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# **MINUTES**

**June 8, 2015**  
**Regular Public Meeting**

**Board of Commissioners**

**Township of Whitehall**

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**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 June 8, 2015, 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 F. Palagonia  
Thomas Slonaker

**TOWNSHIP PERSONNEL**

Edward D. Hozza, Jr., Mayor  
John D. Meyers, Deputy Mayor  
Charles Fonzone, Attorney  
Frank Clark, Keystone Engineering  
Lee Rackus, PZ&D  
Patricia Sweeney, Executive Secretary

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

**2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a) Commissioner HUNSBERGER moved, seconded by Commissioner ARMSTRONG to approve the minutes of the following meeting:

Regular Public Meeting – May 11, 2015

Seven Commissioners were present with six voting “yes” and Commissioner Hower abstained.

**B. COURTESY OF THE FLOOR**

Edwin YOUNG, 870 Fourth Street, Whitehall, stated the intersection of 3<sup>rd</sup> & Grape Streets was to be enlarged, the house was purchased ~5 years ago for ~ \$240,000, demolition took place 3 years ago, is adversely affected as he lives in the area, need that intersection taken care of and why it hasn't been done. Mayor HOZZA explained all projects depend on tax revenue, also need to get Penn DOT approval because they own Third Street, if the Township owned Third Street, the cost to widen the intersection would be much less than having to go through Penn DOT. Did submit several months ago to the LVPC for grant money or to get on the Penn DOT 20 year program to have them contribute because many times Township traffic impact fees have developers pay for improvements but in this case do not have a developer, could use traffic impact money but other municipalities our size, such as Lower and Upper Macungie, do not use their traffic impact money on State roads, they ask Penn DOT to pay for the infrastructure improvements. Mr. YOUNG asked why we waited 5 years to go to Penn DOT. Mayor HOZZA stated we have been with Penn DOT right from the beginning but with the Penn DOT process need to go thru the LVPC to get projects of this magnitude on their plan, they

are aware of our plans for Third & Grape, also for Eberhart Road improvements, depends on funding and although the State passed the increased gas tax and transportation bill, will not see the full effect of it for another 5 years, is why the widening of Rte. 22 is going to occur later until the State has more of that money in hand or unless we have a windfall in traffic impact money and if the committee agrees we pay for it 100% as we did with other State roads, noted the Township has helped the State quite a bit, the feeling is maybe the State should help us as well, it will get done but needs to be approved by Penn DOT because they call the shots. Mr. YOUNG asked how long it took to get 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Main Street done. Mayor HOZZA noted it was done under Executive SOLT and took four years. Frank CLARK stated part of the issue was obtaining the right-of-way, also bought a house on the corner, are looking to do almost the same exact thing at Grape and Third, have to go by Penn DOT standards and what the Mayor didn't say is the frustrations we have with Penn DOT on some of these roads like Eberhart Road and Rte. 145, which took about 5-6 years' worth of design and re-design and Penn DOT going back on a waiver they gave us, to where we threw our hands up and said it cost 3 times what we started with because of all the back and forth. Also have approached Penn DOT with the Third and Grape intersection in conjunction with the 22 widening because of the pressure it will put on that intersection with everyone looking for alternate routes, the Mayor has petitioned Penn DOT to get it put in their budget and noted when Penn DOT did the last project on 22, the light at Fullerton and Fairmont was supposed to be a temporary signal but the Township paid a little extra to Penn DOT to have it as a permanent signal, are trying to do the same at Third & Grape, are ready to go on our end but need to be a little gun shy about spending extra thousands of dollars in design when it could be put into the concrete and macadam rather than paper. Mr. YOUNG stated an exorbitant amount was paid for the property, a house three doors up was sold for \$179,000. Frank CLARK stated it was a commercial property, an approved business property, needed to pay more for that, was appraised, the Traffic Committee approved to spend traffic impact funds as well as some Whitehall funds to purchase it before anyone else because if it got out it's wanted for road widening, the price triples and as the Mayor said, are looking for some funding from Penn DOT since we already have the property and the right-of-way which brings a lot of value to the table and are not going to spend all Whitehall money on another State road.

