## **MINUTES**

# December 14, 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 December 14, 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 Diane Hunsicker, Treasurer 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 and all of the victims of terrorism.

#### 2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

Regular Public Meeting – November 9, 2015

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

#### B. PRESENTATION

Mayor HOZZA stated we are honoring Clair Hunsberger tonight as this is his last meeting as a Commissioner. He noted Clair has devoted decades to the Township, has served also at the Fullerton Memorial Playground as a board member, volunteer and coach and since Commissioners are also liaisons to our other boards and commissions, Clair has been a liaison to almost every one over the years and thanked him for his years of service.

President SNYDER noted she and Clair have served for many years together, he also served in Korea, was always a Commissioner who based his decisions on what he thought was right for the entire Township, never had his own personal agenda and was a great Commissioner.

Commissioner HUNSBERGER thanked everyone for letting him serve them all these years and wished everyone Happy Holidays. He was presented with a clock denoting his many years of service to the community by Mayor Hozza and Board President Linda SNYDER.

#### C. <u>COURTESY OF THE FLOOR</u>

Bruce MILLER, 4421 Ammon Way, Whitehall, asked about the status of Water Street. Mayor HOZZA stated HRI, the contractor that built the bridge for Lehigh County, during construction denied our street light contractor, West Side Hammer, access to install the concrete bases, poles and new LED lights on the Water Street ramp. We anticipate the poles to be in by the end of next week, then must wait for PPL to energize them and then Water Street will reopen. In addition, we called in Baseline to do repairs to the retaining wall next to the river at the south end of Water Street by the old railroad overpass. Mr. MILLER thanked everyone for their service to Whitehall Township, all of the citizens appreciate their hard work and wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Healthy New Year.

<u>Leslie SHELLY, 706 Pennsylvania Street, Whitehall</u>, stated she wants to make them aware of specific issues she has had over the last 4 ½ years with a Police Officer, has provided them with paperwork on the issues, the type of behavior displayed by this officer is similar of the misconduct we are seeing currently throughout the United States, to look at the information and make a consideration in regards to the type of Police Force we wish to represent Whitehall and the type of policing we wish to have on our streets with our citizens.

Marcia VINCLER, 3861 Rosewood Lane, Whitehall, stated in September of 2014 asked about a crosswalk in the school zone on Mechanicsville Road, had signatures from the neighbors, has a 15 mph limit, and got some response from Julie HARHART's office. Mayor HOZZA noted Ms. HARHART's office does not make the decision on who gets the grant, is the Lehigh Valley Transportation Committee, our Township Engineer will be compiling the grant request information for crosswalks on Mechanicsville Road, sidewalks on MacArthur Road from Rita's down to Lazy Boy since the minimum grant requirement is \$50K, is going under a grant for Safe Routes to School, there is no guarantee, had one denied last year but then received one from the State Tap grants. There is also a multi-model grant which is a back-up that comes from Marcelles Shale.

Ms. VINCLER stated some surveying has been done by the homes on Rosewood Lane that are up against the railroad bank by the Whitehall Township Authority and if it is going to be up for sale to the homeowners. Frank Clark stated when the railroad bed came up for disposal the only entity that could take control of it was the Water Authority because of their treatment plant by the Diner. The Authority is thinking of offering it to each of the property owners, will then adjust the property lines they will be contacted by the Water Authority but needs for everyone to agree or nothing.

Commissioner ARMSTRONG noted he is a supporter of the crosswalk, has brought it up many times but is a State road and is very complicated.

#### D. <u>PULBIC HEARING AND VOTING ON ORDINANCES</u>

#### 1. <u>BILL NO. 41-2015</u>

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, ADOPTING THE 2016 ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATING SPECIFIC SUMS ESTIMATED TO BE REQUIRED FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSES OF THE TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT, HEREINAFTER SET FORTH, DURING THE 2016 FISCAL YEAR. (ADMIN)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 41-2015 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Bill No. 41-2015 was approved.

#### 2. BILL NO. 42-2015

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING A FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE COLLECTION OF MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE BY THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL (ADMIN).

President SNYDER read Bill No. 42-2015 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Bill No. 42-2015 was approved.

