
MINUTES

April 13, 2015
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 April 13, 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.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

Regular Public Meeting – March 9, 2015

Seven Commissioners were present with six voting “yes” and President SNYDER abstained. Motion carried.

B. PRESENTATION

Scott LINDENMUTH, Lehigh County Director of Emergency Management, stated the County’s EMA consists of 5 areas one being the 911 Center which he oversees, is the heart of communications for the County, the County is not set up as a response organization but is mandated thru Title 35 which governs EM to have a hazmat team. He does Community Outreach with a number of programs for all ages, trains the Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) used for events when volunteers are needed. Oversees 20 individuals of LEPC who overlook the 219 companies in the area that store chemicals, do inspections to make sure they are doing what they report and have the right type of storage and containment as well as programs in place if there was an emergency in their facilities. Oversees operations and training, when requested does drills, classes thru PEMA, ICS training, EOC, has 25 jurisdictions in the County, 23 with an EMC and do training throughout the year. The final area is the Special Operations Team which belongs to an eight County Task Force. Are set up as a Commonwealth, authority is to the lowest jurisdiction which means as a Township need to handle what you can on your own. Acts as a liaison to the State (PEMA) for resources. In February the

Township EMC put in a request for salt which he requested thru PEMA and the salt was delivered within a few days. On a day-to-day basis our police, fire and EMS handle what they need to, there are mutual aid agreements between those organizations, it is really when a large incident occurs like a Sandy or Irene and two or more jurisdictions have issues is when the County will open up and act as a liaison, doesn't have the authority to dictate to somebody on what their plan should say or be written, can review the plan and advise but it is on the entity. Handles mitigation grants, acted as the conduit and put the paperwork together into a program with the generators. When you have exhausted resources thru mutual aid is when the request goes to the County and he would push it thru, does not have a lot of resources on hand, simply has the response team, does have some generators, booms, etc. but does not respond unless requested.

Commissioner GINDER asked where cots and blankets would come from and how fast they would show up. Mr. LINDENMUTH stated the Red Cross handles shelters. However, at the lowest jurisdiction where the authority lies, you would need to partner ahead of a storm to get about 50 cots and blankets to get started. The Red Cross has a five day window in an event, at a minimum would send a shelter manager, and has some stuff but not enough in a large event to take care of everyone. Commissioner GINDER asked if the state mandates who is provide those things. Mr. LINDENMUTH stated there is no mandate, the authority at the lowest jurisdiction prepares themselves. The emergency starts with the individual, if the jurisdiction doesn't prepare, the County tries to provide resources but does not take command, answers for the larger group in a large event and is why there are EMC's. Need to look at what you can prepare for financially and thru manpower what you can do. There are some jurisdictions that have some start up kits. Red Cross prefers to open mega shelters at high schools or universities to put 1,000 beds when a jurisdiction like ours cannot afford to put a 1,000 pieces of equipment to the side. Commissioner GINDER asked if in other municipalities they partner with the School District and how do they deal with it. Mr. LINDENMUTH stated there are both private and public partnerships, there is nothing that says you can't go to a high school and arrange to have it a pre-approved site or nothing that prevents you from partnering up with a company in your area to help you amass resources but needs to take place prior to an event, will never happen during an event.

Commissioner PALAGONIA asked what his role would be if there is an aircraft disaster. Mr. LINDENMUTH stated recently had an incident with two small planes and a brush fire, has a unit at LVIA, an Alert 3 when a plane is down, out of Station 42. However, the ARF, Fire Department on LVIA grounds, are in charge, he would assist and help coordinate, security would come from the airport and thru their mutual aid agreements. He would make sure the FAA and MTSB teams have an area to work with the teams already on site.

Commissioner ARMSTRONG asked about his referral to partnerships such as Air Products and if would be for facilities needed, some of their equipment or for funding to purchase things we could have in case of an emergency. Mr. LINDENMUTH responded all of the above, best to find a partner that fits your needs and how you will work together. He noted a lot of the companies in the area do a lot for different charities, EMA's etc. Commissioner ARMSTRONG stated the best time to do that is prior. Mr. LINDENMUTH responded in the affirmative stating at the time of an emergency everybody is going to want to donate things but in today's world it isn't that easy, all first responders need to be trained with background checks, there is a rush to help but can't take the cakes and pies because of allergies and the health department will check out the food, everyone needs to know their role, never is a perfect disaster.

President SNYDER stated if she did not ask 3-4 years ago what can we do, you gave me the proper answer but asked if we are equipped and you said only to a certain extent and was pleading to get this thing moving because if something happens and now it comes from the person who is in charge saying we would not be prepared to the extent we should be, doesn't know what the effort would be, wanted to do this years ago, kept hearing don't do it because the County will come in and take care of

it. Chris GRIM, Township EMA, stated those words never came out of his mouth. President SNYDER stated he didn't say that but that is what we were told from different officials but now we got the information of the way it is, you will be a help to some extent but is like everything in life, need to look out for yourself, doesn't know what it will take but needs to sit down with the Mayor or whoever and make a start. Mr. GRIM stated he has aggressively been pursuing grants thru the private/public partnerships but has been getting turned down. He noted Fire House Subs does emergency preparedness, has submitted to them three times and is waiting back to hear since the first two were declined. President SNYDER stated maybe there are other ways to go about it, doesn't know what they are but has been preaching this for a long time and no one listens until something happens.