Mr. YOUNG stated since we are on a tornado watch, if they is a place to shelter here. Mayor HOZZA replied downstairs. Mr. YOUNG asked if it is clear to go down there. Mayor HOZZA stated he would go down in an emergency. Mr. YOUNG stated he was in the fire service here for 22 years and helped to clean that room out. Mayor HOZZA asked if he knew what happened to the bunk beds, with a negative response. Mr. YOUNG stated the CD equipment went to the County when they took it away from all the municipalities and asked if the emergency equipment down there is operable. Mayor HOZZA responded in the affirmative and noted the Emergency Management Director has radio equipment, back-up computers, a weather station and everything is operational. Mr. YOUNG asked if it was ever documented where the dust he took away ended up. Mayor HOZZA stated it is in the vacuum in his basement. Mr. YOUNG asked if he got a call from DEP, with a negative response. Mr. YOUNG read from a document regarding contractors working on asbestos in PA. Mayor HOZZA stated he would not respond this evening but if he gave him the information he would read it. Mr. YOUNG read that regulated asbestos containing materials contain RACM, is under the category of ACM subjected to sanding, grinding, cutting, drilling or abrading, is supposed to be regulated and how is it in his basement and not under their control. Mayor HOZZA stated he is not sure if DEP has jurisdiction over a private home. Mr. YOUNG provided the Mayor with the documentation.

Mr. YOUNG stated on Eberhart Road ~ 250 yards from the intersection of Water and Lehigh Streets there is only ~ 5 inches of ground before you go down into the creek and there are no fog lines. Mayor HOZZA stated Eberhart is a State road and will have the Public Works Director reach out to Penn DOT for some shoring up.

Mr. YOUNG asked about the pond at the intersection of MacArthur Road and Lehigh Street that someone was pumping out. Mayor HOZZA stated it was LVHN, is under their control and maintenance. Mr. YOUNG asked if it is covered by the ordinances in the Township, with an affirmative response. Mr. YOUNG stated it has been retaining water since last October. Mayor HOZZA stated the contractor went in to see why it was filling up with water, his report was sent to Penn DOT and we have been told by LVHN the issue has been taken care of. Mr. YOUNG asked if it is a detention or retention pond. Frank CLARK stated it is a ground water recharge which is supposed to retain water, planted with vegetation that likes water with the idea to recharge a portion of the storm water back into the soil but depends on the compaction of the soil, is what they are investigating to see if it is coarse enough to let the water thru or is getting clogged. Mr. YOUNG asked why it wasn't a detention pond going into the storm sewer. Mr. CLARK stated the federal government decided a certain portion of rain must be recharged back into the earth, is called the National Pollution Elimination Recharge System, is why you will see a lot of these recharge pits, rain gardens and even for individual homes they do not want your rain gutters going across the grass but leading to a pond with vegetation that is supposed to recharge the ground water. Mr. YOUNG stated that is in violation of the Development News he received when he got a permit to fix his roof which stated new regulations by the Township on the West Nile Virus require all property owners to be diligent with any standing water on their property and penalties for non-compliance can be severe. Mayor HOZZA stated we have a program where certified Public Workers employees treat all of the ponds and standing water we are aware of in the Township and this one was treated. Mr. CLARK stated if you could put the recharge law and that law together, would like to see who wins because these are the kinds of regulations the engineering community is constantly fighting because they give us regulations that oppose each other and with the geology in this area have a lot of sinkholes because of limestone and the problem with these recharge pits is they start to dissolve limestone, have argued with the state and feds this is not the best area to do it but want us to plant vegetation instead of using liners in the bottom of these ponds and when we try to explain that when the roots of vegetation shrink and swell, it will open up fissures in the soil and will have degradation of limestone. Mayor HOZZA noted in front of the building have a Penn DOT installed rain garden, Lehigh Valley Auto Auction is now responsible also for a Penn DOT installed rain garden along Lehigh Street and for the Rt. 22 widening project are hearing of massive rain gardens having to be put in along the Lehigh River to take all of the storm water coming off of Route 22. Mr. CLARK stated when you try to budget for the widening of roads now, it costs more to budget and condemn property for these ponds than it does for the road itself.

