

Commissioners' Meeting Activity

October 20, 2014

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>MOTION</u>	<u>SECOND</u>
Approve Workshop Mtg Min 10-1-14	Comm Jones	VP Doebler
Approve 3 Year Contract-Police Serv.	VP Doebler	Comm Jones
Adopt Resol.-Sale of Crack Sealer	VP Doebler	Comm Lisanti
Approve Weber's Corner Sub-Div.	Comm Jones	VP Doebler
Table Issue Until Workshop Mtg.	VP Doebler	Comm Jones
Approve Sept Bill List-\$51,042.74	VP Doebler	Comm Jones
Ratify Sept Pre-Paid Bills-\$7,103.11	Comm Jones	VP Doebler
Ratify Sept. Payroll Trans-\$16,116.81	VP Doebler	Comm Jones
Create Citizens Budget Comm.	VP Doebler	Comm Jones
Call a Vote	Comm Jones	VP Doebler
Authorize Solicitor Prepare Memo on Potential Merger of Township and Authority	Comm Jones	Pres Gartner
Withdraw Motion	Comm Jones	
Purchase of Backhoe from Cleveland Bros.	Comm Jones	Comm Lisanti
Approve Settle. in 8-25-14 Letter from Sew	VP Doebler	Pres Gartner
Authorize Sol. to File a Writ Against KLH	VP Doebler	Comm Jones
Adjournment	Comm Jones	VP Doebler

TOWNSHIP OF ALEPPO
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 20, 2014

CALL TO ORDER:

President Rodney W. Gartner called the meeting to order at 7 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call. Those in attendance were Vice-President Matthew Doebler, Commissioner George Jones, Anthony Lisanti, Solicitor Harlan S. Stone, Manager Gwen Patterson and Secretary Martha B. Rogers. Commissioner Joanne Schollaert was not in attendance.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the Workshop Meeting Minutes of October 13, 2014. Vice-President Doebler seconded. Discussion - Commissioner Lisanti said he had corrections on Page 4 regarding the Loan Request which the Secretary will make. The motion passed subject to those corrections being completed.

APPROVE 3-YEAR CONTRACT FOR POLICE SERVICES WITH OHIO TOWNSHIP:

Vice-President Doebler made a motion to approve a 3 year contract for police services with Ohio Township beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2018. Commissioner Jones seconded. Discussion - Vice-President Doebler has received e-mails from Carolyn Smith of Red Gate Road and James Hamilton stating Ohio Township does a good job for the Township. Carolyn Smith asked that an ordinance is created regarding litter in the Township. Chief Micklos said he always welcomes input from residents. Mrs. Sandy Moore, 921 Red Gate Road said litter on Deer Run Road may be from Masonic employees. A roll call vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT RESOLUTION APPROVING SALE OF CRACK SEALER:

Vice-President Doebler made a motion to adopt a resolution approving the sale of the crack sealer to Joshua Leclerc of Macadam Company for \$9,200.51. Commissioner Lisanti seconded. Discussion - Manager Patterson said payment in full was received today by certified check. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION TO APPROVE WEBER'S CORNER PLAN OF LOTS SUBDIVISION:

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve Weber's Corner Plan of Lots Subdivision Plan submitted by Earl and Judith Seiler: Vice-President Doebler seconded.

Discussion - Solicitor Stone said before a sub-division plan can be approved the Municipality Planning Code requires that it be sent to the County which is a 30-day review period. Recommendations and suggestions come from the County and the Township is not obligated to take them. If the 30 days are not adhered to, someone can claim the transaction was not done properly. Manager Patterson said the original plan was sent to the County on August 26, 2014. A revised drawing was sent to them on September 12, 2014. The County was unable to enlarge the drawing and they did not start their review. The applicant dropped off a larger paper for the County's review on October 6, 2014. Commissioner Jones withdrew his motion.

Vice-President Doebler made a motion to table the issue for one month to be discussed at the Workshop Meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Ohio Township Chief of Police Norbert Micklos gave his report for September to the Board and the public. The report was accepted.

FIRE DEPT:

No report.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Ms. Judy Haluka reported the emergency operations plan is complete and ready to go to the County. A mailing to residents to assess risk is needed and assignments put in writing are needed. All contact information for responsible parties needs to be put into the plan. It can then be sent to the County. It will come back to us. The EOC should be activated to make it official.

On November 13, 2014, she will be issued a password for the Knowledge Center. It is the data base into which all of the Township authorities, etc. log in all of their events.

She has copies for the Board Members of Allegheny County Summary Meeting which is the ebola screening recommendations for anyone that would like to have them.

She asked if anything has been done on the AED. Manager Patterson said that is a subject that can be discussed also. The report was accepted.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Vice-President Doebler said getting citizen participation involved is good. He asked if the newsletter is to be considered important. The Board feels it is not a high priority at this time. He feels information can be archived. The report was accepted.

PLANNING/ZONING:

No report.

TAX COLLECTOR:

Tax Collector Charlotte Pierce gave her report to the Board and the public. The report was accepted.

TREASURER:

Treasurer Charlotte Pierce gave her report to the Board and the public. The report was accepted.

FINANCE:

Vice-President Doebler made a motion to approve the September bill list in the amount of \$51,042.74. Commissioner Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to ratify the September pre-paid bills in the amount of \$7,103.11. Vice-President Doebler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice-President Doebler made a motion to ratify the September payroll transfers in the amount of \$16,116.81. Commissioner Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice-President Doebler made a motion to create a Citizens Budget Committee. Commissioner Jones seconded. Discussion - President Gartner asked about the composition of this committee. Vice-President Doebler said it should be at the discretion of the committee chair and the Manager. Solicitor Stone said under the Public Records Act and under the Sunshine Law, a lot of pre-final budget discussions and a lot of what goes into forming the budget is confidential. Everything up to the final budget is confidential and privileged. After adoption, the budget is a public document.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to call a vote. Vice-President Doebler seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed with three yes votes and one no vote from President Gartner. President Gartner said he is not objecting to anyone who has been proposed for the committee. He has confidence in anyone who has been mentioned and will work with them.

