

**MINUTES
NORTH LEBANON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
FEBRUARY 2, 2009**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the North Lebanon Township Board of Supervisors was held at 7:00 PM at the Municipal Building located at 725 Kimmerlings Road, Lebanon, PA with the following people present:

Edward A. Brensinger	Chairman
Kenneth C. Artz	Vice-Chairman
Dawn M. Hawkins	Treasurer
Cheri F. Grumbine	Township Manager
Frederick S. Wolf	Henry & Beaver LLP (public hearing only)

Also in attendance was Kathy Hackleman of the Lebanon Daily News, Roger Sands of the Patriot News and several other individuals. The meeting was called to order and the pledge to the flag was done. Chm Brensinger announced a Public Hearing will be held at 7:30 for Ordinance 1-2009, Pension Plan changes.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

A.) Martin Barondick – New Street

Mr. Barondick questioned the farm property located on W Kercher Avenue which had been owned by Dennis Showers and is currently owned by Linford Snyder. Recently the owner had been involved in the sludge filtering process which is still piled all around the property. He asked if there has been any talk with the Twp regarding the construction of a power plant. Chm Brensinger told Barondick he was aware of a sales agreement for the property however there has been no submission of plans to the Twp for anything involving the property. Barondick stated he was told there are rumors that a power plant is to be constructed in this area. Chm Brensinger repeated there have been no plans submitted to the office.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION was made and seconded to approve the minutes from January 19, 2009. Unanimously carried.

APPROVAL PAYROLL and PAYMENT OF INVOICES

MOTION was made and seconded to approve payroll, invoices for payment subject to audit. Unanimously carried.

TOWNSHIP MANAGERS REPORT – Cheri F. Grumbine

A.) Annual Non-emergency Activities for Fire Companies

Mgr Grumbine reminded the Supervisors that 3 of the 4 Fire Companies have already submitted the non-emergency activity lists for their approval. We have received the final list from Weavertown Fire Company. The Board is being asked to approve the list submitted by Weavertown Fire Company.

MOTION was made and seconded to approve the 2009 non-emergency activity list provided by Weavertown Fire Company. Unanimously carried.

B.) Mobile Home Licenses for 2009

Renewal information had been mailed to all 7 of the Mobile Home Park owners that are located in North Lebanon Twp. The due date for the renewal license applications and fees was January 15, 2009. To date the office has received 5 of the 7 applications and fees. Information from the 2008 completed applications has also been provided as a comparison. A reminder letter will be sent to the 2 remaining park owners. The Board is being asked to authorize signatures on the 2009 licenses to be mailed back to the Mobile Home Parks.

MHP Licenses (con't)

MOTION was made and seconded to authorize the Chairman's signature on the renewal applications that have been received for the 2009 Mobile Home Licenses. Unanimously carried.

C.) Traffic Signal Upgrades with LED and Pre-emption Devices

The issue of upgrading the traffic signal lamps to LED had been discussed at previous meetings. At that time Lebanon County Planning determined it would be a good opportunity to complete an inventory of all traffic signals located within the County. Completion of the first step was anticipated by the end of 2008. Following the inventory phase, a bid was to have been prepared by County Staff to upgrade all traffic signals in the County that had not been previously upgraded to LED. By compiling one overall bid a more competitive cost would be realized by all participants. The County would be funding all the LED upgrades.

Recently Mgr Grumbine received an email which indicated due to various reasons a completion of the inventory could take a good portion of 2009 to complete. Upon completion of the inventory funding may be in jeopardy and we may find there are no funds available through the County, leaving each municipality to pick up their respective costs. Jon Fitzkee has indicated to Mgr Grumbine to proceed with the signal upgrades as the Twp "sees fit". The Twp is now faced with the question do we proceed ahead with traffic signal upgrades to LED lights or continue to wait for the County with no guarantee that any funding will be available.

