
MINUTES

December 1, 2014
Special Public Meeting

Board of Commissioners

Whitehall Township

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. A Special Public Meeting of the Whitehall Township Board of Commissioners was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, December 1, 2014, in the Public Meeting Room of the Whitehall Township Municipal Building, 3219 MacArthur Road, Whitehall, PA, with the following in attendance:

COMMISSIONERS

Linda K. Snyder, President
Philip J. Ginder, Vice President
Dennis C. Hower, Secretary
Phillips M. Armstrong
Clair Hunsberger
Gerard Palagonia
Thomas Slonaker - absent

TOWNSHIP PERSONNEL

Edward D. Hozza, Jr., Mayor
John D. Meyers, Deputy Mayor
Charles J. Fonzone, Solicitor

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

B. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON ORDINANCES

1. BILL NO. 48-2014 (First Reading)

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP TO ORGANIZE A WHITEHALL AREA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY UNDER THE PROVISION OF THE "MUNICIPALITY AUTHORITY ACT OF 1945" AS AMENDED.

President SNYDER read Bill No. 48-2014 to the Board.

Commissioner GINDER stated it lists the Coplay-Whitehall Sewer Authority and the Whitehall Township Authority as existing Authorities and doesn't understand why the ICDA isn't listed as an Authority.

Attorney FONZONE stated they are just asking for Authority's organized under the ACT of 1945, believes the ICDA was organized under the ACT of 1971.

Commissioner HUNSBERGER asked how much they will get paid and will they have the authority to give themselves a raise like the Sewer Authority. Attorney FONZONE

stated the members of the Authority are bound by what the Board sets as a pay, once they have an office like the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, they can then set a salary for those positions, which the Board doesn't control. The Board sets a fee that can be paid to a member, the officers of the Authority have the ability to pass for themselves and is why you see in most Authorities of that type that everyone has an office. Commissioner HUNSBERGER stated it will still cost the taxpayer's money. Attorney FONZONE noted it could. Commissioner HUNSBERGER stated we do not know how much it will really according to this. Attorney FONZONE stated this is merely the ordinance to form the Authority, it doesn't do anything other than that. Commissioner HUNSBERGER stated once they are formed and they start picking a President, the Board has nothing to do with it or do they have a say. Attorney FONZONE stated they have the right of appointment to the Authority but they can elect their own President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Commissioner HUNSBERGER stated then they can set a salary without asking the Board, with an affirmative response. Commissioner HUNSBERGER stated he feels something should be in here saying after their formed they just can't improve their salary the way they want and would have to come in front of the Board if they want an increase like the Water Authority. Attorney FONZONE stated the need to distinguish between the officers and the members of the Authority, you don't control what the officers get paid. The Board appoints people to serve on the Authority, you control what they can get paid. The Authority itself forms the different positions and they can set the salary for them, you don't control that. Commissioner HUNSBERGER stated it doesn't state anything about the money. Attorney FONZONE stated it is the State law.

C. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner GINDER moved, seconded by Commissioner ARMSTRONG, to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 p.m.