#### 3. <u>BILL NO. 43-2015</u>

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, FIXING THE REAL ESTATE TAX RATE FOR THE YEAR 2016. (ADMIN)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 43-2015 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Bill No. 43-2015 was approved.

#### 4. BILL NO. 44-2015

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A PROPOSAL FOR PURCHASE OF A 2016 PIERCE ENFORCER PUMPER FIRE TRUCK FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 3.20 IN THE HOME RULE CHARTER WHICH REQUIRES AUTHORIZATION OF ACQUISITIONS IN EXCESS OF \$25,000 BY ORDINANCE. (FIRE)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 44-2015 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. 44-2015 was approved.

#### 5. <u>BILL NO. 45-2015</u>

TITLE:AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 15, SECTION 11 OF THE 2006 CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP, ESTABLISHING A 25 MPH MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT FOR WATER STREET BETWEEN EBERHART ROAD/SR 1010 AND LEHIGH STREET/SR 1014 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA. (BOC)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 45-2015 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Bill No. 45-2015 was approved.

#### 6. BILL NO. 46-2015 (First Reading)

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO COMMUNICATIONS SITE LEASE AGREEMENT (GROUND) AND MEMORANDUM OF LEASE BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP AND AMERICAN TOWER ASSET SUB, LLC FOR A LAND LEASE ON RANGE ROAD, IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL, COUNTY OF LEHIGH; AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA. (ADMIN/BOC)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 46-2015 to the Board. There were no questions or comments.

#### 7. BILL NO. 47-2015

TITLE: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING IN FULLERTON, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA. STREETS INCLUDED ARE QUARRY STREET NORTH SIDE BETWEEN THIRD STREET AND SECOND STREET (19), QUARRY STREET SOUTH SIDE BETWEEN THIRD STREET AND SECOND STREET (13), QUARRY STREET SOUTH SIDE BETWEEN SECOND STREET AND FRONT STREET (16), SECOND STREET EAST SIDE BETWEEN QUARRY STREET AND GRAPE STREET (13), AND SECOND STREET WEST SIDE BETWEEN QUARRY STREET AND CHESTNUT STREET (13). (DEVELOP)

President SNYDER read Bill No. 47-2015 to the Board.

Commissioner PALAGONIA moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner ARMSTRONG.

Mickey Thompson, 1177 Sixth Street, Whitehall, Chief Operating Officer for Whitehall Manor, Quarry Street Whitehall Development LP, 212 Quarry Street and BPC Third Street LP, commented on turning Quarry Street into permit parking only, noted there will be a Zoning Hearing Board the next evening related to the factory on the property for low income housing, was challenged in court 2 years ago, was withdrawn by the applicant but are coming back before the Zoning Hearing Board again, feels this action is being taking because that approval will happen at some point to accommodate the individuals moving into this development area which the applicant has stated on the record doesn't have enough parking for this property. There are only 5 residences on Quarry Street, 2 do not have off street parking, their property on the corner of Quarry and Third Streets is an office that has been approved by the Zoning Hearing Board for Whitehall Manor use, were granted concessions for on street parking because they didn't have enough off street parking and settled with the Zoning Hearing Board for 2 on street parking spaces for use with the property. Also have a

warehouse business at 212 Quarry Street, asked why would there be parking permits for only 5 properties along the street, feels the Township is anticipating an issue, will attend the meeting to protect the neighborhood for a use that is not permitted in that zoning district and to keep it a residential area as much as possible without losing their rights of having non-conforming use along the property.

<u>David HARTE, 1177 Sixth Street, Whitehall, Vice President of PA Venture Capital has 2</u> properties on that street and if you look at Quarry Street, there are 5 houses and a substantial amount of business use or properties that have permits to be a business, asked if a study was done as to what type of vehicles do park there and what type of use there is.

