

**Workshop Meeting Activity**

**January 13, 2014**

**TITLE**

**MOTION**

**SECOND**

Approve Dec. 16, 2013 Leg. Mtg. Min.

VP Doebler

Pres Gartner

Approve Jan 6, 2014 Reorg. Mtg. Min.

Pres Gartner

Comm Jones

Adjournment

Comm Jones

Comm Schollaert

**TOWNSHIP OF ALEPPO**  
**WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 13, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

President Rodney Gartner called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call. Those in attendance were Vice-President Matthew Doebler, Commissioners Joanne Schollaert, George Jones, John Seifarth, Solicitor Harlan Stone, Manager Gwen Patterson and Secretary Martha B. Rogers.

President Gartner asks if someone would like to make a comment on a topic which is being discussed, be recognized, stand and say your name and address for the record. All comments should be directed to the discussion at the time.

Motions are not usually passed at workshops unless it is a timely matter. Minutes from a workshop meeting can be approved at the following legislative meeting. Minutes of a legislative meeting have not been approved until the following legislative meeting. An attempt will be made to approve those minutes at a workshop meeting. Minutes cannot be distributed to the public until they are approved by the Board.

**DECEMBER 16, 2013 LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES:**

Vice-President Doebler made a motion to approve the December 16, 2013 Legislative Meeting Minutes. President Gartner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**JANUARY 6, 2014 REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES:**

President Gartner said Commissioner Seifarth's name has been spelled incorrectly. Vice-President Doebler made a motion to approve the Reorganization Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**DISCUSSION OF COMMITTEE & COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**

The Ambulance Authority has been chaired in the past by Commissioner Schollaert. President Gartner suggested that she continue and she accepted.

President Gartner was previously on the Planning Commission and is willing to be on that committee.

Commissioner Seifarth would be interested in the Township Authority.

Commissioner Jones is interested in being on the Finance Committee.

Vice-President Doeblner is interested in being on the COG Board. Commissioner Jones will be his backup. Solicitor Stone said some communities rotate the COG position.

Public Safety is not an active committee. President Gartner would like to see an activation or review of our emergency management committee. Manager Patterson said public safety could head the review of the emergency management plan. She feels it is necessary for it to be revisited. Solicitor Stone said the Township has a plan and a plan administrator. He hasn't been active in that capacity. Manager Patterson said a citizen committee would be good for this committee. Commissioner Schollaert will chair Public Safety. Commissioner Jones will introduce her to residents willing to assist.

Vice-President Doeblner will head the Communications Committee.

Commissioner Seifarth will head the Public Works Committee.

**DISCUSSION OF HARLAN S. STONE OF DICKIE, MCCAMEY & CHILCOTE AS TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR & KLH ENGINEERS AS TOWNSHIP ENGINEER:**

Commissioner Schollaert said she feels this appointment and the appointment of KLH should be deferred until there is an update on both firms. Mr. Thomas Arbogast, Planning Commission Member and resident of Sewickley Heights Manor said he feels Solicitor Stone is a very good lawyer and very competent. He is satisfied with KLH Engineering and has no complaints.

Mr. Del Dausman of Sewickley Heights Manor has concerns with the reappointment of KLH because of additional financial burdens. He would like to know on what basis they would be considered for rehire.

Mrs. Sandy Moore, Red Gate Road asked about a statement made by the Township Engineer in an executive summary that sewage did not need to be done at the present time. She asked if the Township knew about this and did KLH stand to gain more money if the sewage went in.

Mr. Tony Lisanti, Masonic Village said we need to know what type of engineer is needed in Aleppo. He feels the Township needs a good civil engineer.

Commissioner Jones said Mr. Lisanti was elected as a commissioner but did not comply with Township living requirements. Last week he was nominated to the Authority Board.

Mr. Len Kinter, Sewickley Heights Manor has questions about decisions made by the engineer. He feels KLH should be reappointed in order to answer questions relating to the sewage project.

Commissioner Jones said according to the Code, until a new solicitor or engineer is appointed, Harlan Stone and KLH still fill the positions for the Township. He feels during this transition period, engineering and legal activities should be reduced and no new activities should be started.

