

GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
JUNE 13, 2011

A general business meeting of the Palmer Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, June 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Palmer Library with all Supervisors in attendance: David Colver, Robert Lammi, Michael Mitchell, and Ann-Marie Panella. Colver noted supervisor Robert Smith will be joining the meeting late. Also in attendance were the Township Manager, Planning Director, Public Services Director, Police Lieutenant, and Township Solicitor. Takisha Thomas from Patch Internet News represented the news media. Chairman Colver convened the meeting and led those present in the Pledge to the Flag.

2. APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS – JUNE 6, 2011 AND JUNE 13, 2011

INFORMATION

The report will be provided at the meeting.

DISCUSSION

On motion by Mitchell, seconded by Panella, and agreed by all, the Board approved the disbursement of funds for June 6, 2011.

On motion by Mitchell, seconded by Panella, and agreed by all, the Board approved the disbursement of funds for June 13, 2011.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MAY 24, 2011

DISCUSSION

On motion by Lammi, seconded by Panella, and agreed by all, the Board approved the minutes of May 24, 2011.

4. EARNED INCOME TAX ORDINANCE

INFORMATION

The Board needs to approve/disapprove the Earned Income Tax Ordinance.

DISCUSSION

Bruno said the ordinance was advertised as required and it brings us into compliance with the current earned income tax laws.

On motion by Mitchell, seconded by Panella, and agreed by all, the Board approved the Earned Income Tax Ordinance.

5. APPOINTMENTS TO THE RECREATION BOARD

INFORMATION

The Board needs to approve/disapprove the appointment of Dan McKinney and Rick Bulette to the township Recreation Board.

DISCUSSION

Colver said at the end of last year we had two individuals that didn't want to be reappointed to the Recreation Board. Bob Smith and Bob Anckaitis interviewed two individuals; Dan McKinney who is the Director at our community center and Rick Bulette who is a township resident. Smith and Anckaitis believe both are excellent candidates for the Recreation Board positions.

On motion by Lammi, seconded by Panella, and agreed by all, the Board appointed Dan McKinney to the Recreation Board to a term expiring on December 31, 2015.

On motion by Mitchell, seconded by Panella, and agreed by all, the Board appointed Rick Bulette to the Recreation Board to a term expiring on December 31, 2015.

6. AMBROSIA FENCE AGREEMENTINFORMATION

The Board needs to approve/disapprove the fence agreement for Joel and Grace Ambrosia at 5 Stone Creek Court.

DISCUSSION

Public Services Director Tom Adams explained the property and the location of the fence.

Lammi made a motion, it was seconded by Panella, to approve the fence agreement for Joel and Grace Ambrosia at 5 Stone Creek Court.

Walt Witucki, 1761 Mine Lane Road, said he is intrigued by the comment that the township has easements for storm water runoff. Adams said when this development was built the storm water was reviewed at that time. Adams explained the storm sewer system. Adams said we typically do not allow fences in drainage easements; however, if the property owner signs an agreement, they are allowed to do it, if approved by the Board of Supervisors. Adams said the agreement is comprehensive as to what the property owner must do.

The motion was voted on, and agreed by all.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Walt Witucki, 1761 Mine Lane Road, said he would like to ask the Board to direct the township staff to take interest in a variance for parcel M9SW1-27-9 scheduled for an upcoming Zoning Hearing meeting. Witucki said the township is the landowner. Witucki said there is a sewer easement that the developer is encroaching on and there is an intermittent stream bed the

township uses for storm water runoff. Witucki said a proposed driveway would cross that stream bed. Witucki said he believes it is in everyone's best interest to have someone at that hearing. Planning Director Cyndie Carman said last she heard it was continued until the July Zoning Hearing Board agenda.

Colver informed the Board that developer Nick Pugliese is proposing to build a home on a wooded property south of the pumping station on Mine Lane Road. Witucki said there is a natural contour of the land to drain that plateau and this lot sits across that natural stream bed. Colver said Paul Hosking, Director of Public Utilities, is well aware of Mr. Pugliese's proposal and he believes that is why it's been pushed back to the July agenda; to allow the township time to research the property. Witucki said he is just asking that the township be present as the property owner at the Zoning Hearing Board hearing. Colver said there is also a paper street involved south of the stream bed. Colver said when he asked questions the developer said he didn't have blueprints available. He is waiting to see if he gets the variances first. Colver said at our June 28th meeting our township engineer will be present and we also meet July 5th. Colver said we can review this in more detail prior to the July Zoning Hearing Board meeting.

8. REPORTS

Solicitor

- Bruno had two real estate, one personnel, and one litigation item for executive session.

Township Manager

- Christman announced in the 2011 budget the Board allocated \$25,000 for a future fire truck purchase. Christman said he was going to move the money from the general fund into a CD to gain additional interest.
- Christman said he received a request from the Tatamy Fire Company requesting the use of township roads for their Fireman's parade on July 9th from 4 to 7 p.m. Christman said they will use the roads as the staging area. Christman said they also intend to use Commerce Way which is still a private road and Tatamy has received approval from that landowner. On motion by Lammi, seconded by Panella, and agreed by all, the Board approved the Tatamy Fire Company's use of Palmer Township roads for the Tatamy Fireman's Parade on July 9th.

Public Services Director

- Adams said he met with the softball commissioner before tonight's meeting and went over the instructions for use of the Fairview Park lights.
- Adams said he received notice from DEP for an air quality permit for Molded Acoustical Products of Easton.

Supervisors

- Smith said the home run derby this past weekend went well. Smith thanked everyone who helped with the event.
- Lammi said there is a new tree in front of the municipal building planted by the Ashton Funeral Home. Lammi said they plant a memorial tree every year. Prior to this year they were planting them at the Visiting Nurses Association in the Industrial Park, but they have since moved. Lammi said he received a thank you letter from the

Ashton Funeral Home thanking the township for allowing them to plant the tree on township property.

- Lammi said he sent the J.P. Mascaro report to the Board members for review. Lammi said the committee is gearing up for the next contract negotiations. Lammi said the ESC will be coming to the Board in the next several months to talk about options that will be available for a new contract.

Eugene Noel stated he is not a resident of the township, he resides in Hellertown. Noel said he is here to ask support for the austerity cuts across the nation. Noel said he is asking for support to help reinstate the Glass-Steagall Act, HR 1489. Noel distributed documents to the Board members.

On motion by Mitchell, seconded by Panella, and agreed by all, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m. with two real estate, one personnel and one litigation item for executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher S. Christman
Township Manager