Daniel DOUGHERTY, one of the owners of the Fullerton School Building, has his law office there since 1991, his relatives have owned it since 1975 and made it into an office building, spoke to some of the tenants, presented and read a letter from tenant Michael Dolan, CPA, regarding the parking ordinance noting it will have negative impact on his business, has over 400 clients, many are senior citizens who park on Quarry Street because it is the closet entrance into the building. Also presented a letter from Lisa Dolan expressing her reasons why she parks on Quarry Street and also a list of signatures from tenants in the Fullerton Mr. DOUGHERTY stated instead of looking to make accommodations for the new development behind his building, for them to look at the accommodations for the Fullerton Building. Mayor HOZZA noted this is just a tentative proposal for the permit parking, stickers would be color coded to their zone and believes he has an agreement with St. John's Lutheran Church for using their parking lot for his overflow. Mr. DOUGERTY stated there are 4 entrances to the Fullerton Building, most people using the Quarry Street front entrance because it is flat, asked if a sign could be put on the street stating between 8 am and 5 m Monday thru Friday parking is for the Fullerton Building then you wouldn't need stickers. Mayor HOZZA stated in the dental office across the street, the staff parks on the street and the parking lot is for the patients and his tenants should let their patients/customers park on the lot. Township employees do not park in front of our building, that use is for residents and workers at the Lehigh Valley Mall have a designated area to park away from the Mall. Mr. DOUGHERTY stated they have assigned parking on the lot for all of the tenants on the back side, their visitor parking is on the front side and Quarry Street side and is easier to use that side if you have a bad back and are coming to the Chiropractor because of the steps, is the safest and easier egress into the building, and suggested since this is a first reading for them to make a trip there to see what it is. He is at the building 7 days a week, sees the busy time is usually between 8:30 am and 5 pm. Commissioner SLONAKER stated this is not a first reading, this is the vote tonight. Mr. DOUGHTERY asked how to have a second reading as the previous bill. Attorney FONZONE explained this bill does not require 2 readings, has been advertised for 2 weeks, suggested to present his view at the Zoning Hearing Board tomorrow, this is just an idea on how the parking would fit the neighborhood and the ordinance is just looking at the overall picture. Commissioner HOWER asked if all the tenants in his building have assigned parking, with an affirmative response. He asked if every employee has assigned parking with a negative response. Commissioner HOWER asked if that is why he has the additional parking at the church parking lot, with an affirmative response. Mr. DOUGHERTY stated there are 11 visitor spots at the building, have 12 assigned parking spaces at the Church for a total of 50 but are still short when there is dental training with 7 or 8 people coming for a 4 hour training period, sometimes the Church needs the spaces for a funeral and they do not park there and the Church uses their lot on a Sunday for overflow parking. Mr. DOUGHERTY stated if they are landlocked with 38 spaces on their lot and 12 on the Church, will have customers asking where to park and will go someplace else which means his tenants will be looking elsewhere. Attorney FONZONE stated there are 17 businesses in the building and asked how many employees there are. Mr. DOUGHERTY stated every business is different, doesn't keep tract of the employees of the different businesses and in the 90's when the Armed Forces where there had problems with the parking. Attorney FONZONE noted then it is like the problem across the street with your other building with a resident constantly complaining about the parking there, feels in this area there is plenty of parking to go around if it is worked out, the diagram in color is not in stone, is for the Zoning Hearing Board to decide and suggested he go to that meeting.

Seven Commissioners were present with five voting "yes" and Commissioners PALAGONIA and HUNSBERGER voted "no". Bill No. 47-2015 was approved.

#### E. PULBIC HEARING AND VOTING ON RESOLUTIONS

#### 1. RESOLUTION NO. 2911

TITLE: A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (2016-2020), SPECIFICALLY FOR THE 2016 FISCAL YEAR. (ADMIN)\

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2911 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Resolution No. 2911 was approved.

#### 2. RESOLUTION NO. 2912

TITLE: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL REAFFIRMING AND REENACTING THE REALTY TRANSFER TAX, THE EARNED INCOME TAX, THE PER CAPITA TAX, THE LOCAL SERVICES TAX, AND THE BUSINESS PRIVILEGE TAX (ADMIN)

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2912 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Resolution No. 2912 was approved.

#### 3. RESOLUTION NO. 2913

TITLE: A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT BILL NO. 41-2015, ADOPTING THE 2016 ANNUAL BUDGET, AND APPROPRIATING SPECIFIC SUMS ESTIMATED TO BE REQUIRED FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSES OF THE TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT, IS AN EMERGENCY ENACTMENT AND MAY TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY. (ADMIN)

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2913 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Resolution No. 2913 was approved.