Patrick THOMAS, 1911 Belleview Drive, Whitehall, asked if there is a noise ordinance in Whitehall, with a negative response. Commissioner SLONAKER stated it is next to impossible to enforce, police officers handle it with disorderly conduct, need to be there when it is going on and to have the equipment to enforce it. Commissioner ARMSTRONG stated he did some research, noted with an ordinance need a person to be trained which is expensive, a machine to measure the decibels, in writing the ordinance it becomes so vague as to a sound at night versus a sound during the day, spoke to a lawyer who went with a noise ordinance man on a noise complaint in Allentown, it was a farmer's tractor during the day, was above the noise level, is one of those areas where it sounds very simple until you start looking into it, hopefully the problem can be solved without it because it is a major expense, has been talking to the Chief about it also and in the old days you could go over to your neighbors and ask them to turn it down, would get along and is a door if opened may create more problems than if we don't. The more research he did for areas that have one, the more he found it may not be the answer as long as we have police, is usually solved that way, there may be incidents where it isn't solved that way but does it mean we should open that door and spend money that may lead to a lot of legal suits. Mr. THOMAS stated his concern is a neighbor who has parties, has been in his residence for 10 years, feels it has gone on longer, has called the police who have witnessed it, the neighborhood is subjected to the loud noises, loud music and vulgar language and his kid's bedrooms face that house. Commissioner ARMSTRONG asked when he calls the Whitehall Police if the disturbance went away. Mr. THOMAS stated it was actually time that made it go away, the

police officer sat and listened to it, then asked them to turn it down, does not know what the after effect was, is a 26 year veteran and does not really want to PTSD on his neighbor because his kids can't sleep or he can't watch TV or open his windows because of a party going on until 12, 1 or 2 in the morning. Mayor HOZZA asked if the home in question is a rental unit, with a negative response. Mr. THOMAS stated he is sure there have been multiple calls other than his and moved out of Allentown to get rid of this exact problem. Commissioner ARMSTRONG asked when the police go to a residence after several complaints if there is a heavier fine or punishment so it doesn't happen again. Chief KULP stated the fine is set by the magistrate, if they go and have to come back, they would be cited for disorderly conduct, if it is repetitive conduct and is documented, then it becomes harassment and the fines all differ. Mr. THOMAS stated he was told by the responding officer if it goes to court, need someone to testify and he would do that. Officer NEDEROSTEK stated charges were filed against the owner of that residence.

Tino BABAYON, 26 S. Filbert Street, Allentown, stated on behalf of Tri-Boro soccer in Whitehall and since the Mayor and Commissioners gave them permission to use Mulligan's, especially wanted to thank Mayor HOZZA and invite them to come on Wednesday at 6:30 pm so the parents could thank them personally because they are at 890 kids in Whitehall, gained about 258 kids since last year. Commissioner HOWER noted last year it was a little over 600. Mr. BABAYON stated he is working with Mayor HOZZA to get more time on that field, have more kids in spring than fall even though there is baseball in spring and is way better in Whitehall than it was at Parkland and appreciates all their help.

Leah VAN NOTE, 3731 Lehigh Street, Whitehall, stated she is a Whitehall Township police officer and read the following statement.

I am speaking today to address my displeasure with the recent campaign for Mayoral position of Whitehall Township. It was a typical Saturday, as typical as it can get for a Police Officer working on a Saturday morning-away from their family-when I responded to a firm alarm at this building. I responded because, not only has this building been on fire in the past, but it is my job to respond to the calls that I'm dispatched to. What I observed and heard after I arrived, everyone in this room, along with the entire Lehigh Valley, already knows because of a major error in judgement by one of the police department administrators. But an even bigger part was due to the township commissioner running against Mayor Hozza.

