

MINUTES

BUDGET AND REGULAR MEETING
Board of Commissioners
Commissioners Meeting Room

December 9, 2013
Monday, 7:30 p.m.
Township of Haverford

1. **Opening of Meeting** – Mario Oliva, President, opened the meeting and indicated that the Board met in Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss a real estate and personnel issues.
 - a. **Roll Call** – All 9 Commissioners were present at roll call: Commissioners D’Emilio, Hall, Siegel, Holmes, McGarrity, Connell, Wechsler, Heilmann and Oliva.

Also present: Lawrence J. Gentile, Township Manager, Jonathan Calpas, Township Auditor, James J. Byrne, Township Solicitor, Lori Hanlon Widdop and Tim Denny, Assistant Township Managers, Chief Carmen Pettine, Richard Dougherty, Public Works Director, Aimee Cuthbertson, Finance Director and Dave Pennoni, Township Engineer.
 - b. **Opening Prayer** led by Rev. McIntire, United Methodist Church
 - c. **Pledge of Allegiance** led by Chief Pettine
2. **Proclamation** – Commissioners Wechsler and Oliva presented Pastor McIntire a proclamation for his many years of church ministry.
3. **Township Auditor Update** – Mr. Calpas submitted his report earlier in the day to the Board and only had a few questions for the Finance Director.

Mr. Calpas thanked everyone for serving as Township Auditor and stated it was a great experience.

4. **Township Solicitor Update – Billboards**

He is working on two separate matters – 1 is the appeal and he is waiting on decision from Judge Green and the other is a new applicant, DC Outdoor – they want to put billboards on two sites.

5. **Citizens Forum – 20 Minutes Registered Speakers/20 Minutes Agenda Items**

Gary Bogossian – 2410 Linden Drive

Mr. Bogossian spoke on various subjects: The 2014 budget, the Police Department is 38% of the budget, trash pickup should be one day a week because of successful recycling, leaf pick up should also be one day per week, the cost of new buildings is too much and the debt service is 6% of the budget. The high end 501C3’s need to make some sort of payment to the township.

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Jim Gillespie – 680 Paddock Road

Does the township have an affirmative action plan for federal contractors?
He is very comfortable driving in the snow on township streets – well done.
He indicated a driver caution area near the Library at the curve.

Matt Walker – Merion Avenue

Mr. Walker spoke on the proposed budget.
He indicated that the Finance Director stated revenues were up as of 6/30.
Cost drivers of the budget – Medical and Pension Obligation.

What's contributing to the Pension Increase?
The 2013 Action Plan is the same in 2014?

END OF REGISTERED SPEAKERS

No one spoke during Open Forum.

RESPONSES TO CITIZENS FORUM

In response to Mr. Bogossian – Mr. Gentile indicated that he checked with other township's police operating budgets: Marple is at 41%, Radnor is 35%, Lower Merion is 37% and Plymouth is at 40% of operating budget.

Regarding trash pickup – even if the township were to go to one day per week, tonnage is still the same and not going away. This issue has been discussed with the Public Works Director regarding selling half the fleet and what happens during snow weather?

Mr. Gentile, Mr. Dougherty and Mrs. Cuthbertson are always looking at ways to save money.

In response to Mr. Gillespie – the township does not have a formal affirmative action plan but we do follow guidelines.

Special Operations handles all road safety matters.

In response to Mr. Walker – The Quarry Center is very positive in bring in revenue. He did note that the School District receives revenue from them too. He highlighted that 69% of your taxes go to the School District, 17% to the township and 14% to the county.

The next goal is to convert diesel fuel to natural gas on our vehicles.

6. **Budget Hearing and Adoption**

A. **Review Changes to 2014 Preliminary Budget**

Motion made by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner Wechsler to accept changes to the 2014 Preliminary Budget.

Roll Called.

8 Commissioners Voted Yes: Commissioners Hall, Siegel, Holmes, McGarrity, Connell, Wechsler, Heilmann and Oliva.

1 Commissioner Voted No: Commissioner D'Emilio

B. **Ordinance No. P30-2013** Sewer Rental Charge (final reading)

Motion made by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner Wechsler to adopt the final reading of Ordinance No. P30-2013 authorizing the imposition of an annual sewer rate in the amount of \$4.50 per 1,000 gallons of water consumed.

Roll Called.

9 Commissioners Voted Yes: Commissioners D'Emilio, Hall, Siegel, Holmes, McGarrity, Connell, Wechsler, Heilmann and Oliva.