Mayor HOZZA states this building has a full generator, will go for 3 days until it needs more diesel as well as the Public Works building and Chris has put in a grant seeking a generator for Schadt Avenue Playground and the plan is to roll out a generator at each of the Community buildings because unfortunately in the State of PA, it is not mandated for a School District to have their building on full generator so the generators at the High School and Middle School will only last a short amount of time and thinks the State mandate should be changed for any new or renovated school building to be on full back-up because we have seen storms the last couple of years plus two very intense winters as well. He noted there are steps being taken, the key is with losing power but PPL has made a lot of investment in their infrastructure by tree trimming and the smart grid. President SNYDER stated there are still other items and things we need. Mr. GRIM stated he agrees 100%, the School District is a shelter for the Red Cross, was opened as recently as the fire at Helfrich Springs but the problem with the Red Cross was they were just wrapping up a fire in Carbon County and took about an hour to get here but if they hadn't been just about finished, would have been a few hours and would not have been able to set up any type of shelter and as far as cots and blankets, is on his list to get done but the School District is on the radar, he is also starting to go out to the churches and fire halls to get Memorandums of Understanding to open up their facilities when something happens as a stand-by, not as a full shelter, but as a warming station. Also, have a CERT team that started last year with Whitehall-Coplay combined, also a Civil Air Patrol in Egypt and have grown as an EM organization as well with a crew of about six. Mr. LINDENMUTH stated he didn't mean to paint a bleak picture, Chris and Ann are no strangers to his office and could what you are doing be better, absolutely, just came to let you know that he just doesn't show up and take over your jurisdiction and run the show, you have a very proactive group, there are a lot of things in place but like everywhere there will be holes and he will try to fill those holes. President SNYDER stated that is what we needed to know, have been discussing it, just doesn't seem to move and thanked him for coming.

C. COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Renate and Steve BROSKY, 3224 Water Street, Whitehall, pleaded for a permanent abatement of the traffic hazard historically associated with Water Street which is currently closed due to the bridge construction. She stated her insurance agent suggested leaving the street closed and making it a cul-de-sac, but Water Street is one of the few alternatives to north/south travel, would like the best thing done, to keep it closed, the second best would be a one-way northbound with speed calming devices which exists in Allentown and Bethlehem on streets that are far less traveled and the third least desirable option would be just to have the speed calming devices. It has been argued we can't afford to close Water Street but has been closed now and has not seen it as a burden on anyone except for those complaining that it is a convenient shortcut which does not justify the grave danger to the residents on that street with no sidewalks and the houses right at the street and the street is only 19 feet wide, not enough for 2-way traffic. Mr. BROSKY noted this has been going on for decades, is an old tired story, is truly a hazard, been lucky not to lose anybody yet and his car has gotten hit because people have no tolerance. President SNYDER stated it's time and way overdue. Mayor HOZZA stated he believes it was budgeted for traffic studies, need to wait until it opens and get the new traffic

counts before any traffic calming device is installed because even though it is a Township Street, need to abide by PennDOT regulations. President SNYDER asked about making it one-way. Mayor HOZZA stated the need then to being in Lehigh County and PennDOT because the Township signed off on the construction of the bridge and the ramp for it to be two-way traffic with a much wider curve and when it opens it may take some time to ramp up to where it was before construction to get new traffic counts. Mrs. BROSKY asked if it can be done thru some type of conservation effort that it would be limited to pedestrians, wetlands, historic area or passive recreation. President SNYDER stated maybe a year ago received a magazine from the State on things we can and cannot do and it said we can put speed bumps down. Mayor HOZZA noted we can but we are cautious that we do everything legally and by the book and as one of our Bureau Chiefs tells me we are always the test case for litigation. President SNYDER asked if someone could get in touch with the State since she read this. Mr. BROSKY stated on Main Street in Bethlehem, in a very nice part of town, a prominent family lost a child, hardly sees any traffic and has speed humps. Mayor HOZZA explained if something should happen on that speed bump and a motorist is injured and brings a case against the Township, the attorney's representing the injured party will file a right-to-know request for all the permitting that was done for that speed bump, or stop sign or traffic signal, has seen it continually and currently have one. Mr. BROSKY stated so if they are going fast enough to damage their car are obviously exceeding the speed limit and they can still have a case, with an affirmative response. It was noted anybody can sue anybody for anything. Commissioner ARMSTRONG noted this is the state we live in. Mr. BROSKY stated they don't want that to happen but at the same time if we can use that process to make it a safer street. Mrs. BROSKY invited them to drive down the street now to see that it is an absurd notion it should be a two-way thoroughfare. President SNYDER asked if there is any type of goal they can look at. Mayor HOZZA stated he would speak to our traffic engineer Benchmark but need to wait until it opens, get an accurate traffic count and then move from there. Commissioners PALAGONIA, HUNSBERGER and SNYDER thought a one-way would be the answer because you can't close it. Frank CLARK stated with a one-way the State will require an extensive study, will look to see how far out of the way someone has to go to get back to their home or destination, looks at a number of things, one of the biggest is emergency response, there is a lot to go thru and doesn't necessarily come out in your favor all of the time. Mr. BROSKY stated it is the same amount of distance as a bridge construction. Frank CLARK agreed but noted that is temporary, does not want to get anybody's hopes up but they are very strict and is difficult to get to establish a one-way street when there was not one before. President SNYDER stated we need to wait like the Mayor said to try something. Frank CLARK stated the need to get some background traffic to what they consider normal once the road opens. President SNYDER stated just to make a commitment that we will. Commissioner PALAGONIA stated he knows they have been here before, sees the problem down there, enforced the speed limit when he was on the Police Department and something has to be done. President SNYDER noted she uses it as a short cut and after it opens if they do not hear from them after a certain amount of time to come back.

