

Workshop Meeting Activity

October 12, 2015

TITLE

MOTION

SECOND

Approve September 21, 2015 Legislative Meeting Minutes.

Comm. Jones

VP Doebler

Adjournment

Comm. Jones

Comm. Schollaert

TOWNSHIP OF ALEPPO

WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

October 12, 2015

**CALL TO ORDER:**

President Rodney 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 Joanne Schollaert, Commissioner George Jones, Solicitor Lovato, Manager Gwen Patterson and Secretary Kimberly A. Koskey. Commissioner Anthony Lisanti was not in attendance.

**MINUTES:**

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the September 21, 2015 Legislative Meeting minutes. Vice President Doebler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**QVCOG UPDATE:**

Vice President Doebler announced that the president of the QVCOG, R.J. White was in the audience. He explained that R.J. White received a letter last week from the Allegheny County Department of Economic Development. This letter was a performance audit for the compliance regarding the grants received. The audit included 14 qualifications and 2 findings. Vice President Doebler explained that because of this letter there was a meeting held on Friday night, October 9, 2015. Solicitor Stone along with the COG members were in attendance. He also stated that during the meeting the Executive Director John Jakiela made some comments that were of some concern. There was an executive session with the COG Board of Directors. The Executive Director was suspended and Solicitor Stone will do an investigation regarding the comments that were made. Vice President Doebler discussed whether or not it was worth while for Aleppo Township to participate in the COG. Manager Patterson created a report of the cost benefit analysis that Aleppo Township receives participating in the COG. Vice President Doebler explained the list of items that the Township may benefit from by staying with the COG.

Mr. R.J. White discussed the benefits of the COG. He also stated that he believes there will be leadership changes with many great opportunities in the future. Commissioner Jones questioned the benefits of the COG being the salt contract, the garbage contract, and the grants received by the Township. Mr. White explained that the grants are only available through the COG. Commissioner Jones asked if there is any financial consequence to Aleppo Township from the audit. Mr. White explained that there is not, it is the sole responsibility of the COG. He also discussed the annual budget of the COG. He stated that Solicitor Stone has talked to the Department of Economic Development who are prepared to work with the COG to resolve the issues from the audit. Vice President Doebler suggested that the Board should be prepared to vote on the COG issue by next Monday. Mr. White also announced that the recycling day is still scheduled in Sewickley for next month. He also stated in closing that he is willing to attend any meetings and will be available to answer any questions during the transition of the COG.

**DISCUSSION OF CODIFICATION ORDINANCE:**

Manager Patterson stated that Solicitor Stone will have a draft for review ready for next week. There has to be a 30 day introduction period. The Ordinance has to be advertised in detail and should be ready to vote on by the December meeting. She also stated that hardback draft books are available in the Township Office and once the Ordinance is voted on the books will be available online on the Aleppo Township website.

**DISCUSSION OF 2016 BUDGET WORKSHOPS:**

Manager Patterson explained that the preliminary 2016 Budget draft will be ready for review soon. She needs two dates selected in December just in case the Budget is not passed at the normal December meetings because the Budget has to be approved before December 31, 2015. She suggested Monday, December 28, and Tuesday, December 29, 2015. These dates were agreed on.

**DISCUSSION OF LIQUID FUELS AUDIT:**

Manager Patterson stated that a Liquid Fuels audit was performed last week and there were no findings and no comments. The official report will be sent by the State Office.

**DISCUSSION OF MS-4 PERMIT REVIEW:**

Manager Patterson explained that MS-4 stands for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System. The Township has that permit because there is a separate storm system. The permit requires monitoring of the system. The site visit went well. There are some minor improvements that need to be made. The Township has five years to become compliant. She explained that Ben Gilberti suggested to have some money in the engineering budget to handle these issues.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Jones asked if under the "Unfinished Business" items can be listed separately with the item and person responsible for the specific topic to make it easier to keep track of the items.

Commissioner Schollaert asked for an update on the McCoy Place Road/South McCoy Place Road signs. Manager Patterson stated that she and Tom Jarvie will drive over and review the streets again to decide on what color signs, where to put them, and what they should say. She sent the eighteen residents an updated letter on solutions to the street number issues.

Commissioner Jones stated that he and Vice President Doebler attended the Allegheny League of Municipalities Conference. He explained that Vice President Doebler gave a presentation on having the Township meetings live and available on the web. He stated that Vice President Doebler's presentation was received very well by a lot of the other attendees. Vice President Doebler also explained several of the presentations that he and Commissioner Jones attended. They were presented with the benefit of body cameras for the police force and the idea of less law suits because of the cameras. Pension funds, Act 47, the Map Program, Intergovernmental Assistance, Keystone Communities and grant increases were also discussed. He also believed

that one of the presenters relevant to the Township was Jason Davidek, the Executive Director of the League of Municipalities. Vice President Doebler believed he could be a valuable resource

for the Township. Other discussions included local government regulation of firearms, human relations, regulation of drones, and mini cell phone towers. Commissioner Jones stated that there is a group called Scenic Pittsburgh that he would be interested in contacting regarding lighted billboards and mini cell phone towers.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Manager Patterson stated that Aleppo Township might be hosting the Recycling Day in May. Vice President Doebler believes this is a great idea. Manager Patterson explained that this is minimal cost to the Township but a great benefit for the residents.

Manager Patterson explained that Judy Haluka sent a log in process for the Board from the Department of Homeland Security. The Board needs to log in and have the Student ID and password before their meeting with Judy on October 26, 2015.

Manager Patterson stated that she received a call earlier from the contractors on Waterworks Road requesting permission to work until 10:30 PM to get back and stay on schedule. Solicitor Lovato believes there can be a temporary change to the Ordinance, however, Manager Patterson is going to get more information before any changes would be made.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:**

Charlotte Pierce asked if anybody had an update for the landslide on Camp Meeting Road. Nobody had any information.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Schollaert seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Koskey  
Township Secretary