
MINUTES

January 14, 2019
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, January 14, 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.
Jeffrey J. Warren

TOWNSHIP PERSONNEL

Michael P. Harakal, Jr., Mayor
John D. Meyers, Deputy Mayor
Sarah M. Murray, Esq., Township Solicitor
Bruce Sommers, Acting Police Chief
Frank Clark Engineer
Lee Rackus, PZ&D
Colleen L. Gober, Tax Collector (Absent)
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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner MARX moved, seconded by Commissioner DUTT to approve the Minutes of the following meeting:

Regular Public Meeting – December 19, 2018

Seven Commissioners were present and seven voted “yes”. Motion carried.

B. COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

No Sign-Ins for the evening.

C. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON ORDINANCES

1. BILL NO. 35-2018 (SECOND HEARING)

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP
VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS
PROGRAM. (ADMINISTRATION/FIRE)

President HOWER read Bill No. 35-2018 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voting “yes”. Bill No. 35-2018 was approved.

2. BILL NO. 1-2019 (FIRST HEARING)

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR A GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTE IN THE MAXIMUM AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$10,000,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING CAPITAL PROJECTS, INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW POLICE STATION AND OTHER CAPITAL PROJECTS OF THE TOWNSHIP INCLUDING ADDITIONS, ALTERATIONS, RENOVATIONS, IMPROVEMENTS TO AND FIXTURING AND EQUIPPING OF CERTAIN TOWNSHIP FACILITIES AND GROUNDS.

President HOWER read Bill No. 1-2019 to the Board.

3. BILL NO. 2-2019

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE DEFERRING THE REQUIRED INSTALLATION OF CURBING AND SIDEWALKS ALONG THE RELIANCE STREET FRONTAGE OF 4153 RELIANCE STREET, AS REQUIRED IN CHAPTER 21, SECTION 21-21 B OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP. (DEVELOP)

President HOWER read Bill No. 2-2019 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present voting “no”. Bill No. 2-2019 was not approved.

D. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON RESOLUTIONS

1. RESOLUTION NO. 3036

TITLE: A RESOLUTION FOR SEWAGE FACILITIES PLAN REVISION FOR NEW LAND DEVELOPMENT OF ARD MACCOMMONS LOCATED AT 2631 MACARTHUR ROAD, WHITEHALL PA, INDEX #1909-18. (DEVELOP)

President HOWER read Resolution No. 3036 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voting “yes”. Resolution No. 3036 was approved.

2. RESOLUTION NO. 3037
TITLE: A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING ROGER S. WALL TO SERVE ON THE WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS. (BOC)

President HOWER read Resolution No. 3037 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Resolution No. 3037 was approved.

3. RESOLUTION NO. 3038
TITLE: A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING STEPHEN BURDA TO SERVE ON THE WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP ZONING HEARING BOARD. (BOC)

President HOWER read Resolution No. 3038 to the Board.

Commissioner MARX moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner CLARY.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Resolution No. 3038 was approved.

4. RESOLUTION NO. 3039
TITLE: A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING KENNETH S. SNYDER TO SERVE AS AN ALTERNATE ON THE WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP ZONING HEARING BOARD. (BOC)

President HOWER read Resolution No. 3039 to the Board.

Commissioner DUTT moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner WARREN.

Seven Commissioners were present and 6 voted “yes” and 1 voted “no”. Resolution No. 3039 was approved.

5. RESOLUTION NO. 3040
TITLE: A RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY APPROVING THE MINOR SUBDIVISION PLAN OF ALBRIGHT & FRITZ, LOCATED AT 4153 RELIANCE STREET, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, INDEX #1924-18.

President HOWER read Resolution No. 3040 to the Board.

Commissioner GINDER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner WARREN.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Resolution No. 3040 was approved.

6. RESOLUTION NO. 3041

TITLE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RECREATION PROGRAM FOR A PARKWAY PAVILION PROJECT.

President HOWER read Resolution No. 3041 to the Board.

Commissioner WARREN moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner CLARY.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Resolution No. 3041 was approved.

E. OTHER

1. MOTION – to approve the re-appointment of Kent Newhart to serve on the Whitehall Township Industrial Commercial Development Authority, term expiring December 31, 2023.

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

2. MOTION - to approve the re-appointment of Paul Geissinger to serve on the Coplay Whitehall Sewer Authority, term expiring December 31, 2023.

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

3. MOTION - to approve the re-appointment of Richard Fahringer to serve on the Whitehall Township Authority, term expiring December 31, 2023.

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

4. MOTION - to approve the re-appointment of Joseph Wilfinger to serve on the Whitehall Township Shade Tree Committee, term expiring December 31, 2021.

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

5. MOTION - to approve the re-appointment of Neil Ehrlichman to serve on the Whitehall Township Planning Commission, term expiring December 31, 2022.

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

6. MOTION – to approve the re-appointment of Cheryl Huckabee to serve on the Whitehall Township Industrial Commercial Development Authority, term expiring December 31, 2023.

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

7. MOTION – to approve the re-appointment of Jeffrey Mackiewicz to serve as an alternate on the Whitehall Township Tax Appeals Board, term expiring December 31, 2021.

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

8. MOTION - to approve the appointment of Cara Butz to serve on the Whitehall Township Industrial Commercial Development Authority, term expiring December 31, 2023.

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

9. MOTION - to approve the appointment of Paul Geissinger to serve on the Planning Commission, term expiring December 31, 2019.

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

F. REPORTS OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Commissioner WARREN noted that it was great to see the firefighters recognized for their accomplishments.

Commissioner CLARY stated the same.

Commissioner SLONAKER asked the status of the LED light issues on Grape St & MacArthur Road. Deputy Mayor MEYERS indicated he met with West Side Hammer and PPL and they advised that the problems are mostly related to underground issues. There are a few that are defective or have fuse issues and are working diligently to fix them.

Commissioner GINDER asked Executive Secretary to provide a list of openings on all Boards and Commissions.

Commissioner DUTT updated events at the Senior Center and reiterated on the Awards Presentation.

Commissioner MARX asked that the Board give their approval on an in-kind donation to the Whitehall High School Theater Group. He thanked Chief Nelson, the Fire Dept. and Whitehall PD for their exceptional duties performed at the Spring Ridge fire. He also Commended the Police Dept on the number of citations issued for last year and noted that their presence is making a difference in the community.

Commissioner HOWER stated how important it is to support the volunteers of the community as they are doing a great job.

Mayor HAKAKAL comments on the Spring Ridge fire and commended the Public Works Dept as well for their help as the roads needed to be salted that evening. He thanked Commissioner Marx and Ginder for their notification of the street light issues. The Mayor also noted that that he has been speaking with Kay Krapf regarding the LV Dairy, Andrew Kleiner of LVDEC regarding partnering with them for their input on funding issues, Layne Turner of the County Drug & Alcohol Administrator on their programs, Lori Hackett and IBEW regarding high school apprentices and Madison Scarfaro

regarding Marcy's Law which supports victim's advocacy. A full Mayors Report will follow.

President HOWER noted that the Board will be adjourning to an Executive Session.

G. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – Commissioner MARX moved, seconded by Commissioner DUTT to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m.