Mrs. Cathy Frasca of Masonic Village asked about the length of reappointment for Solicitor Stone and KLH. Solicitor Stone said the Solicitor and the engineer get reappointed for a term of two years. As professionals, they serve at the discretion of the Board and are subject to termination at any time.

Vice-President Doebler asked about the length of deferment. President Gartner said there is work to do and he hesitates to put a three-week limit on it. Commissioner Jones proposes for a defined period of time of not less than 30 days or more than 120 days, we continue our relationship with Dickie McCamey and KLH and we solicit proposals from two other engineering firms or engineers, two law firms or lawyers. We restrict any action, legal or engineering during that time period. A decision can be made within the 120 day time period. Commissioner Jones said in the first 60 days, define what is needed. Proposals can be solicited which gives another 60 days. An RFP must be defined first. Commissioner Schollaert asked who will go out and find these people. President Gartner said the issues will be defined first and then it will be advertised. Solicitor Stone and KLH must reapply for their jobs.

Mr. Sherwood Lennartson, Masonic Village said needs must be determined first along with the size of the engineering and law firm. Mrs. Sandy Moore asked if information will be shared with the public. Vice-President Doebler said he would like to make things as transparent as possible. The upcoming meeting will discuss issues of the lawsuit against the Township by Masonic Village. Issues discussed in executive session will not be shared.

President Gartner said the committee to create an RFP for an engineering firm will consist of Tony Lisanti, Commissioner Seifarth and Gwen Patterson. Vice-President Doebler will head the committee for the solicitor's position with Thomas Arbogast as backup.

#### **DISCUSSION OF APPOINTMENT OF JANNEY MONTGOMERY SCOTT AS BOND UNDERWRITER:**

Vice-President Doebler said the bond underwriter is a procedural issue at this time. From material circulated from Janney, he feels they are trying to shield themselves from protections that have been put in place to protect municipalities like ours. We want them to give us advice and they want to not have to register as somebody that gives advice.

Solicitor Stone said once the bonds are issued, routine administration happens after that by the trustee. There is a new disclosure statement that was enacted a couple years ago. Anybody can do it and it can be done internally. Bond underwriters are offering it as a service for a fee. Manager Patterson said no fee has been discussed. She said to continue

to advise us, they must be named. Manager Patterson will ask the rep. from Janney to come to a meeting to let us know what they will be doing.

**DISCUSSION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE ALEPPO TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY:**

There is one vacancy on the Authority. Tony Lisanti said the Authority should be structured so we can do municipal authority work as defined by the Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Act. President Gartner said we need to define what is being done. He feels it is premature to fill this vacancy until it is defined what the Board is to be. This will be deferred until February's workshop meeting. Vice-President Doebler said the status of the RPF should be put on the agenda for the next workshop meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

NA.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Vice-President Doebler said a resident from the Ridge asked if there is anything that can be done about the 24 hour lighting of the sewer facility. President Gartner said that is Authority business.

Two residents have asked if there is anything that can be done in terms of environmental protection. This would be specifically about plants on Neville Island regarding air pollution. Solicitor Stone said air pollution would be County Health Department Regulations. Commissioner Jones asked Manager Patterson to call the County and find out how a complaint can be filed. Mrs. Sally Shipley suggested a letter campaign. Mr. Lisanti suggested getting in touch with our senator or representative. Solicitor Stone suggested information regarding filing complaints can be posted on the web site.

Vice-President Doebler would like to ask the Sewickley Herald to run a story featuring the new web site and communications that we have been having. He would like this to bring in more e-mail addresses.

Mr. Tom Jarvie, Leetwood Avenue said there are people in Aleppo that don't have computers. He feels a newsletter should be considered. Commissioner Schollaert said this Board represents every resident in Aleppo Township. Mr. Kinter suggested a note in the next water bill. Mrs. Charlotte Pierce, Masonic Village suggested e-mail or a newsletter.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:**

NA.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Schollaert seconded. Discussion-President Gartner announced there will be an executive session after next week's meeting. The consultants, engineers and solicitors will update the Board on the status of the lawsuit from Masonic. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha B. Rogers  
Township Secretary