2015 BUDGET:

Manager Patterson gave the Board the first draft of the budget along with a memo explaining some of the items along with a summary page and the detail page of the budget. A discussion will be held at the next meeting. It would be good to adopt the budget in November Legislative meeting. It is adopted by ordinance and advertising will have to be done. It must be adopted by December 31, 2014. Budget hearings will be scheduled if it isn't adopted in November. She asks the Board Members to look over the budget draft. She is available for questions.

ALEPPO TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY:

Commissioner Jones made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to prepare a memorandum on potential merger of the Township and the Authority. President Gartner seconded. Discussion - Commissioner Jones said he has spoken with Solicitor Stone briefly about this. Circumstances such as ownership of the sewers, sharing of management capabilities and the loan brought the discussion to the Board. Solicitor Stone may have a previous assessment of the pros and cons of the merger.

Solicitor Stone said other Boards have questioned the viability of the Authority. He did a bullet point outline in the past of general pros and cons. Our Authority is water and sewer. He would encourage the Board to consider what the debt and what the exposures are.

Vice-President Doebler said he also spoke with Solicitor Stone. He is not convinced that it will be prudent to merge the Township and the Authority. He opposes the merger. President Gartner said he would like to see a decision be made. Solicitor Stone said the Authority would have to be dissolved. The Authority would have to be debt free and the Authority or the Township would have to be willing to assume the debt of the Authority. To do an in depth analysis, Solicitor Stone would have to work with the auditor, with whatever outside auditors have been hired and to do a combined analysis with the auditors. President Gartner said he would not proceed unless there was a significant savings in dollars. Commissioner Jones withdrew his motion.

Commissioner Lisanti reported the Authority finished the project of the new water line on South McCoy Place. New customers have been tapped and the new line is in. Restoration of yards has been completed by the Authority. Also with Public Works, under drain pipes were installed on South McCoy. The Township paid for the pipe and material.

The Authority has financials that are reasonably accurate. Their Treasurer, Tom St. Clair spent most of the time working on this. As of the end of September, 2014, the water system is running at a loss. All of the out of pocket legal and engineering costs to investigate and mitigate the landslide totaled \$35,000 at of the end of September.

As part of the paving project, the Authority is asked to replace water lines. If a developer wants water lines extended, the Authority would do that with their own labor as long as

the developer pays for the material. The cost for material used on South McCoy was \$25,400. Rates may have to be raised in the future.

Sewer results are a little in the black. If the Authority is successful in the case with Sewickley, with respect to the charges on the inaccurate meters, it may be approximately \$100,000, it will clean up the sewer financials.

Manager Patterson said we received a response letter to the letter that was written to Sewickley 9, 2014. "The Borough Council received your letter of September 9, 2014. At its committee of the whole council meeting on Tuesday, October 14, 2014, there will be no further offers forthcoming. Signed Sewickley."

The Authority received a \$100,000 AIM loan to be used toward the landslide. The loan cannot be used for the cost or legal or engineering expenses. It can be used for engineering on the new water line. Final paperwork on the loan should be received in two weeks. Money will be used to install the early warning system. This will warn us of any leak in the line.

Commissioner Lisanti put up a drawing regarding the landslide on Old Hill Road which he discussed for the Board and the public. The report was accepted.

QVCOG:

Manager Patterson said she enjoyed attending the annual dinner.

AMBULANCE AUTHORITY:

No report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Public Works Foreman Thomas Jarvie gave his report to the Board and the public. Mr. Jarvie spoke with Cleveland Brothers about a used backhoe. If purchasing a used backhoe, State pricing cannot be used. Also, there would be no warranty. Commissioner Jones made a motion to permit the purchase of a backhoe from Cleveland Brothers as bid received. Commissioner Lisanti seconded. Discussion - The price is approximately \$93,000 with a \$18,000 trade in for a total of approximately \$75,000. That is State pricing. The money will come from the fund balance. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously. The Public Works report was accepted.

SOLICITOR:

Solicitor Stone will have discussions in executive session.

537 PLAN:

No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

No report.

NEW BUSINESS:

No report.

ACTION ITEMS:

Manager Patterson said she has not heard from Mark Turnley to date due to his very busy schedule. She and Vice-President Doeblner will discuss Disaster Recovery Plan for data at a later date. Manager Patterson will check into payroll training.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

Mrs. Sandra Moore, 921 Red Gate Road: At the Workshop Meeting last week, she had a question about the Authority assuming the cost of all repairs for the land slide in lieu of paying for the right of way. Vice-President Doeblner said the settlement that took place with the owner of the property was not a settlement for monetary relief. It was a settlement for equitable relief. The lawsuit that we had filed against this landowner was only to get him to do something not to pay for something. He agreed to take the superimposed load off. He agreed to give us the right of ways for the new water line. That settlement was without prejudice to our right to sue for monetary relief later. We can still have a separate lawsuit for money damages. There is a question of damages and a question of collection.

At 9:10 PM, the Board moved into executive session to discuss legal claims and pending litigation and returned to regular session at 10:10 PM.

Vice-President Doeblner made a motion to approve the settlement as proposed by Sewickley in their letter dated August 25, 2014 and we deduct \$50,000 as per the letter. President Gartner seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed with three yes votes and one no vote from Commissioner Lisanti.

Vice-President Doeblner made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to file a writ against KLH arising from sewage metering. Commissioner Jones seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice-President Doebler seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha B. Rogers
Township Secretary