When you received my injured officer report, Mr. Palagonia, I would have thought you would have stopped and questioned a full incident report, of that nature, being released. Especially since you are a retired Police Officer from the same Department the report came from which had the same policies and procedures, in regards to reports being released, when you worked here. As much of a mistake as it was for that report to be released, it was an even bigger mistake for you to release the contents of that report to a major media outlet for the Lehigh Valley. All for your personal benefit in the race for Mayor.

I cannot express the shock, embarrassment and disappointment I experienced when I read my name in the paper, for simply doing my job, all for your political gain. You cannot imagine what I felt when I read another article 9 days later stating you, Mr. Palagonia, had requested a copy of the report and one of my Administrators had released that to you. When I read, yet again, another article 2 weeks later about how you felt it was offensive that the Mayor was trying to punish an Officer for no reason, and that the released report was not stamped confidential so you felt it was public record. Since when is an injured officer report public record? That's stepping into a gray area concerning the HIPAA violations. I found it offensive you would think that and also do not appreciate you speaking for me, saying I "now feared for my long-term health" as if you had spoken to me about this incident. Still to this date you have not made any attempt to speak with me about the incident, even though you were so concerned for me that you felt it necessary to use that incident as part of your campaign. And, last

but not least, I cannot describe the anger I felt when I became aware of the campaign flyer your campaign distributed to all Whitehall residents, containing an excerpt from the Morning Call article, which included my name. For 2 months, you used my (potential) injury and my name, without my permission or anyone else's, to try and further yourself in the race for Mayor.

I feel your recent behavior does not demonstrate the type of person that should be representing this Township, especially since you violated a Township Ordinance concerning the Code of Ethics (Chapter 1, Article LI 1-303) Section (B)(4) under "Prohibitions": "Disclosure of confidential personnel information. No public official or employee shall disclose confidential personnel information without proper legal authorization". Your ethical values were truly shown in this campaign and feel you are not abiding by the oath you swore to uphold when you were appointed to this position.

How should I, and the rest of the employees of this Township feel? As an elected official you were elected to represent the residents of this Township, as well as look out for the interests of the employees, who are your public representatives. Because of this, I am asking that you, Mr. Palagonia, consider stepping down from your position as a Township Commissioner. If not, then I ask the board seriously consider having you removed from your position or the Ethics Board conduct their own investigation to determine the proper disciplinary action. Thank you for your time.

Howard LEIBERMAN, 2314 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Whitehall, presented the Board with the ICDA audit report through December 31, 2013, was delayed in processing because of a new auditor and noted the 2014 audit should be out by June 30<sup>th</sup>. He stated the ICDA maintained a positive net worth of \$205,373 with a liability of payroll taxes for \$873. The biggest benefit to the Authority was the financing of the Moravian Academy Athletic building which provided \$40,000 of income. The Authority continues to work on a positive financial standing, are currently working on the TIF and LERTA, particularly for the Dairy site and some other operations and the audit will be published in next week's edition of the Whitehall-Coplay Press.

Suzanne BOLLINGER, 21 Jazz Circle, Whitehall, has lived here for 17 years, can't go outside or open her windows because her neighbors have parties every Saturday night, has called police but goes on forever, has a recording of what it sounds like from her living room, lives alone, afraid of retaliation but at this point is fed up, can't afford to move, can't go out front because kids are in her yard and driveway, she has three dogs and if they get bit, she will get sued. The kids are unsupervised all day and night, no one ever checks on them and none are over 8 years old. Commissioner ARMSTRONG asked how many people reside in that residence. Ms. BOLLINGER stated it varies, there are kids, a mother and car loads of people come in every Saturday night, with drinking, yelling and loud music, calls the police but feels like she is being a nuisance because she calls all the time. They don't answer the door, the police can't get to the back because there are fences everywhere, pays taxes and shouldn't have to live like this, is a prisoner in her house. Mayor HOZZA asked that she give her information to Chief KULP. Commissioner HOWER stated he has a friend that lives close to her, was called because they use his property as a school bus stop, drove by one morning and could not believe the kids running all over his property, up on the porch, playing basketball, was unbelievable. Ms. BOLLINGER stated they come in your garage, she has to sit in her driveway until they disperse, tells them to stay off of her property, they lay in her driveway, play hide and seek in her yard, has been going on for years, she can't deal with it any more, she has no peace.