C. **Ordinance No. P31-2013** Trash Fee (final reading)

Motion made by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner Siegel to adopt the final reading of Ordinance No. P31-2013 establishing the annual trash fee at \$194.00.

Roll Called.

8 Commissioners Voted Yes: Commissioners Hall, Siegel, Holmes, McGarrity, Connell, Wechsler, Heilmann and Oliva.

1 Commissioner Voted No: Commissioner D'Emilio

D. Ordinance No. 2711 - 2013 Tax Levy (first reading is a final reading)

Motion made by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner Siegel to adopt Ordinance No. 2711 - 2013 fixing the tax rate for the year 2014 at 7.334 mills.

Roll Called.

8 Commissioners Voted Yes: Commissioners Hall, Siegel, Holmes, McGarrity, Connell, Wechsler, Heilmann and Oliva.

1 Commissioner Voted No: Commissioner D'Emilio

E. Ordinance No. 2712 -2013 Budget Appropriations (first reading is a final reading)

Motion made by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner Wechsler to adopt Ordinance No. 2712 -2013 appropriating funds established to be required for the specific purpose of financing the municipal government for the year 2014 including all taxes, fees, service charges and other revenue sources provided within all funds.

8 Commissioners Voted Yes: Commissioners Hall, Siegel, Holmes, McGarrity, Connell, Wechsler, Heilmann and Oliva.

1 Commissioner Voted No: Commissioner D'Emilio

END OF BUDGET PORTION

All Commissioners Voted Yes: Commissioners D'Emilio, Hall, Siegel, Holmes, McGarrity, Connell, Wechsler, Heilmann and Oliva.

12. Ordinance No. P34-2013 Extension of Duty Tow Agreement (1st Reading)

Motion made by Commissioner McGarrity and seconded by Commissioner D'Emilio to adopt the 1st Reading of Ordinance No. P34-2013 by modifying the term of Duty Tow Licenses for a period of two years from the date of issuance – with an additional year upon approval of the Board of Commissioners.

Roll Called.

All Commissioners Voted Yes: Commissioners D'Emilio, Hall, Siegel, Holmes, McGarrity, Connell, Wechsler, Heilmann and Oliva.

13. Resolution No. 1913-2013 Change of Commissioners' Meeting Night (April Only)

Motion made by Commissioner Siegel and seconded by Commissioner Wechsler to adopt Resolution No. 1913-2013 approving that the regularly scheduled Commissioners Meeting which would have been scheduled Monday, April 14, 2014 be rescheduled to Tuesday, April 15, 2014.

Roll Called.

All Commissioners Voted Yes: Commissioners D'Emilio, Hall, Siegel, Holmes, McGarrity, Connell, Wechsler, Heilmann and Oliva.

14. Resolution No. 1914-2013 Minor Subdivision – 728 Beechwood Road

Motion made by Commissioner Holmes and seconded by Commissioner McGarrity to adopt Resolution No. 1914-2013 approving the Minor Subdivision Plan for Gena Jackson, 728 Beechwood Drive, Haverford Township, Delaware County, and known as D.C. Folio No. 22-06-00204-00 has been submitted to permit the existing lot to be subdivided to provide for a 6,362.23 square foot lot and a 6,137.77 square foot lot. The subject property is zoned R-4 Residential District, and is located in the 6th Ward. The aforesaid plans were prepared by Catania Engineering Associates, Inc., Milmont Park, PA, dated April 1, 2013 and last amended November 6, 2013; subject to the recommendations of the Planning Commission.

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Roll Called.

All Commissioners Voted Yes: Commissioners D'Emilio, Hall, Siegel, Holmes, McGarrity, Connell, Wechsler, Heilmann and Oliva.

15. Approval

Haverford Police Department

Motion made by Commissioner D'Emilio and seconded by Commissioner McGarrity to approve the Haverford Township Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Roll Called.

All Commissioners Voted Yes: Commissioners D'Emilio, Hall, Siegel, Holmes, McGarrity, Connell, Wechsler, Heilmann and Oliva.

Vehicle Maintenance Garage

Motion made by Commissioner Heilmann and seconded by Commissioner Connell to award the Vehicle Maintenance Building Contract No MY-6A, General to SB Conrad, in the amount of \$1,029,000 submitting the lowest responsible bid.

Roll Called.

All Commissioners Voted Yes: Commissioners D'Emilio, Hall, Siegel, Holmes, McGarrity, Connell, Wechsler, Heilmann and Oliva.

Motion made by Commissioner Heilmann and seconded by Commissioner McGarrity to award the Vehicle Maintenance Building Contract No. MY-6B, Mechanical/Plumbing to Vision Mechanical, in the amount of \$137,259 submitting the lowest responsible bid.