Donald DRABICK, 5141 Lincoln Avenue, Whitehall asked about Field 5 at the Egypt Playground and if there is public access to the field from Reliance Street, with a negative response. Mr. DRABICK stated when they vote for the grant why can't they put in a public road to Field 5 for cars and heavy equipment because Egypt Playground has 3 gates and in the last 2-3 years they drive over Fields 3 & 4 and tear up the outfield. Frank CLARK stated a problem with Field 5 is it will sit up high and between that and Reliance Street is a large drainage swale that comes down from there with a 72" diameter pipe that empty's out into that swale and is waters of the Commonwealth because it carries water and is navigable and to get from Reliance Street to that field you need to cross that swale, which is either a culvert or a bridge and to get that permit is a long and expensive process and once you get across there is no place to park because need everything we have to make it regulation and the grade to get from Reliance Street to where you could possibly park is so steep you would still need to cross the field to do it. Trying to situate that field in a way that we have certain paths for vehicles to get to certain places where people are walking to support the team, are trying to look at a way to make some of it stabilized where you can drive up to some of those places and get close and

trying to adjust the grading to do that. Mr. DRABICK stated anything can be solved. Mr. CLARK agreed if you throw enough money at it and asked where you would go once you got to the field. Mr. DRABICK stated public access and what good is the 3-4 acres when you have no entrance. Mayor HOZZA stated there is a lot on Main Street the family would like to sell which would be a partial access road into the park for a parking lot for Field 5 but the gentleman who lives in the home next to it and owns the area for the parking lot is unwilling to sell. Mr. DRABICK stated they need access. Mayor HOZZA stated another exit point would be the LARRIMORE garage that has been cited by the Township could be used if Mr. LARRIMORE decides to sell. Mr. DRABICK stated if the Township owns Field 5, they should have their own entrance and exit, two lanes wide for heavy equipment, so not to tear up Fields 3 and 4, then the Township rolls it, makes it a mess and drives him and Kramer up a wall. Mayor HOZZA noted the trail still needs to be connected to Belmont Glen and that is the access the heavy equipment would use to get back to Field 5.

D. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON ORDINANCES

1. BILL NO. 9-2015

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP TO ORGANIZE A WHITEHALL AREA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY UNDER THE PROVISION OF THE “MUNICIPALITY AUTHORITIES ACT”. (BOC)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 9-2015 to the Board.

Commissioner ARMSTRONG moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner HUNSBERGER.

President SNYDER stated she had no problem forming this Authority, understands their names need to be on it for now, and does not like it but when they get to the point of putting people on this Board, if they will be doing the interviewing for those individuals.

Howard LIEBERMAN, 2314 N. 1st Avenue, Whitehall, stated it would be the Commissioners, not the WTICDA, the need to form the Authority is why the Board members names are on now. President SNYDER stated she just wanted it to be in the minutes, hopes when they get people to interview that it is very transparent, doesn't want just lawyers, developers or people like that, wants to see residents on it also, wants it to be very open. It may sound silly but is not because you may think you have the greatest Authority but if you just fill it up with people like that it will be as crooked as the day is long. Mr. LIEBERMAN stated that have not shown that with the ICDA but overall are trying to get as many people involved as they can and the Board will control the new Authority. President SNYDER stated she just wants it clearly understood, has researched it and is happening at many places where they are filling these boards with lawyers and developers who are benefiting. We need average, regular citizens and people with open minds who don't have a personal agenda. Commissioner HOWER stated that is not a shameless plug, have a lot of people in the audience, just trying to give them a hint and there are applications on the desk, we have many Boards and do need the resident's opinions. President SNYDER stated that many of the people who submit their names will be developers, lawyers and if no one applies and these individuals are breathing, they will get the position and then you will come back at us and say this is what you put on the board but if you don't come out and don't care, that is what you will get and we will all hurt for that because they will benefit and none of the residents will. Mr. LIEBERMAN stated NACC put a program together to train community members how to act on boards and commissions, is a five week class, could get them to do a presentation at the Township if we had enough people interested. President SNYDER stated this is a very

important thing, cares about the process and what will happen afterwards and wants it to be a good thing, not for people to benefit from their own personal agenda. Commissioner GINDER asked if this authority will be treated as ever other authority we have, Sewer, Water, Redevelopment and according to the Home Rule Charter that the Commissioners appoint to those authorities, with an affirmative response. President SNYDER stated it still doesn't mean it will be done properly if you have four Commissioners who control this board, you can get what you want, need the residents to be involved.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Bill No. 9-2015 was approved.

2. BILL NO. 10-2015

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A PROPOSAL FOR PERFORMANCE OF STREET RESURFACING USING FULL DEPTH RECLAMATION FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS BUREAU OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 3.20 OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER WHICH REQUIRES AUTHORIZATION OF ACQUISITIONS IN EXCESS OF \$25,000 BY ORDINANCE (PUBLIC WORKS)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 10-2015 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Bill No. 10-2015 was approved.

3. BILL NO. 11-2015

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSALS FOR RENTAL OF AN ASPHALT MILLING MACHINE, CONTRACT NO. 15-03 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 3.20 IN THE HOME RULE CHARTER WHICH REQUIRES AUTHORIZATION OF ACQUISITIONS IN EXCESS OF \$25,000 BY ORDINANCE. (PUBLIC WORKS)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 11-2015 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Bill No. 11-2015 was approved.

4. BILL NO. 12-2015

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A PROPOSAL FOR PERFORMANCE OF STREET RESURFACING FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS BUREAU OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 3.20 OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER WHICH REQUIRES AUTHORIZATION OF ACQUISITIONS IN EXCESS OF \$25,000 BY ORDINANCE (PUBLIC WORKS)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 12-2015 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Bill No. 12-2015 was approved.

5. BILL NO. 13-2015 (First Reading)

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP TO ESTABLISH A LOCAL ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION TAX ASSISTANCE (LERTA) PROGRAM AND TO SPECIFY THE AREAS TO BE DESIGNATED AS LERTA QUALIFIED.

President SNYDER read Bill No. 13-2015 to the Board.