By switching to LED lighting it is anticipated a 75-80% reduction will be realized in the electric costs which have been confirmed with actual cases throughout Lebanon County where upgrades have already been completed. Knowing that the caps come off the electric rates in 2010 will create a possible increase of 40% it is important to consider this issue now. Every year that a delay is agreed to, the higher electric costs are being paid. Mgr Grumbine received a proposal in 2008 for LED upgrades in the amount of \$4978 for Rte 72 & Long Lane. The annual electric bill for this intersection is \$1500. At a 75% savings a total of \$1125 annually would recoup the upgrade costs within 4 ½ years. LED lights are available on state contract (Co-stars) so an additional savings could be had by purchasing the lights direct and then hiring a contractor to install the lights. This process was acceptable according to the contractor that had provided the original proposal.

The 2009 Budget, as well as the 2008 and 2007, included the upgrade to the Rte 72 & Long Lane with a pre-emption device for emergency responders. The pre-emption device will allow emergency responders to change all lights to red except the direction of travel, allowing safe travel through the intersection. The project was originally submitted for funding through County Liquid Fuels to offset the costs of the pre-emption device. However, though this project was never approved by the County, it did create interest in inventorying all signals for LED upgrades on a county-wide basis.

January of 2007 a cost of \$2000 was received for equipment needed for pre-emption device at the intersection of Long Lane and Rte 72. This was the cost provided by the 3M representative for materials only for 1 device and no labor costs. As this intersection had been pre-wired in preparation for a future pre-emption device, there should be no wiring costs associated with this device. At the time of construction of the traffic signals, Ebenezer Fire Company did not have the necessary equipment needed to connect with the pre-emption device, so only wiring was installed. Another item that was discussed was upgrading of the traffic signal with a connection for an emergency portable generator hook-up at a cost of \$1000.

The traffic signal located at 15th Avenue and Rte 422 was given first priority for upgrade to a generator because of the amount of traffic. Due to anticipating funding from County Liquid Fuels, the upgrading at the Rte 72 and Long Lane did not take place. Now, 2+ years later we need to decide on whether or not to proceed for the pre-emption device and generator connection for Rte 72 & Long Lane. Brian Vragovich, Chief of Glenn-Lebanon Fire Company, reported at the last meeting they are anxious to have the pre-emption device and connection for the portable generator installed. A pre-emption device provides a safer environment when traveling through an intersection and the connection for a portable generator cuts manpower needed for traffic control during those times when electrical outages occur.

Traffic Signal Upgrades with LED and Pre-emption Devices (con't)

Within a few minutes the generator can be connected and can be left unattended until the electric is restored. The safest option is to wire the traffic signal for a portable generator which will allow the traffic signal to continue to operate rather than the confusion that is created when a traffic signal goes dark and portable stop signs are placed.

In summary, the cost of upgrading Rte 72 & Long Lane to LED signals is \$4978. The upgrade at Rte 422 & 15th Ave is unknown at this time but is presumed to be higher because of the larger quantity of LED lights required. The pre-emption device and upgrade for connection to a portable generator at Rte 72 & Long Lane is \$3000 minimum. The pre-emption device quote previously received had been for one way north bound on Rte 72. Should a request from the fire companies be received for all 4 directions it would increase the cost. Contact would have to be made with South Lebanon Twp Manager to discuss the traffic signal at Prescott Drive & Rte 422 and any possible upgrades from their side of the street, as we currently share the electric and maintenance costs with South Lebanon.

The amount of \$12,000 had been included in the general fund budget for upgrades; however, we were hoping to obtain some funding for the LED upgrades through the County. At this point there are no guarantees for funding through the County should the decision be to wait for the inventory to be completed by the County staff. Mgr Grumbine told the Board she is looking to them for direction on this issue.