Matt RESZEK, 3731 Lehigh Street, Whitehall, stated he is a police officer of Whitehall Township, serves proudly the men and women of the Whitehall Police Association, is speaking on their behalf, will not speak on Officer VAN NOTE's behalf because she did a fine job doing that on her own. He stated they not only proudly serve the citizens of Whitehall Township but proudly the administration, being a servant means they have to answer to a higher authority, answer to superiors, that's the job they chose, with that comes trust, they need to trust their superiors, trust their authority and if they

don't have that trust it falls apart. His disappointment is with Brother PALAGONIA, a retired police officer who to the best of his knowledge is still a member of their association, but just because they are servants does not make them pawns for a politician or superior to use them for political gain. As police officers they are very limited with how they can protest and demonstrate, so he is going to ask all his brothers and sisters to walk out together and is how they will demonstrate tonight.

Aziz WEHBAY, 1726 Peachtree Circle, Whitehall, member of St. George Orthodox Church and president of the American Syrian-Amarian Society of the Lehigh Valley, stated at the previous meeting Mrs. SNYDER called the people who attended the flag raising a bunch of terrorists and terrorist supporters, used a barbaric sign of throat slashing, whether it was to Mr. HOZZA or to the Syrian community, was a barbaric act, wants an apology from her and anyone else who supported her at that evil meeting, would be honored for her to step down because it was a disgrace what she used at the meeting with the throat slashing and not to forget that our US resident Steven Sotloff's throat was slashed by the sign she gave and she is a disgrace to Whitehall. President SNYDER stated the gavel was here and instead of acting like Ms. Judy and gaveling if someone would yell from their seat, an outburst, all she did was go like that (made a motion) to quite it down. Mr. WEHBAY stated absolutely not, the motion she made was all over the media and was a disgrace to Whitehall. President SNYDER stated that is not true. Mr. WEHBAY stated Whitehall is a community and is not a racist town.

Tino BABAYON, 26 S. Filbert Street, Allentown, on behalf of the Syrian community, stated Mrs. SNYDER and Mr. PALAGONIA both called us terrorists. Commissioner PALAGONIA stated he did not and would like to hear those words. Mr. BABAYON stated he sent out a flyer showing Syrians are terrorists. Commissioner PALAGONIA stated he said there are terrorists in Syria. Mr. BABAYON noted they walked into almost a war zone and with no disrespect to the chief, no one could have stopped it if something would have happened to them, is not scared of nobody, the only person his Dad told him to be scared of is God and he will get them both for doing that and they need to step down. He stated they could have had 2,000 Syrian community people here tonight but stopped them because we are not that type of people but if you want us to play his game or Mrs. Snyder's game, they will. President SNYDER responded that was a threat. Mr. BABAYON stated it's not but both need to apologize to the Syrian community or can bring them in just the same way she brought the veterans in. President SNYDER stated she didn't bring them in, didn't even know them. Mr. BABAYON stated they need an apology from them because they did call them terrorists, at lot of people heard it, even the veteran's outside who shook their hands said it wasn't right what she called you in there. Mr. BABAYON stated we are good people, work hard, are business people, don't see any of us in jail, pay our taxes, do everything right, have about 800 Syrian people in Whitehall and that brochure went to them with a picture of the flag stating the Mayor is supporting terrorism. They do not support terrorism, it was done as a culture, does not understand why they took it the wrong way, it's the same as when the Puerto Ricans have a parade and if it was a black person here or raising a flag for Africa wouldn't say anything, wouldn't have had this big commotion, is he right or wrong. Commissioner PALAGONIA stated he will not respond to a question like that. Mr. BABAYON stated he would respond if he is man enough and a so-called Commissioner and cares about the people. Commissioner PALAGONIA stated he is a veteran, the POW flag was taken down and if another flag was put up there, would respond the same way. Mr. BABAYON stated Mayor HOZZA never broke a rule about that, if showed that rule he would apologize on his behalf but no one ever showed them a rule that he did something wrong, helped them as a culture, love what he did for them as a culture, is an Allentown resident so they can't do anything to him but he supports his Syrian community and is here in their Township to help make Whitehall the best soccer program of all the communities around it, came here because he knew the kids needed help, cares about the youth more than anything else but what they did was very unfair, feels they need an apology, has a lot of respect for the other Commissioners but knows Commissioner PALAGONIA used it for a political reasons and shouldn't say he didn't because he did. Commissioner PALAGONIA stated he never said any Syrians that live in the United States were terrorists, has a lot of Syrian friends, member of