President SNYDER stated she has gone over it again, a lot of the things have not been changed, understands what the LERTA means in getting some of these places developed that are run down, wishes we wouldn't always just talk about the Dairy because there other areas than the Dairy and in talking about other areas what is the normal acreage of a district, is there a number for each one, aren't they 100 to 1,000 acres.

Howard LIEBERMAN, 2314 N. 1st Avenue, Whitehall, stated there is not a normal, especially in doing the LERTA we are doing because we are not doing an area per se but individual properties with properties ranging from a third of an acre to the Dairy Site with the largest portion 13 acres and the Thomas Iron works at 50 acres. President SNYDER stated no matter the size, it does affect those living in that district, one way or another, by making it better or worse or it could take some of the money being received away from the established residents because if you need to provide more services, the money needs to come from somewhere, the taxpayer. If it is a large one, is happy to see it get developed but would not get the taxes from it as you would from the general public who would be building a house or whatever. Mr. LIEBERMAN stated what she is saying is not exactly true, right now taxes are being collected from each parcel and that tax will continue. The only thing this does is that the increased value will be slowly brought into the picture at 10% a year. President SNYDER stated they will not be paying the same as a person that is not involved in the TIF. Mr. LIEBERMAN we are talking LERTA not TIF, as they are two different programs. In the LERTA situation have roughly 25 parcels paying x amount of tax dollars, that doesn't change. If we don't pass LERTA those parcels will continue to pay x amount of taxes and the argument would be that without some type of development incentive those properties will only continue to generate that amount of tax dollars, for example the Dairy generates about \$4,000/year in taxes. If we develop it, within 10 years from now would be \$20,000, can sit and do nothing or do something to develop it, plus the employment, the road improvements and public improvements that come with it, so the decision on LERTA became do we let it sit there another 20 years and not only that property but there are a number of other properties and when we had the public hearing, a number came out and said this could be the incentive for them to do some development and that development is increased value and then increased taxes, is nothing more than that and nothing in this program takes away anything from what you have today. By definition it says right in the Act that the tax that is there today remains, the only thing that will potential change if there is a reassessment by the County or your millage changes. President SNYDER stated if he doesn't see a problem with that, it's fine, she does.

6. BILL NO. 14-2015

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE WAIVING THE REQUIRED INSTALLATION OF SIDEWALKS FOR A DISTANCE OF APPROXIMATELY 177 FEET ALONG THE FRONTAGE OF 5520 HILLSIDE AVENUE AS REQUIRED IN CHAPTER 21, SECTION 407 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP. (DEVELOP)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 14-2015 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present with six voting “yes” and Commissioner SLONAKER voted “no”. Bill No. 14-2015 was approved.

7. BILL NO. 15-2015 (First Reading)

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING IN ITS ENTIRETY ARTICLE XVI OF CHAPTER 27 OF THE WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP CODIFIED ORDINANCES, FLOOD PLAIN DISTRICTS, BY REQUIRING ALL PERSONS, PARTNERSHIPS, BUSINESSES, AND CORPORATIONS TO OBTAIN A PERMIT FOR ANY CONSTRUCTION OR DEVELOPMENT; PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH PERMITS; SETTING FORTH CERTAIN MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT WITHIN AREAS OF WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO FLOODING; AND ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR ANY PERSONS WHO FAIL, OR REFUSE TO COMPLY WITH, THE REQUIREMENTS OR PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE. (LEGAL & LEGISLATIVE)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 15-2015 to the Board.

There were no questions or comments.

E. PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTING ON RESOLUTIONS

1. RESOLUTION NO. 2886

TITLE: A RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY APPROVING THE LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF CHILI’S BAR & GRILL, LOCATED AT 815 GRAPE STREET, WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, INDEX #1868-15. (DEVELOP)

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2886 to the Board.

Commissioner HOWER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner PALAGONIA.

Commissioner HUNSBERGER asked how close they are coming to the Church property. It was noted this is Chili’s not the Olive Garden. Commissioner PALAGONIA explained they are just going to use the existing parking lot.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Resolution No. 2886 was approved.

2. RESOLUTION NO. 2887

TITLE: A RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY APPROVING THE MINOR SUBDIVISION PLAN OF WRW BUILDERS LLC, LOCATED AT 5520 HILLSIDE AVENUE, WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, INDEX #1867-15. (DEVELOP)

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2887 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Resolution No. 2887 was approved.

3. RESOLUTION NO. 2888

TITLE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSAL OF SPECIFIC TOWNSHIP RECORDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TOWNSHIP’S RECORD RETENTION AND DISPOSAL SCHEDULE. (POLICE)

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2888 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Resolution No. 2888 was approved.

4. RESOLUTION NO. 2889

TITLE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSAL OF SPECIFIC TOWNSHIP RECORDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TOWNSHIP’S RECORD RETENTION AND DISPOSAL SCHEDULE. (ADMINISTRATION)

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2889 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”. Resolution No. 2889 was approved.

5. RESOLUTION NO. 2890

TITLE: A RESOLUTION GRANTING THE MAYOR THE AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES FOR A GRANT FOR THE WHITEHALL PARKWAY PAVILION PROJECT IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA. (ADMIN/BOC)

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2890 to the Board.

Commissioner HUNSBERGER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner PALAGONIA.

Commissioner GINDER asked how much the grant is for. Mayor HOZZA responded \$30,000 for the engineering and architectural fees but nothing for construction. President SNYDER asked if we received the grant, if it needs to be used for what it specifically says here. Mayor HOZZA stated can only change if you get approval from DCNR for a switch which is rare.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Resolution No. 2890 was approved.

6. RESOLUTION NO. 2891

TITLE: A RESOLUTION GRANTING THE MAYOR THE AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES FOR A GRANT FOR THE EGYPT BASEBALL FIELD #5 PROJECT IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA. (ADMIN/BOC)

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2891 to the Board.

