

NOVEMBER 9, 2016

REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Rudolph at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 9, 2016 in the Township Building.

ROLL CALL

The following Commissioners were present: Mrs. Sage, Messrs. Rudolph, Kelly, Wechsler and Lanciano. Messrs. Janiczek and Layden were absent. Also present were Messrs. Fulton and Byrne, and Mrs. Warner.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by Reverend James Anderman of Covenant Methodist Church and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Rudolph asked if anyone in the audience wished to comment on any of the agenda items. Seeing none, the meeting continued.

Library

Mr. Kelly announced the Library's annual direct mail fund drive has begun. The Library is once again providing a drop-off site for the U.S. Marine's Toys for Tots program. The Library's Youth Programs Fall Session 2 began on October 31 and will continue until December 12.

Parks

Mrs. Sage reported the Parks Department crew assisted Bob Artese in the installation of three new street lights on the property of Old Central School. They have started with leaf removal in all parks and township-owned properties, as well as continuing with weekly soccer and football field maintenance.

Zoning

Mr. Wechsler reported there was no Zoning Hearing meeting in October nor any scheduled for November. He noted that the Township has an ordinance that requires political signs to be removed after 30 days, and requested that if any resident has a political lawn sign to put them out in the trash or removed them until the next election.

Mr. Wechsler reported total rounds for the month of October was 2,890, bringing the year-to-date total to 28,544. Total revenue for the month of October was \$131,478. The year-to-date green's fee revenue is \$856,691, which is \$349,000 over the same period in 2015. The maintenance crew is preparing the irrigation system for winterization. All surrounding hedges and brushes have been trimmed and fall cleanup of leaves and pinecones continue.

Golf

Mr. Wechsler reminded residents that Aqua is replacing the existing 8 and 12 inch cast iron and cement mains on Springfield Road between Forest Road and Oak Avenue in Clifton Heights. This 1.8 million project by Aqua will continue through June of 2017. From time to time there will be closings on Springfield Road with detour signs. Your cooperation and patience is appreciated.

Aqua

Mr. Lanciano reported the Highway Department is in the process of patching and sealing roadways, as well as cleaning and repairing inlets throughout the Township. The 2016 leaf collection began on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Due to Veterans Day on November 11<sup>th</sup>, there will be no trash or recycling collection. Also during the Thanksgiving holiday, there will be no trash or recycling collection on Thursday, November 24 & Friday, November 25.

Public Works

Mr. Lanciano reported for the month of October, total trash collected was 874.22 tons, compared to 2015 at 886.7 tons. Paper recycling was 101.35 tons compared to 2015 at 95.28 tons. The Township reminded residents that recycling helps keep the cost of trash disposal down.

Recycling

Mr. Rudolph read a list of Thanksgiving fire safety tips and travel safety tips. There is an increased chance of kitchen fires and travel incidents during this holiday.

Fire Company

Mr. Rudolph read a letter that was previously sent out to every resident in Springfield concerning the construction of a new high school. The School District and the Board of

Springfield High School

Commissioners are two independently elected entities responsible for different services. He stated it is the responsibility of the Board of Commissioners and various Township boards and committees to thoroughly review and comment on the proposed plans. The upcoming Planning Commission meeting and a possible Zoning Hearing Board Hearing are not about whether the School District should build a new high school or renovate the current facility. That decision has already been made by the elected School Board. Comments or concerns, cost of the project or its impact on school taxes should be addressed to the School Board. The Board of Commissioners is mindful that the School District is a taxing authority and the cost and expenses incurred by the School District are ultimately borne by the residents of Springfield. The construction of a new high school facility in Springfield will have an impact Township-wide and will certainly be of interest to many residents, but unlike any other land development, the residents and other entities that are closest to the facility will feel the greatest impact of that facility on a day-to-day basis for decades to come. The upcoming meetings and hearings will seek to mitigate any potential negative impact and balance the rights of the immediate neighbors with the proposed plan that the School District has submitted. Open dialogue and willingness to compromise will be crucial for a successful process. All the meetings will have a period for the public to provide comments on the proceedings. The Township meetings will be focusing on the plans and their compliance with the Township Codes and their impact on the immediate neighbors. The initial phase of the Land Development process is a review of the submission by Township personnel to determine whether the plans filed by the School District comply with Township codes and regulations and whether the proposals need zoning waivers or accommodations. As with any other land development project, Township personnel will communicate these findings and recommendations to the representatives for the district in preparation of any upcoming meetings.

Mr. Kelly moved that all bills approved for payment by the appropriate chairperson be paid. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

Mr. Wechsler stated that Veterans Day is fast approaching and he thanked all Veterans who has served our country.

Mr. Wechsler reported two bids were received for Gasoline and Diesel Fuel. He moved that the bid be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, Riggins, Inc. at the cost of \$1.6615 per gallon for gasoline and \$1.6481 for diesel fuel. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

Mrs. Sage moved authorizing the Township Engineer to release \$183,034.00 from the escrow account for Scott Kia, 321 Baltimore Pike. Seconded by Mr. Wechsler and carried.

Mr. Bruce Thomas, 233 Sunnybrook Road, raised concerns about safety on Saxer Avenue. He commented on the inability to safely cross in the business district part of Saxer Avenue due to traffic; difficulty backing out of a parking space, especially if you are parked next to a SUV; speed limit should be reduced to 15 m.p.h. Mr. Byrne noted that the traffic speed on Saxer Avenue is regulated by PennDOT since it is a state highway. Mr. Byrne stated that traffic will be a factor discussed in the School District's application for a new high school at Saxer Avenue and S. Rolling Road. Mr. Wechsler commented that one of the possible solutions for safely crossing Saxer Avenue is moving the crosswalk at Rite Aid up to the Ballymore Road and Saxer Avenue intersection which will enable a better line of sight. Also, changing the crosswalk light to one that has a push button that would flash red lights and say "Pedestrian Crossing – Stop," when a pedestrian is crossing would be an improvement. The pedestrian crossing at St. Francis is also being looked at. He noted new street lights were installed on

BILLS SUBMITTED

VETERANS DAY

BIDS: Gasoline &  
Diesel Fuel

RELEASE OF  
ESCROW FUNDS

PUBLIC COMMENT

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the Old Central School side of Saxer Avenue which will give some additional illumination. Mr. Wechsler stated the Township recently received grant funding to be used for pedestrian safety on Saxer Avenue and also Brookside Road. Mr. Thomas stated he saw that the cleaners on Saxer Avenue has been gutted and suggested the Township look into purchasing some of the business properties on Saxer Avenue when they become available. Mr. Rudolph replied that last month the Board had its first reading of a zoning amendment that will require the first floor of every property on Saxer Avenue, when sold, to be used as retail. The second reading of the ordinance is scheduled in December. The Township will not need to acquire the properties along Saxer Avenue since the first floor of all properties will be zoned as retail use. This requirement will apply to the business properties on Brookside Road as well. This is the first step to get these areas revitalized.

ADJOURNMENT  
(8:32 P.M.)

Mr. Lanciano moved that the meeting be adjourned.  
Seconded by Mr. Wechsler and carried.