any violations. Mr. Loomis stated not at this time. Ms. McGovern the property owner of 216 Ivy Lane asked to speak. Ms. McGovern stated she has contacted the township two years ago looking for guidance and nothing has been done. She has read the ordinances and they state no one can direct their water to the neighbor’s property. Mr. Boland stated Ms. McGovern is looking at a new ordinance that would not have been in effect when her home was built. The ordinance that was in place when her home was built is the one to go by. Mr. Loomis discussed the wall behind her house is about 20 feet high and a lot of water comes from the walls of several properties along Redwood Dr. It is the way the development was done and built in the 50’s. Mr. Jones felt this was more a civil matter rather than a township problem. Ms. McGovern stated she was aware of heavy water around her property when she purchased therefore she placed French drains in her yard taking the water away and had no problem until the changes made to 133 Redwood Dr. Mr. Weller and Mr. Jones agreed to observe the property and report back at next meeting. Mr. Jones stated he cannot see spending taxpayer’s money to review a problem that may be a civil matter. Mr. Weller offered her to discuss with the neighbor she may be surprised at how this may help

***Roads-***Mr. Jones asked for a status to the Surveillance Camera’s at Lake Drive. Mr. Howell Clarke stated the lines were completed today and he has an assigned phone number. Cameras and equipment will be installed next week. The ultra thin layer work on Penns Lane and West Welsh appears to be working well. Mr. Jones questioned how close was the budget? Mr. Howell-Clarke stated he has not received all billings.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT**

Mr. Boland discussed Amity Square has paid their sewer fees to date however to date no Agreement fees have been received and we are well past the due date. Mr. Weller moved seconded by Mr. Jones to authorize Kozloff Stout to initiate collection procedures. Motion carried 4-0. Mr. Boland has a request from Oley Township and LTL for Steve Loomis to inspect LTL’s building expansion. LTL is Code Enforcement in Oley Township and cannot inspect their own work. Mr. Weller moved, seconded by Mr. Hackett to authorize an agreement between Oley Township, LTL Consultants, & Amity Township to allow Steve Loomis to issue a building permit and inspect the work. Motion Carried 4-0. Mr. Boland reported we have received Act 111 Notice from the Amity Township Police Bargaining unit. His office has acknowledged we received their issues plus any we may raise. Mr. Jones requested a short executive session to review, with no need to return. Mr. Jones also requested to be a part of the bargaining committee. The board agreed to ask Mr. Gokey if he would like to be a part of the committee. Mr. Boland requested an executive session to discuss Land Acquisition.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Terry Jones made the motion seconded by Paul Weller to grant permission for the Monarch Fire Company Fire Police to assist Gibraltar Fire Company with traffic controls at their Lights & Sire Parade in Gibraltar August 9, 2014. Motion Carried 4-0.

Terry Jones made the motion seconded by Paul Weller to approve Sand Blasting in the Primary Pit at the Waste Water Treatment Plant to remove the old paint, rust & calcium at a cost not to exceed $5,450.00. Motion passed, 4-0.

EMPLOYEE/OFFICIAL REPORTS

**Manager: Kim McGrath** read the manager’s report. Mr. Lyon reported the door has been installed at Pump Station 1. Another problem has arisen at Pump Station 1. When the pumps run from Station 5 there is a significant amount of gas generated that is currently pumped into the air. Several neighbors have called complaining. For a short term fix Dave Wheeler has set the pumps at station 5 to run more frequently so that water remains in the line for the least amount of time. We may need to consider a chlorination pump for the future. A change order is requested to core drill the deck and bring the electric cable through the hole and connect to the panel outside the building on top of the tank. After the project is completed Dave Wheeler will install a roof ventilation fan to keep the temperatures down and avoid the panel overheating. Staff has met with Ebert Engineering and begun preliminary work prior to designing the Leaf Creek Interceptor. Mr. Ebert has requested information and staff is working on getting this to him. Amity Township has received Act 111 notice from the police regarding their intent to begin bargaining for the 2015 contract. The Intersection Light Conversion grant application date allowing us to perform the task at no cost has passed. Mr. Lyon will be in contact with Mr. McMahon to discuss additional proposals to move this project forward. Vaugh Thren has supplied The Monocacy Hill GPS position information and we are in the process of finalizing the locator signs for this project. We have placed an ad for the Waste Water Treatment Plan position in last Reading Eagle Sunday June 29th and Sunday July 6th as well as on the Reading Eagle on line from June 29, 2014 through July 5, 2014. A few applications have been received thus far. Mr. Lyon has been contacted by Ray Eppler of PENNDOT, Temple office, to discuss maintenance issues in Amity Township. He and Ali will contact them to set up a meeting in mid-July. Brian Hassinger of Pennsylvania American Water has agreed to a meeting in July along with Richard Gokey and Paul Weller to explain pressures within our water system and their impact on hydrant openings. Mr. Jones would like to attend if either Mr. Gokey or Mr. Weller is unavailable.

**Chief of Police:** Chief Shuebrook presented his report and a department promotion hiring policy. The board has this policy and a light duty policy for their review and comments.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

###### SUPERVISORS

None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 8:02PM, with there being no further business and Mr. Jones moved to adjourn with the intent to hold an Executive Session with no return. Topics of discussion to be Land Acquisition, Possible Litigation and Police Contract. The motion was seconded by Mr. Weller, and passed, 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathie Benson

Assistant Secretary