Commissioner SLONAKER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner ARMSTRONG.

Commissioner GINDER asked how much the grant is for. Mayor HOZZA stated this one may not be applied for as Greg is waiting for some numbers. It was for the NPDES permits because of the proximity to the 72 inch pipe, the engineering, the basic design is there. Frank CLARK stated the NPDES component is around \$9,000.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Resolution No. 2891 was approved.

7. RESOLUTION NO. 2892

TITLE: A RESOLUTION GRANTING THE MAYOR THE AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES FOR A GRANT FOR THE CLEAR CHANNEL PARK PLAN IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA. (ADMIN/BOC)

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2892 to the Board.

Commissioner SLONAKER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner HUNSBERGER.

Commissioner GINDER asked how much the grant is for. Mayor HOZZA stated it is for the design from Keystone Engineering, no construction, for \$30,000. Mayor HOZZA noted our contact at DCNR is leaving for another job but do have a secondary contact who is just as able. President SNYDER asked if we receive the grant, do we have to use it for what this states, for soccer fields. Mayor HOZZA stated we would need to go to DCNR and ask for a switch but this is for the design of a draft of that concept. President SNYDER asked if the Township changed its mind could we do something else with the money or just can't take it. Mayor HOZZA stated the conversion could be from soccer to baseball or football. Frank CLARK stated to look at it as a sense of components, you have a road network from Columbia Street thru a parking lot to an outlet towards the hospital property, then you have a parking lot component, another is the pavilion with restrooms and concession and the other components are the sports fields, it's basically moving earth, there are x amount of acres, a soccer field runs about two acres, so you figure on this much earth disturbance and that is the key because it doesn't necessarily need to be a soccer, lacrosse or baseball fields but if you

will be moving dirt that is what the component is for, to see how much earth will be moved and the cost and you build in a component for permitting and engineering. There is flexibility to a certain point as far as the money and the design and if you are applying for athletic fields, pavilion and support structures. President SNYDER stated she is asking about the fields and if given this money can you do something else because maybe you would not be moving the land in the same respect. Frank CLARK stated he is not sure how they will see that if the grant is looking for athletic fields, if you can change what type of athletic field you want to build that is possible but is not sure on what else you do from a ground moving standpoint. If they are looking at a grant for an athletic field, support structures, parking lot and pavilion is probably what you need to stick close with and as the Mayor said, if you want to change that, will need to go back and tell them why you want to change it, they may consider it or may not. President SNYDER asked if that has happened. Mayor HOZZA stated not in Whitehall. President SNYDER stated then if we get this grant then this is what we would have to do. Mayor HOZZA stated if you decide thru the budgetary cycles in the next few years in the Park & Rec budget or you can include in a bond issue for several projects. President SNYDER stated because this is not enough money to do everything, with an affirmative response. Frank CLARK stated this would just get you thru the permitting.

Mike and Caroline EVANS, 3476 W. Columbia Street, Whitehall, noted \$30,000 isn't going to do anything, not one person wants their taxes raised to add another park and asked if this grant or another can be applied for to revitalize some of our existing parks like Mulligan's which is too small because the miniature golf is there yet or some of the other parks we have, not have all three fields in one park, feels we are putting the cart in front of the horse by revitalizing Clear Channel Park, should wait until the hospital is put in and maybe get funding off of them as they are into wellness. Mayor HOZZA stated the development of this park is in 2004 Park & Rec Comprehensive Plan which is adopted by the Park & Rec Board, the Rec Board and Commissioners as a guideline, not set in stone, for projects in the next ten years and now are in our 11th year and would be used for recreation. Removal of the miniature golf course at Mulligans would be done by our Park & Rec Department and Public Works when time permits because we have several backlogged projects due to an aggressive street program for this year based on the severe winter and received a report from Public Works on possible additional streets we may need to add to the list and where we get the money from will need to be addressed to the Board. Our priorities such as streets and alleys get taken care of first. Mr. EVANS stated if the Parks don't have the time or manpower now, how will they be able to take care of this when it is implemented. Mayor HOZZA stated it would be a budgetary item in the future if we have Park & Rec staff to take care of the property, other communities are moving to bringing in outsiders to maintain parks. Mrs. EVANS stated when the property was bought in 2004, Mr. SOLT told her it was intended as a playground for the development that was going in but plans changed so should our plans change, understands it is deeded for a park, is glad for that as her house borders the property, just feels we are putting the cart before the horse by developing this property before the hospital develops theirs and is not the right thing to do. Mayor HOZZA stated there is interest by developers in the land behind the hospital property on the old Ringer farm and whether that stays or LVHN seeks to gain those properties, we haven't been told. Mrs. EVANS stated she spoke to a majority of the neighbors and they all feel the say way, they don't want the fields there, don't want the extra traffic and don't feel it is for their neighborhood. Commissioner HOWER stated for the park to go in, the entrance cannot be on Columbia Street. He stated there was a motion made at the meeting in 2004 by Commissioner PALAGONIA and seconded by Commissioner HUNSBERGER to memorialize the intentions of Whitehall Township Administration and Board of Commissioners relative to the future use of the 18 acres being acquired by the Bill "The property is being purchased for its eventual use as a neighborhood/community park similar in use and amenities to other major Township parks (for example, Zephyr Park, West

Catasauqua Park, etc.). The property shall be retained in its natural state until such time as development and population within the Central Planning District dictates the need for its development” and asked how the population has changed in the Central Planning District. Mr. EVANS asked if there is a roster of kids. Mayor HOZZA stated it could be gotten from Tri-Boro. Mrs. EVANS stated there is no major development in the area at all. President SNYDER noted its two different things, it hasn’t been built up in that area and not because there are kids from all over the place that need a place to go (**AT THIS POINT THE TAPE BECAME INAUDIBLE FOR A PERIOD**).