#### 4. RESOLUTION NO. 2914

TITLE: A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT BILL NO. 42-2014, ESTABLISHING A FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE COLLECTION OF MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE, IS AN EMERGENCY ENACTMENT AND MAY TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY. (ADMIN)

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2914 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". Resolution No. 2914 was approved.

#### 5. RESOLUTION NO. 2915

TITLE: A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT BILL NO. 43-2015, FIXING THE REAL ESTATE TAX RATE FOR THE YEAR 2016, IS AN EMERGENCY ENACTMENT AND MAY TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY. (ADMIN)

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2915 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Resolution No. 2915 was approved.

#### 6. RESOLUTION NO. 2916

TITLE: A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT BILL NO. 44-2015, AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 2016 PIERCE ENFORCER PUMPER FIRE TRUCK FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, IS AN EMERGENCY ENACTMENT AND MAY TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY. (ADMIN)

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2916 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Resolution No. 2916 was approved.

#### 7. RESOLUTION NO. 2917

TITLE: A RESOLUTION OF THE WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CERTIFYING THE AREA KNOWN AS THE MACARTHUR PARKWAY STUDY AREA AS A REDEVELOPMENT AREA IN SUPPORT OF TAX INCRIMENT FINANCING (TIF). (BOC)

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2917 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Resolution No. 2917 was approved.

#### 8. RESOLUTION NO. 2918

TITLE: A RESOLUTION CONDITIONALLY APPROVING THE MAJOR SUBDIVISION/LAND DEVLEOPMENT PLAN OF MISSION BBQ RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 1421 GRAPE STREET, WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, INDEX #1875-15. (DEVELOP)

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2918 to the Board.

Commissioner SLONAKER moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner HOWER.

Commissioner GINDER asked if the five extra trips were figured for impact and if it shows anywhere here. Frank CLARK noted it is in Peter Terry's letter.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Resolution No. 2918 was approved.

#### 9. RESOLUTION NO. 2919

TITLE: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITEHALL, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, GRANTING THE MAYOR THE AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE ALL FORMS AND DOCUMENTS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYVANIA PUBLIC DISASTER ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM. (ADMIN/BOC)\

President SNYDER read Resolution No. 2919 to the Board.

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

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes". Resolution No. 2919 was approved.

#### F. OTHER

1. Commissioner SLONAKER moved, seconded by Commissioner PALAGONIA to approve the accounting firm of Reinsel, Kuntz, Lesher, LLP as the Township Auditor for the review, analysis and reporting of the Township financial records for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2015.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes. Motion was approved.

2. Commissioner HUNSBERGER moved, seconded by Commissioner ARMSTRONG to approve the appointment of Elizabeth FOX to represent the Disabled Community on the Recreation Commission, term to expire September 30, 2017.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes. Motion was approved.

3. Commissioner SLONAKER moved, seconded by Commissioner PALAGONIA to approve the release of escrow for completed and withdrawn projects, per Deputy Mayor MEYERS memo dated December 1, 2015.

Seven Commissioners were present and voted "yes. Motion was approved.

#### G. REPORTS OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

- 1. Commissioner PALAGONIA wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year.
- 2. Commissioner GINDER stated he believes the Township had a good year, met the budget, our department heads and all of the employees of the Township worked hard, achieved all our goals, the roads are done, replaced police cars and achieved everything we set out to do within budget numbers and is a wonderful thing for this Township as a whole. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, to have wonderful holidays, enjoy your families and best of health in the New Year and thanked everyone for coming.
- 3. Commissioner HOWER noted a gentlemen spoke at the workshop meeting about issues with Verizon and passed out a resolution to try to get FIOS here and would like to put it before L&L to address some of the issues that have been raised.

Commissioner HOWER stated he wanted to thank Clair because as a new Commissioner when you come into this position you think you know what you are doing but you don't, have to lean on people who have been here a long time, appreciates everything he did to help move him along and also growing up in Fullerton, the Fullerton Memorial Playground was a big part of his life, it wouldn't have been there without Clair's leadership and thanked him for all his service to the Township. Commissioner HOWER noted we had a great year, not only matching the budget but a lot of the departments came in under budget, Jack and our staff does a fantastic job and wished all employees a Merry Christmas a Happy Hanukkah, a Happy and Healthy New Year and thanked everyone for coming.