Syrian Club in Allentown on Second Street but they don't know anything about that. Mr. BABAYON stated that is not a club. Commissioner PALAGONIA stated he supports that club because they have a food bank there, has never said anything derogatory of any culture in Whitehall or any other place. Mr. WEHBAY stated he met his wife on Election Day who said "I told that idiot not to get involved in that Syrian thing". Commissioner PALAGONIA stated that is just hearsay and is not interested in what she said. Mr. WEHBAY stated he, Mrs. SNYDER and people at the Arabic Club at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street in Allentown, played that game for him to be patriotic and if that meeting would have been held a week after the flag raising he could have claimed to be patriotic but a week before the election that was evil. President SNYDER stated she doesn't know anything about any club or was involved in anything like that and believes those veterans who were here had a right to speak because they gave their lives so we could all speak. Mr. BABAYON stated they had no problem with that. Commissioner PALAGONIA stated if anything put out on his behalf offended any Syrian anywhere, he apologizes for that, wasn't meant to offend anyone but that's what happens when you are in politics and people run your campaign.

**C. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON ORDINANCES**

**1. BILL NO. 17-2015 (Second Reading)**

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT A DEED OF EASEMENT NEEDED FOR A PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN FLASHING WARNING POLE & BASE ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF GRAPE STREET OVER THE PROPERTY OF ST. JOHN'S UCC AS DESCRIBED HEREIN AT THEIR 516 GRAPE STREET PARKING LOT, LOCATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA. (DEVELOP)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 17-2015 to the Board.

Commissioner HUNSBERGER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner PALAGONIA. There were no questions or comments.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Bill No. 17-2015 was approved.

**2. BILL NO. 18-2015**

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A PROPOSAL FOR ACQUISITION AND INSTALLATION OF A SALT STORAGE STRUCTURE FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 3.20 IN THE HOME RULE CHARTER WHICH REQUIRES AUTHORIZATION OF ACQUISITIONS IN EXCESS OF \$25,000 BY ORDINANCE. (ADMIN)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 18-2015 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Bill No. 18-2015 was approved.

**3. BILL NO. 19-2015 (First Reading)**

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 3.06 QUALIFICATIONS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL HOME RULE CHARTER. (BOC)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 19-2015 to the Board.  
There were no questions or comments.

4. BILL NO. 20-2015 (First Reading)

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 5.03 QUALIFICATIONS OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL HOME RULE CHARTER. (BOC)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 20-2015 to the Board.  
There were no questions or comments.

5. BILL NO. 21-2015 (First Reading)

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 7.02 QUALIFICATIONS OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL HOME RULE CHARTER. (BOC)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 21-2015 to the Board.  
There were no questions or comments.