Mrs. EVANS stated with the hospital going in, the thing now is fitness, walking, biking park, and things like that which would tie in with the hospital. Mayor HOZZA stated that may be an option but if you show the Network what we have, as Salisbury did since they don’t necessarily pay on the hospital itself but do on their office buildings and in lieu of it do assist Salisbury Township or where ever they are located to help with wellness. Commissioner HOWER stated it is a difficult decision because if we apply for this grant, this is years down the road but again just puts us behind the eight ball if we don’t do something. Mayor HOZZA noted there is no guarantee with the State budget that anyone is going to get anything this year. President SNYDER stated she appreciates them bringing this up, we were told we were going to get soccer/lacrosse fields and none of the Board asked any questions so she thought that is what it was going to be. Mayor HOZZA stated even though we have five athletic associations, the days of a baseball team playing all their games at one park is over, if one Park does not have a lot of activity they will move their kids, the walls have come down and there is more cooperation, it is not necessarily for a neighborhood, it is for all of Whitehall. President SNYDER noted also for a lot of outsiders. Commissioner PALAGONIA asked what the season is for soccer. Mayor HOZZA stated spring and fall, and Tri-Boro is looking to go indoors at Ice Rink 1 which is now turf. Commissioner PALAGONIA stated so they play when little league baseball is going on and if Hokendauqua has an away game, doesn’t know how many teams play or age groups play, if there is any availability at any of the fields then the soccer should be played there if it’s open, we have a lot of fields in Whitehall. Mrs. EVANS asked how many parks we own. Mayor HOZZA stated everything you see in the Township except for Egypt Memorial Park but not Field 5, the Hokendauqua Park and Playground on Lehigh Street but the pool, parking lot and tennis courts are owned by the Township. Mrs. EVANS stated she was told by Glenn SOLT the Township owns ~27 parks. Mayor HOZZA noted if you included Allencrest, Peachtree and a lot of pocket parks. Mrs. EVANS stated then there are a lot of parks to put the three soccer fields, with a negative response. Mayor HOZZA stated it is so bad that in some of the Western Townships they are putting kids in drainage swales and ponds because that is how desperate they are for space. Frank CLARK stated there is a lot of competition for athletic fields because more kids are getting involved but the fields are getting worn out and what puts the pressure on also was that girls soccer went to fall and even at Mulligans at the driving range, which is on a slant, they have little kids playing on it because it’s a smaller field so it doesn’t look as drastic with the grade change and are trying to find anywhere to play. Commissioner ARMSTRONG noted it was not a wonderful decision by the State to have girls’ soccer and field hockey both played in the fall, has really hurt Whitehall High School in the sharing of the athletes. Frank CLARK stated a lot of school are going to turf now because fields don’t survive.

Robert WAGNER, 3440 W. Columbia Street, Whitehall, stated not bringing the entrance in off of Columbia Street is a plus, has seen a lot of accidents down on Church and Columbia Streets, is a bad spot, can see a lot of people getting hurt there, feels the entrance should be coming in from the hospital and the \$30,000 for all of the engineering is great but don’t know what the hospital is doing. Mayor HOZZA noted we kind of do, they have a preliminary plan. He also noted the KASYCH Family still controls the estate, the 143 acres is controlled

by the Health Network and the key is working with the KAYSCH Family for Municipal Drive West to get to Clear Channel Park and the west. President SNYDER asked if we would get the \$30,000 would it fall into the category of over \$25,000 even though it is a grant that the Commissioners need to approve on how it will be used. Attorney FONZONE stated he believes so.

David SEGLITZ, 1821 Elmwood Drive, Whitehall, stated his daughter did a lot of improvements to her house in accordance with the Township and Bob WAGNER comes down and cuts the grass at the corner of Church and Columbia so the people can see coming around the corner, the people work together to keep the area nice. President SNYDER stated they will try to do the same thing.

Seven Commissioners were present with five voting “yes” and Commissioners HOWER and SNYDER voted “no”. Resolution No. 2892 was approved.

8. RESOLUTION NO. 2893

TITLE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING & DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT THE MACARTHUR ROAD (SR 145) AND SUTTLE DRIVE APPLICATION FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL EMERGENCY PREEMPTION APPROVAL TO PENNDOT AND SIGN THE APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP. (BOC)

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2893 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Resolution No. 2893 was approved.

9. RESOLUTION NO. 2894

TITLE: A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE WHITEHALL-COPLAY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL APPROVING PROPOSED TAX INCREMENT FINANCING (TIF) GUIDELINES UNDER WHICH IT WILL EVALUATE AND CONSIDER PROPOSALS FOR TAX INCREMENT FINANCING SUPPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY DAIRY PROPERTY LOCATED IN WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2894 to the Board.

Commissioner GINDER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner HOWER.

President SNYDER stated she doesn’t see many changes that were discussed.

Howard LIEBERMAN, 2314 N. 1st Avenue, Whitehall, stated most of what was discussed he explained. President SNYDER stated we discussed these blight areas and can’t any adjoining properties be considered so that it would not be detrimental to people in that area. Mr. LIEBERMAN stated the TIF is only for one purpose, the Dairy property and the two related properties, it spells it out. President SNYDER stated even though there is still a lot involved with it and when you read what can happen, it is not all favorable depending on how it is set up. Mr. LIEBERMAN stated we have the opportunity to move the Dairy project forward,

already had some interest based upon the TIF and got the School District to support it. The TIF is very specified and limited to the three properties. President SNYDER stated she has some concerns, knows sometimes when you have a big documents and you say most of it is State law but thinks some of it is not. Mr. LIEBERMAN stated pretty much everything she requested is changed. President SNYDER asked even what the School Board requested about the numbers. Mr. LIEBERMAN stated no we changed those and came up with the best answer we can that would provide an equity and one of the things added was the pro-rata based upon the tax base over at the School District and is praying we can get that thru, we lowered the Township's involvement to match the School District's involvement percentage wise and most of the other things are just the way the law reads. President SNYDER stated there are things in there she would like to see different but you are telling me we can't change it. (AT THIS POINT THE TAPE BECAME INAUDIBLE FOR A PERIOD).

Mr. LIEBERMAN stated the whole plan in its entirety is made public, the tax implications are made public, has no problem putting sunshine stuff in but there is no more you can do than what is on here. The TIF by definition is totally public and if you followed what happened over at Hamilton Crossing it couldn't have been more public, everybody had a chance to comment and did. President SNYDER asked if he would have a problem with Attorney FONZONE looking into this to give the public more information. Mr. LIEBERMAN stated only to the fact that it delays the process. President SNYDER stated she didn't say delay, could move on this now. Mayor HOZZA asked if it could be attached as a section if a developer comes in based on the Resolution and you have the hearing before you pass the TIF ordinance. President SNYDER stated she is not stating when to do it, just asking to do it, that it is included, and not trying to stop the process. Mayor HOZZA suggested if we have a developer and before we start the public hearings, the Board passes it as a guideline as to how it is going to proceed. President SNYDER stated none of them know how long they are going to be here and just wants to make sure when they do something they do it properly because you know how they can take a word and turn and twist it. Let her develop the Dairy or tear it down because the only thing that Dairy is fit for is to make a horror movie. Mayor HOZZA stated based on the TIF resolution and there is interest, which we expect from a developer, then at that time, the Solicitor would look into a Sunshine TIF ordinance and the Board would pass that and would lay out the guidelines and the steps that have to occur based on State law any way. Commissioner ARMSTRONG stated but the steps are already there open for the public and what else would we have to do to make it more open. Mr. LIEBERMAN stated the only thing they could do beyond what they have now is to put the plan on the website and buy almost all of the Morning Call to publish it because the TIF plan is hundreds of pages. President SNYDER stated she is just trying to make sure things are done on the up and up, it's not a joke because this Dairy has been around our neck for how many years. President SNYDER stated they want to get it developed the proper and legal way and not at the expense of any resident that lives in this Township and everything should be transparent, on the website and thinks the Mayor is in agreement with that (AT THIS POINT THE TAPE BECAME INAUDIBLE FOR A PERIOD).

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Resolution No. 2894 was approved.

F. OTHER

1. Commissioner HOWER moved, seconded by Commissioner GINDER to approve the release of escrow for completed and withdrawn projects, per Deputy Mayor MEYERS memo dated April 2, 2015.

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

2. Commissioner SLONAKER moved, seconded by Commissioner ARMSTRONG to approve the Real Estate Tax Assessment Appeal for 3 Maryland, LLC as per Deputy Mayor MEYERS memo dated March 20, 2015.

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

3. Commissioner PALAGONIA moved, seconded by Commissioner HUNSBERGER to approve if the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources issues a grant to the Township of Whitehall for the Clear Channel Park that a public meeting be held to receive citizen input relative to the appropriate development or improvement of said park.

President SNYDER stated she would like the words “or any movement at that particular park area or anything that may be taking place there and residents to be notified”. Attorney FONZONE suggested after the words “appropriate development” add “or improvement”.

Caroline Evans, 3476 W. Columbia Street, Whitehall, asked if that also means planning. It was noted it would include anything. Frank CLARK stated if awarded the \$30,000, the Board would need to approve the expenditure by the Charter. Mrs. EVANS asked if they would be notified of a meeting on the approval. Mayor HOZZA stated all meeting notices are published in the Whitehall-Coplay Press. Lee RACKUS stated that anyone interested should register their information with the Township as the MPC states anyone who wants notice needs to provide a self-addressed stamped envelope and suggested using email.

Both Commissioners amended their motion to include the words “or improvement”. Seven Commissioners were present and voted “yes”. Motion carried.

G. REPORTS OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

1. Commissioner ARMSTRONG invited everyone to the Student Government Day on Monday, May 11th. Students will shadow the Department Heads, will have an actual Township meeting around 1:00 pm, would like live participation from the audience and is a great program.

Commissioner ARMSTRONG stated the Parks Department is working to restructure itself in changing how it meets the needs of all its citizens, will be a long process and all Park & Rec presidents were asked to come up with what they think is an ideal plan. He noted the Mayor’s commented on how some of our young people will be playing on different fields and noted it was brought up why only some play under the lights, has come a long way in sharing since he was Rec Director in 1972-73 when he sent benches from the Fullerton pool to the Hokey pool and almost got fired by the Commissioners at that time, are coming a long way in forming a new community.

2. Commissioner HOWER asked where we are with the video taping of the meetings and putting them on “You Tube” so everybody can know what is going on in the Township. Mayor HOZZA stated we have the third bid but there is a lot involved with the options available for videotaping the meetings, leaning towards the bid that did Lower Macungie. President SNYDER stated there will be many people who will not get up and speak about issues once they know they are on tape because they will be afraid, it will take away from them but if you have four votes, you have four votes. People tell her now they are afraid, that is their mentality but you will be taking that away from them and this is the only public forum they have. Commissioner HOWER disagreed. Mayor HOZZA noted the only face shots will be from the dais, not the face of the person at the podium. President SNYDER noted they give their name and address. Commissioner PALAGONIA stated people will be reluctant to

come here. Commissioner SLONAKER noted they are not reluctant down at the County and it shows both the Commissioners and the public. President SNYDER stated that hopefully he will back down at the County pretty soon to keep an eye on everything, is sure voting for him, will vote for him 20 times, 50 times, so he gets there, whatever it takes. Commissioner PALAGONIA stated he can count on his vote, he will get him a lot of votes.

3. Commissioner PALAGONIA stated he had something to talk about, thought his comments in the Morning Call story about Mr. HOZZA's sanding of the basement asbestos floors was sufficient and didn't want to bring it up last week again at the workshop meeting. However, after reading the April 9th Whitehall-Coplay Press article, felt it was necessary to say a few words in defense of the officer who is being reprimanded. I thought long and hard on what has been going on with this asbestos incident and prepared a statement.

I find it offensive that Mayor HOZZA is trying to punish a Police Officer for no reason. The Mayor is using the public release of alleged confidential papers to try to deflect criticism away from himself for his irresponsible actions on March 14th in the basement of the Township building. He tried to power sand a floor that was known to contain asbestos and a substance that when breathed dust can cause cancer and other deadly diseases. We know this because the contents of a Police Incident Report that I obtained from an officer now under investigation by this Administration. The paperwork given to me by that officer was and I feel a public record and was not as the Mayor alleges a workman's compensation form. It is labeled police incident form and contains no information of confidential nature about the officer who identified herself as the victim and now fears for her long term health as a result of the irresponsible actions that took place down in the basement. The report wasn't stamped confidential nor any words that it was confidential written on that report. I was a Police Officer in Whitehall for 28 years and I know when I see a police report and that was one that I received and now it is a public record something someone visiting the Township building can request and view. What happens in a public building that was purchased by taxpayer's dollars, should be of public record. Now the Mayor is trying to make that issue over the public release of this form, which obviously embarrassed him, Mayor's HOZZA wants to know how the paperwork ended up in the hands of a newspaper reporter. I have some better questions – has the air quality of the basement of the Township building been tested and certified safe for the Township employees who work here? What was done with the material gathered by Mr. HOZZA basement adventure? Were they deposited in accordance with state and federal environmental laws? Why is Mr. HOZZA wasting Township time and resources to investigate a Police Officer who did nothing wrong? How many times does Mayor HOZZA plan to imperil Whitehall taxpayers by circumventing state regulations jeopardizing the safety of township employees and risking a lawsuit that could cost us tens of thousands of dollars? The floors in the basement were known to contain asbestos, he can conceive that the point according to the police report, he knew they were asbestos and no one else would touch it, yet you chose to do what you wanted to do anyway despite the rest of the Township employees and yourself. Now, I feel for this Police Officer may be preparing to sue the Township and you want to compound this by punishing another officer risking even more legal action. Where does this end? That's all I have to say. I didn't want to say anything last week but you opened the door with that newspaper story, so that's my comments on that.

Commissioner SNYDER stated what really upsets her is the fact that on that agenda and I know I said it once before on that agenda that you gave to the staff that day when this all happened or discussed it whatever and you had on there who was the Judas that did this and that to me is very, very upsetting and if you can't see the separation between government and religion then I don't get it and that upsets me more than anything. Just does not think that is not a very professional thing to do.

4. Mayor HOZZA noted Commissioner PALAGONIA gave his opinion of the incident and does he regret having cleaned the floor that morning and the method used? Yes. The vacuum is mine, it is in my home and that is where it will stay.

In regards to the investigation, that is being done by the Whitehall Police Department and the Police Department internal investigation really stems from two separate documents. One, the actual police fire report because it is in the category of a fire report when an alarm goes off. The other is a bodily injury report and that is the most troubling because the only individuals in Whitehall Township that see that bodily injury Workmen's Compensation report are the Human Resource Director, the Deputy Mayor, the Police Chief and myself. That report is never given to the Press or given to any other elected official and that is where that investigation of that Command Staff Officer was done internally by the Whitehall Police Department and I can state that it was not begun by me, it was begun by the Police Department who then returned to me what had transpired. At this time I am not prepared to issue discipline for that Command Staff officer, we are reviewing the facts as they stand. I have spoken to the officer that visited me that Saturday morning, I hired her and in hindsight she did the right thing by making that report.

Now interestingly enough on the day before Easter, the fire alarms in this building went off again and in Public Works. Our contracted cleaning company set them off doing the Public Works floors and then came over here and set the alarm off here. This is a very sensitive fire alarm system that all of us wish would have been in place that fateful Sunday in July, 2007, but it was not. So this is really an issue of how confidential documents made it to the Morning Call newspaper and that is really the issue now. The basement had a test, I am waiting for a written result from the testing company, do not have that written result as yet and once that result comes in, then we will make a determination about access to the basement and that is where we are right now.

Mayor HOZZA noted that Saturday, April 18th, will be clean-up day. If anyone chooses to help at the Parkway they will be cutting down lots of evasive honeysuckle and working with high school students and the Environmental Advisory Council. Can also choose to come here and will be given assignments as to what area of the Township to go out and collect/pick-up garbage. We all know where there at, don't have to come here if you want to go to a certain area. We have volunteers who traditionally go out to their area and then call in to report that bags are on Mauch Chunk Road, on Range Road, etc., then we send the State or Public Works out to pick up the bags when they are done. In addition to clean-up day, there will also be flower planting day in May, if you want we will get information to you from the Garden and Beautification Club for that project.

I do, as Mayor, want to express my pride in attending the Whitehall High School play this past weekend, "How to Succeed in Business". The students at the Whitehall-Coplay School District and the staff and the instruction of that play was excellent. I made a couple of predictions for the Freddy Awards but we have a lot to be proud of, we have good kids and they showed that weekend that Whitehall is still a proud community. So, thank you.

H. ADJOURNMENT

1. MOTION – Commissioner HUNSBERGER moved, seconded by Commissioner HOWER adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.