Some discussion took place about options available and cost effective ways to accomplish getting the upgrades completed. Chm Brensinger asked about the traffic signal at Rte 422 and 22nd street. The developer for CVS will be upgrading the lights to LED. However there is no plan for a portable generator. He also mentioned the traffic signal at 15th Avenue already has wiring for a generator and would require only upgrading to LED lighting. The lights at Rte 72 and Tunnel Hill Rd/Hill Street are already wired with a pre-emption and a generator, as well as LED. Suv Hawkins asked about the intersection at Prescott Drive. Mgr Grumbine replied the traffic signal there is so old it is still the wire strung light instead of the mast arms that are currently installed. Mgr Grumbine reminded the Board should the costs exceed \$10,000, the Twp is required to advertise for bids. The Board decided after some discussion to speak to Chf Easter for his input on pre-emption devices at the traffic signals at Rte 72 and Long Lane. They also asked Mgr Grumbine and Roadmaster Brensinger to get some quotes and pricing on materials.

D.) Letter from Jonestown Borough

A letter of appreciation for grinding services in their yardwaste area was received from Jonestown Borough. Mayor George Kauffman expresses his thanks for the cooperation between the Township and the Borough.

E.) Zoning Administration Report for 2008

The annual yearend Zoning Administration report was received from Lebanon County Planning Department. There were 208 permits issued; a total of 43 single-family dwellings permits issued, \$9,617,000 estimated construction costs, 52 residential additions and 4 commercial and industrial constructions, 1 agricultural construction and 4 home occupations, 7 signs, 3 change of use and 5 demolitions for the year 2008. A comparison chart showing the years 1989 to 2008 is also provided.

F.) Safety Committee - 2009 Safety Goals

The Safety Committee has provided a copy of the 2009 goals for the committee to the Board of Supervisors. Mgr Grumbine told the Supervisors she appreciates the determination this group shows when considering the safety of all the employees as it is sometimes not an easy task.

G.) ZHB Case for Sattazahn Property

Mgr Grumbine reported to the Board the Zoning Hearing Board's decision on Bruce Sattazahn's property located on Route 72. The ZHB decision was to have the 15' encroachment on the setback located on the 22nd Street side. Rte 72 will remain as a 60' setback. A written decision will be forthcoming.

H.) Resolution No. 5-2009; Set Tax Collection Rate for Tax Collector

Mgr Grumbine provided Resolution No. 5-2009 which outlines a fee rate per tax collected for a tax collector. Should anyone decide to be placed on the ballot for tax collector, a fee must be determined by February which sets the rate. The last time someone was placed on the ballot was many years ago.

MOTION was made and seconded to adopt Resolution No. 5-2009 setting the fees for a tax collector. Unanimously carried.

****** PUBLIC HEARING – ORD 1-2009 ******

Sol Wolf announced that this Public Hearing was advertised as required by the law. The Proof of Publication has been received and placed in the file. This Ordinance deals with the Pension Plan for Uniform and Non-uniform employees and changes that are required by the IRS. The substance of the Pension Plans has not changed. The changes are involving IRS changes. Sol Wolf reviewed the changes that are required by the law. These changes were provided by Conrad Siegel in order to comply with the required changes in this law.

Sol Wolf opened the floor for questions and discussion concerning the Pension Plan changes. Chm Brensinger stated the Twp has no choice but to comply with these required changes. There were no other comments from the Board members.

MOTION was made and seconded to adopt Ordinance 1-2009 concerning changes in the Pension Plan for the Uniform and Non-Uniform employees, according the IRS rules. Unanimously carried.

Trust Agreements were provided to Mgr Grumbine and Sol Wolf by Conrad Siegel. She is asking the Board to authorize the signature on the Trust Agreements for the Police and Non-Uniform Pension. The last time this was done was in 2005. Sol Wolf mentioned this would also authorize execution to amend and restate the plan and recommended the Twp Manager be authorized to sign the Trust Agreements.

MOTION was made and seconded to authorize the Township Manager's signature on the Trust Agreements for the Uniform and Non-Uniform Pension plans. Unanimously carried.

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**A.) Supervisor Hawkins – Safety Committee**

Suv Hawkins mentioned the reports announced from time to time about the Safety Committee. She explained each department has a representative on the Committee and she is happy to see the determination of this group to move forward with Safety issues for the Twp employees. She asked Mgr Grumbine to pass this on to the Safety Committee. The other Supervisors were in agreement with Suv Hawkins remarks.

As there was no more business to conduct or discuss the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa L. George
Recording Secretary