6. BILL NO. 22-2015

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A PROPOSAL FOR  
PURCHASE OF (2) 2015 FORD SEDAN POLICE INTERCEPTOR VEHICLES  
FOR THE POLICE PATROL DIVISION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION  
3.20 IN THE HOME RULE CHARTER WHICH REQUIRES AUTHORIZATION  
OF ACQUISITIONS IN EXCESS OF \$25,000 BY ORDINANCE. (POLICE)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 22-2015 to the Board.

Commissioner ARMSTRONG moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner  
PALAGONIA. There were no questions or comments.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Bill No. 22-2015 was approved.

***D. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON RESOLUTIONS***

1. RESOLUTION NO. 2897

TITLE: A RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY APPROVING THE REVISED  
RESOLUTION 2508, APPROVING THE LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF  
SPECTRUM HOMES, LOCATED AT 3614 LEHIGH STREET, WHITEHALL  
TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, INDEX #1705-06.  
(DEVELOP)

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2897 to the Board.

Commissioner HUNSBERGER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner  
PALAGONIA.

Commissioner GINDER questioned the missing date on number three. Frank CLARK stated  
his letter is dated today, June 8<sup>th</sup>, will be attached to the Resolution as Exhibit 2, and gave a  
brief synopsis of the plan modification to the previously approved Spectrum Homes site for



the proposed Teamsters office building. He stated it's the same use, same access, they have reduced the size of the building and impervious coverage, is taking a step back from the approved plan so the change needs a second approval by the Board. The plans are in compliance and reviewed his comments from the letter.

Seven Commissioners were present with six voting "yes" and Commissioner Hower abstained. Resolution No. 2897 was approved.

***E. OTHER***

1. Commissioner HOWER moved, seconded by Commissioner ARMSTRONG to approve the release of escrow for completed and withdrawn projects, per Deputy Mayor MEYERS memo dated June 4, 2015.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Motion carried.

2. Commissioner SLONAKER moved, seconded by Commissioner PALAGONIA to approve the appointment of Barry KECK to fill an unexpired term on the Police Pension Board, term to expire December 31, 2016.

Seven Commissioners were present with four voting "yes" and Commissioners HUNSBERGER, PALAGONIA and SNYDER voted "no". Motion carried.

***F. REPORTS OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS***

1. Commissioner GINDER stated he is very concerned of what our police officer said tonight, what position this puts the Township in and asked that a copy of the statement be given to the Commissioners before next month's meeting since it involves some serious stuff like HIPPA.
2. Commissioner HOWER commented on the various veteran celebrations that were held in the Township but some like Fullerton and Cementon are right on the road, asked if the traffic can be stopped and roads closed in the future for about 3-4 minutes while the ceremonies are going on. Mayor HOZZA stated he will ask the Fire Police and Police next year.

Commissioner HOWER stated a resident contacted him about UGI who had replaced something at her house and said they would come back in the spring and plant grass and the depression is now 6 inches deep. Frank CLARK noted he would look into it.

3. Commissioner SLONAKER provided the Board with Cornerstone's report on the Police Pension Fund, the most significant thing is it increased over \$7.5M because the economy has turned around and if anyone has any questions to give him a call. Commissioner HOWER asked the funding level for the Police Pension Fund. Deputy Mayor MEYERS stated he believes the municipal obligation for this year will be around \$1.1M.
4. Commissioner ARMSTRONG stated the number of presidents at the Park and Rec Board meeting were upset with the new state regulations that everyone, even those working in the concession stands, need to have police and FBI clearance and needed to make it clear this is not a requirement by Whitehall.

Commissioner ARMSTRONG stated the Stroll Down the Trail will be on September 27<sup>th</sup>, Fitness Central from Schnecksville will have a bicycle display, Papa John's will give out 4 coupons for a free pizza, the Whitehall Chamber will be distributing welcome bags, students

from the Whitehall High School Art Department will display art along the trail and Rite Aid will participate again and is still checking with Wawa and the Lions Club.