Roll Called.

All Commissioners Voted Yes: Commissioners D'Emilio, Hall, Siegel, Holmes, McGarrity, Connell, Wechsler, Heilmann and Oliva.

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Motion made by Commissioner Heilmann and seconded by Commissioner Connell to award the Vehicle Maintenance Building Contract No. MY-6C, Electrical to Cooks, in the amount of \$133,423, Submitting the lowest responsible bid.

Roll Called.

All Commissioners Voted Yes: Commissioners D'Emilio, Hall, Siegel, Holmes, McGarrity, Connell, Wechsler, Heilmann and Oliva.

The Board confirmed that the January 6th Reorganization will be held in the Commissioners' Meeting Room. This will be the only meeting that night and the last Public Comment Meeting regarding the Library will be held on Monday, February 3rd, in the Auditorium of the Middle School.

16. Continuation of Citizen's Forum for Non-Agenda Items

No one spoke.

17. New business

Commissioner Hall began a discussion regarding burglarizes in the 3rd Ward. She is suggesting public information community meetings to have the police department provide reports.

Chief Pettine announced that crime is normal and not out of control.

Many Commissioners offered suggestions of what they did in their wards.

Conclusion: Police Chief or someone from his department will provide a brief 5 minute update at the Work Sessions.

Commissioner Holmes stated that it is time to reapportion. He would like to form a subcommittee of the Board with three commissioners.

Commissioner Holmes made this motion which was seconded by Commissioner Connell to form this ad hoc committee.

Roll Called.

All Commissioners Voted Yes: Commissioners D'Emilio, Hall, Siegel, Holmes, McGarrity, Connell, Wechsler, Heilmann and Oliva.

Mr. Gentile stated that the mapping can be done in house to save on expenses.

12. Other business

Steve D'Emilio – 1st Ward Commissioner

Commissioner D'Emilio reflected on the life of Nelson Mandella.

West Gate Hills Civic Association will have Santa Saturday on December 14th at 4 p.m.

He happy to announce that the Township continues to make progress.

He did also announce the passing of Ann Berger, former police department employee.

Jane Hall – 3rd Ward Commissioner

Merwood Civic Association holiday extravaganza will be held on Sunday, December 15th at 12 noon with Santa, Caroling at 6 p.m. and delivery of gifts to seniors.

She thanked Chief Pettine and wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

Dan Siegel, Esquire – 4th Ward Commissioner

Commissioner Siegel reminded everyone that it is prohibited to plow snow in the streets.

Larry Holmes, Esquire – 6th Ward Commissioner

Commissioner Holmes asked “where we are in leaf pick up”.

Mr. Dougherty announced that the public works department should be up to date by the weekend.

Commissioner Holmes stated that he is sad to see Mr. Calpas go but welcome Gary Zlotnick as the new Township Auditor.

Jeff Heilmann – 5th Ward Commissioner

Commissioner Heilmann also thanked Mr. Calpas.

Coopertown Luminary will be held on December 22nd beginning at 4:30 p.m.

Santa with Oakmont Fire, will be held on December 23rd beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Jim McGarrity – 7th Ward Commissioner

Commissioner McGarrity recognized congratulated Testa’s Bakery for 30 years of business on Brookline Boulevard.

The Businessmen and women will begin a collection to keep the Boulevard kept.

Commissioner McGarrity announced that Brookline Fire House will host a tree lighting at 6:30 p.m. Please bring a toy for Toys for Tots.

Brookline Fire Company will also have Santa Sunday on December 22nd.

Commissioner McGarrity explained the amount the School District, the County and the Township will receive from Haverford Reserve tax dollars - \$3,000,000 to the School District, \$600,000 to the County and \$1.2 million to the Township.

Chris Connell – 8th Ward Commissioner

Llanerch Fire Company with have Santa Sunday on December 15th.

Everyone is invited to the Grange to view the trains and house tours

He wished everyone a safe holiday.

William F. Wechsler – 9th Ward Commissioner

Manoa Fire Company will be traveling with Santa on December 14th and Bon Air will pick up Santa on December 22nd.

Mr. Wechsler also thanked Mr. Calpas.

Mario A. Oliva – 2nd Ward Commissioner

Llanerch will also be traveling with Santa on December 15th.

He, too, thanked Mr. Calpas.

He is glad that the Business Districts are beginning to do things on their own.

15. All Commissioners agreed to adjourn.

Wishing A

Happy and Safe Holiday to ALL!

Board of Commissioners 2014 Reorganization Meeting – Monday, January 6, 2014