- 4. Commissioner SLONAKER stated he didn't want to be redundant, everybody said everything so ditto would be the words for what everyone said and expressed a special thank you to Mr. HUNSBERGER for putting in all that time and is good to know people still want to get to where you are.
- 5. Commissioner ARMSTRONG stated as the newest member of the Board really appreciates Mr. HUNSBERGER's service here to the Township, can remember coming here as a resident, he always dealt with everyone fairly and openly and is a great credit.

Commissioner ARMSTRONG stated Student Government Day will on May  $2^{nd}$  and in addition to spending the morning with the Mayor and Department Heads, will have a meeting in the afternoon around 1:15 pm and invited everyone to come and watch the students run the Township.

Commissioner ARMSTRONG stated the date for the third annual Stroll Down the Trail will be September 25<sup>th</sup>, are trying to expand it and noted the new paved section of the trail is wonderful, were many people out with the nice weather and the things we have in Whitehall available to our citizens makes us very proud.

Commissioner ARMSTRONG thanked all the employees, is very proud all our goals were accomplished and stayed under budget with the cooperation and compromises we made and if our State Government sat down and talked to each other maybe they could get something accomplished and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

6. President SNYDER wished everyone Happy Holidays and especially good health.

7. Mayor HOZZA presented the latest photograph to the Board from the contractor regarding the Hokendauqua pool, is not the first rehab, was one before with the concrete put on top of the wall not having any rebar going into the bottom concrete, are looking at an additional \$60k to do the project right but the good thing has been the good weather.

Mayor HOZZA stated a lot of groups in the Township will have some gifts under the tree. Assistant Chief DREISBACH is getting a fire truck, Public Works got a salt shed and noted maybe we should put one up every year so we have 70 degree weather for Christmas, for the IRT people and residents the paving of the trail, under the menorah Howard has a TIF to help with redevelopment projects and he received his Christmas present on Friday when the contractor finished cleaning the basement, the third party came and gave the okay that the basement is free and clear.

Mayor HOZZA stated he is very thankful to the staff, did have a good year and hopes our national economy continues in its upward trend. He noted it's good or maybe not so good when the off ramps to MacArthur Road back up onto Route 22, will be fixing that but also shows our retail district is still drawing shoppers which is our main job creator here in the Township. In the future it will move into other areas but for now need to maintain that market share, make sure it continues to be a safe and convenient shopping experience. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a Happy New Year that is filled with peace and prosperity for all.

Commissioner ARMSTRONG stated last Friday the CTC met to evaluate the year and noted for every tax dollar invested into the CTC community, we get back about \$9.60, was wonderful to see so many volunteers come together to form this committee and the projects they have done throughout the year and doing a fantastic job.

Mayor HOZZA state one of the CTC initiatives is fighting hunger in our student population in the school district, attempted to get funding from Second Harvest for the program they use in the Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton School Districts but it was not available but we were able to get donations. He explained the snack pack buddies is a program so no child in the Whitehall-Coplay School District will go home on Christmas or an extended break without food. Their teacher or aide will slip a bag into their backpack without any of their class mates knowing so they have something to eat over the holidays. Easton is way ahead of everyone with the hunger imitative and is very appreciative of CTC and what they have accomplished.

Joe WILFINGER, 293 Fifth Street, Whitehall, stated on behalf of all the volunteers in the Township, would like help to recruit people because on some committees we cannot make a quorum like Recreation, and the EAC. The Historical Society needs people on their board with office experience as Bobby Miller is retiring and encouraged many of the Commissioners to join, and would like to see an aggressive outreach to the Environmental Club at the school district since it will be their Township in the future and have them come and give some advice. Need young people to step up.

President SNYDER stated the next on the Veteran's Memorial is January 6<sup>th</sup> at the Egypt VFW at 7:00 pm. The Board's reorganization meeting is on January 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm

<u>Donald DREISBACH</u>, <u>Assistant Chief Station 37</u>, thanked them and the rest of the Township for helping with the purchase of the new fire truck.

#### H. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

1. <u>MOTION</u> – Commissioner HUNSBERGER moved, seconded by Commissioner PALAGONIA to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm.