
MINUTES

July 09, 2018

Regular Public Meeting

Board of Commissioners

Township of Whitehall

A. CALL TO ORDER

1) The regular Public Meeting of the Whitehall Township Board of Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 9, 2018, in the Public Meeting Room of the Whitehall Township Municipal Building, 3219 MacArthur Road, Whitehall, PA, with the following in attendance:

COMMISSIONERS

Dennis C. Hower, President
Philip J. Ginder, Vice President
Thomas Slonaker, Secretary
Shawn E. Clary
Jeffrey L. Dutt
Joseph J. Marx Jr. (Absent)
Jeffrey J. Warren

TOWNSHIP PERSONNEL

Michael P. Harakal, Jr., Mayor
John D. Meyers, Deputy Mayor
J. Jackson Eaton, Township Solicitor
Michael Marks, Police Chief
Frank Clark Engineer
Lee Rackus, PZ&D
Colleen L. Gober, Tax Collector
Larissa Bruder, Executive Secretary

The meeting was formally opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence for our troops serving home and abroad.

President HOWER read the statement on fair housing as required.

President HOWER announced that the meetings are once again being videoed and can be seen on the Township Website in the following days.

2) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner WARREN moved, seconded by Commissioner MARX to approve the minutes of the following meeting:

Regular Public Meeting – June 11, 2018

Six Commissioners were present and six voted “yes”. Motion carried.

B. COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Lori Ann FEHNEL of 3107 N. 3rd Street wanted to make the Board aware of the incident that occurred at her residence in the past few days. Fireworks were thrown from a moving vehicle two houses away and some of them exploded along the side of her home, startling her family. From postings put on facebook and her outside cameras an alleged suspect was determined. That suspect returned the previous evening and threw “snappers” at her vehicle and is extremely upset

that this is happening. President HOWER advised that with the legalization of fireworks by the state, more incidents are occurring. Because of this, legislation is being reviewed to put more stringent regulations in place.

C. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON ORDINANCES

1. BILL NO. 16-2018

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A PROPOSAL FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE CEMENTON PLAYGROUND COMMUNITY BUILDING ROOF FOR THE RECREATION BUREAU OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL, BID #18-20 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 3.20 OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER WHICH REQUIRES AUTHORIZATION OF ACQUISITIONS IN EXCESS OF \$25,000 BY ORDINANCE. (RECREATION)

President HOWER read Bill No. 16-2018 to the Board.

Commissioner DUTT moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Clary. There were no questions or comments.

Six Commissioners were present voting “yes” Bill 16-2018 was approved.

D. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON RESOLUTIONS

1. RESOLUTION NO. 3018

TITLE: A RESOLUTION FOR SEWAGE FACILITIES PLAN REVISION FOR NEW LAND DEVELOPMENT OF DVS APARTMENTS, WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP AND COPLAY BOROUGH, LOCATED AT 250 N. SECOND STREET, LEHIGH COUNTY, INDEX #1892-16 (DEVELOP)

President HOWER read Resolution No. 3018 to the Board.

Commissioner GINDER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner SLONAKER. There were no questions or comments.

Six Commissioners were present and voting “yes”. Resolution No. 3018 was approved.

2. RESOLUTION NO. 3019

TITLE: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE RETIREMENT AND THE COMMENCEMENT OF MONTHLY PENSION BENEFITS TO FORMER POLICE OFFICER ANDREW ARTIM. (ADMIN)

President HOWER read Resolution No. 3019 to the Board.

Commissioner SLONAKER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner CLARY.

Six Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Resolution No. 3019 was approved.

3. RESOLUTION NO. 3020

TITLE: A RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY APPROVING THE MAJOR SUBDIVISION PLAN OF 3030 S. THIRD STREET, LOCATED AT 3030 S. THIRD STREET, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, INDEX# 1917-18. (DEVELOP)

President HOWER read Resolution No. 3020 to the Board.

Commissioner GINDER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner DUTT. There were no questions or comments.

Six Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Resolution No. 3020 was approved.

4. RESOLUTION NO. 3021

TITLE: A RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY APPROVING THE MINOR SUBDIVISION PLAN OF ARLINGTON CEMETERY, LOCATED AT 3101 MACARTHUR ROAD, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, INDEX #1915-18. (DEVELOP)

President HOWER read Resolution No. 3021 to the Board.

Commissioner GINDER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner CLARY. There were no questions or comments.

Six Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Resolution No. 3021 was approved.

OTHER

1. Commissioner DUTT moved, seconded by Commissioner SLONAKER to approve the 6 month extension to the residency requirement for Officer Doelp as per his letter dated May 25, 2018.

Six Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Motion Carried.

2. Commissioner GINDER moved, seconded by Commissioner SLONAKER to approve the re-appointment of Michael LONG to serve on the Plumbers Examining Board term expiring April 30, 2021.

Six Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Motion Carried.

3. Commissioner WARREN moved, seconded by Commissioner CLARY to approve the School Resource Officer Agreement.

Six Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Motion Carried.

F. REPORTS OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

1. Commissioner DUTT advised that the Senior Center will be having “Movie Wednesday’s” starting at 1:00 on July 11th until the 18th of August. He is looking to borrow the popcorn machine. A Historic Tour is being set up for Saturday, October 27th.
2. Commissioner CLARY noted that he is very excited that the School Resource Officer Agreement has been finalized.
3. Commissioner WARREN questioned how Portnoff was doing with the garbage tax collection. Jack MEYERS advised that they are bringing anywhere from \$14,000 to \$16,000 in a week. Commissioner WARREN noticed Representative Jeanne MCNEILL in the audience and noted that the Board was appreciative of her Assistant coming to the last meeting on such short notice and hopes that the frustration the Board expressed was not taken personally. Representative MCNEILL addressed the Board and indicated that she is here for all of Whitehall not just the districts she represents. She also noted that she posted a video on Facebook from the Senate Majority Committee Hearing she attended w/Mayor Harakal today. Regarding Coplay Aggregates, she is in the process of setting up a tour w/Brian HILLIARD along with Mayor HAKAKAL and Representative MAKO in attendance. Representative MCNEILL also advised that she has been talking with representatives of DEP and the EPA. Representative MAKO is working legislation on the notification process. Commissioner GINDER asked if DEP has explained why they accept fill that exceeds EPA limits? Representative MCNEILL explained that EPA looks at a whole load vs. DEP looks at smaller samples. Legislation needs to be passed that makes us as strong as New York and New Jersey.
4. Mayor HAKAKAL explained that he attended a Senate Majority Hearing today at Wind Gap Middle School where he testified on the issue with Coplay Aggregates DEP & EPA and reiterated a portion of his testimony. Mayor HAKAKAL also advised the Board that he is communicating with representatives from 2 other communities to get together and discussing these issues and the possibility of jointly hiring an environmental attorney.
5. Treasurer GOBER noted her department is actively collecting school and business privilege tax and as always our township is financially in good shape.

President HOWER announced that the Board will be holding an executive session after the adjournment of the meeting.

G. ADJOURNMENT

1. MOTION – Commissioner DUTT moved, seconded by Commissioner CLARY to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m.