5. Mayor HOZZA stated spring street sweeping is finishing up, thanked South Whitehall Township for use of their sweeper and operator when our one sweeper was down. He stated the full depth reclamation of Spruce Street north is completed, the middle section of Spruce Street from Adams Street to the FDR project and Sanibel Court are scheduled to be paved this week. Public Works crews will be milling Iron Street and a section of Second Street by the old football stadium. Chestnut Street west between MacArthur Road and the IRT crossing was redone and paid for by Eastern Industries, now New Enterprise, and thanked Township Engineer Frank CLARK for arranging the repaving which turned out well.

He noted in cooperation with the City of Allentown, Penn DOT, the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission and the Waterfront Project, a federal transportation TIGER grant was submitted last week for \$33M for the Riverside Drive and trail which will begin in the City of Allentown and end south of the Race Street Bridge in Whitehall and noted at no time has anyone in the Lehigh Valley received a TIGER grant, are very hopeful and will find out in October.

Mayor HOZZA noted the numerous complaints about high grass and weeds, after all legal steps are taken by the Code Enforcement Department, our sub-contractor will cut the property and the property owner on record will be billed for cutting and administrative costs and if not paid, the property will be lien.

Mayor HOZZA stated the water line to the Hokendauqua pool has a break in it, are in the process of determining where it is but do not anticipate this delaying the opening of the pool. He noted the Hokendauqua Park restroom project continues with Public Works and Recreation skilled trade's employees doing a wonderful job in building the new restrooms.

Mayor HOZZA stated the Annual Civil War weekend will be held in the Whitehall Parkway on June 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. He noted the positive news about residents of Whitehall Township with the Morning Call article about the kindness shown by the senior class in the naming of the prom queen this year, the editorials in the newspaper about what a great high school we have which made him proud to be Mayor of this Township. He commented on a beautiful article in the Wildlands Conservancy publication about our own Mario SPAGNOLETTI and his daughter which is a wonderful tribute not only for what he does in Whitehall but for all of the Lehigh Valley.

Mario SPAGNOLETTI, 351 Sumner Avenue, Whitehall, stated he was at the Fishing Derby at Hokey Park and went over really good and noted the work by Trout Unlimited will start on August 24<sup>th</sup> which is his and Al RECKER's birthday. Mayor HOZZA noted the dam removal project will start in July and also the stream restoration of the Coplay Creek.

Commissioner ARMSTRONG stated in years past students come here and the Board would pass a proclamation and asked what has happened to that. Mayor HOZZA stated the last time it was done was for the girls' soccer team and the baseball team and is a good idea. Commissioner ARMSTRONG stated we have a student going to Penn State who is quite a gentleman. Mayor HOZZA noted how he gave up his gold medal which was incredible too. Commissioner ARMSTRONG stated he doesn't always want to be the advocate for the students but would like to see us getting back to recognizing some of them.

Ron REAMAN, 929 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Whitehall, stated Whitehall has a food bank and would be willing to pick up donations, there are five churches in Whitehall that contribute to the food bank, Faith

Lutheran, St. John's Episcopal Mickley, St. John's Lutheran on Third Street, St. John's UCC on Grape Street and every Monday from 6 -8 pm about 40 needy families come to get food and the Mayor brought a car load of food that was collected at the Recycling Event. Mayor HOZZA noted with the Hunger Project going on with the Communities that Care, one of the ideas is to have drop off points, so the Township will put a toter in the lobby so when people come to the Township they can bring a food item. Mr. REAMAN noted they have been getting less food from the Second Harvest. Mayor HOZZA stated an idea that came from Easton was that every House of Worship is now designated as one particular food item which ensures that the food banks in Easton have the basic items that are nutritious

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

1. MOTION – Commissioner HUNSBERGER moved, seconded by Commissioner PALAGONIA adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm.