

**TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HUNTINGDON, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2009, 7:00 P.M.
11279 Center Highway, North Huntingdon, PA 15642
Presiding Officer – David E. Herold, President, Board of Commissioners**

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Herold called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Commissioner Furlin	Absent
Commissioner Patter	Absent
Commissioner Gray	Present
Commissioner Martino	Present
Commissioner Moffatt	Present
Commissioner Austin	Present
Commissioner Herold	Present

Also Present:
John M. Shepherd
Bruce E. Dice
Michael M. Turley
Chief Daugherty
Richard G. Albert
Andy Blenko
Dan Miller

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZENS' INPUT

George Blissman, Dartmoor Drive: Westmoreland County District Attorney's office has filed suit against Mr. Patter for his removal from the Board of Commissioners. The complaint states that Mr. Patter has not lived in the Township since May 2009. Mr. Patter has stated on several occasions that he still lived here. Mr. Patter has deceived the residents of the Township and members of the Board by refusing to address his residency status. Mr. Patter was paid a salary as Commissioner even though he has not been a resident and he is requesting the Board take action to recover the salary for the time he has not lived in the Township.

John Skooglund, 9360 Clubview Drive: He has no complaints. He thanked the Board for his appointment to the Zoning Hearing Board. He commended the Board on who the Township Manager was and he welcomed Mr. Shepherd back. He also commended the Board on no increase in taxes this year. He also wished all a Merry Christmas.

RESPONSE TO CITIZENS' INPUT

George Blissman

Mr. Dice said there is no adjudication at this time and he is presumed innocent until that time. He still sits as a Commissioner and will stay that way until a judge voids his tenure as a Commissioner. As long as he is an elected official, it is hard to take that away. As a Township Commissioner, he is entitled to a salary. Since there is an adjudication on this case, the court may

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take it up if there is any retro-activity. If he is removed, he will no longer be entitled to a salary as of that date. There has not been a response from Mr. Patter as of this date.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Mr. Martino I'll make that motion. (Special Meeting – 10/15/09)
Second: Mr. Austin

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

Motion: Mr. Moffatt I'll make a motion to approve. (Regular Meeting – 10/21/09)
Second: Mr. Austin

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion: Mr. Austin So move. (November 2009)
Second: Mr. Martino

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion: Mr. Martino I'll make that motion we pay Voucher No. 58930 through
Second: Mr. Austin Voucher No. 59053.

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Mr. Moffatt asked if they used the brine system during Sunday's snowstorm.

Mr. Albert said in those conditions, it wouldn't have been effective with the rain. The air temperature was 36 degrees and the ground temperature was 31 degrees and it froze immediately. The brine system is liquid sodium and there wasn't a need to use. It is ready to go but they haven't had the opportunity to use it to the full extent.

PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT

Mr. Miller wished the Board and the community a very Merry Christmas.

POLICE REPORT

There were no Board comments.

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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

There were no Board comments.

FIRE OFFICIAL'S REPORT

There were no Board comments.

SUBDIVISION & LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION REPORT

- 1) Action to adopt Resolution No. 151 of 2009, S-21-2009, Lincoln Hills Lot 6269 Lot Line Revision, Delaware Avenue, R-1A Zoning.

Motion: Mr. Gray Motion to approve.

Second: Mr. Martino

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

- 2) Action to adopt Resolution No. 152 of 2009, S-22-2009, Classic Kars Lot Consolidation, Butler Street, C-1 Zoning.

Motion: Mr. Martino I make a motion we adopt Resolution No. 152 of 2009.

Second: Mr. Austin

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- 1) Action to adopt Proposed Ordinance No. 9 of 2009, providing for the establishment of a stop intersection on Nathan Drive. If adopted, this would be Ordinance No. 2137.

Motion: Mr. Moffatt So move.

Second: Mr. Austin

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

- 2) Action to adopt Proposed Ordinance No. 10 of 2009, electing to change the Police Pension benefits in the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System agreeing to be bound by all provisions of the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Law as amended and as applicable to member municipalities changing benefits under the provisions of this article. If adopted, this would be Ordinance No. 2138.

Motion: Mr. Austin So move.

Second: Mr. Martino

Motion Carried 5 – 0 - 0

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- 3) Action to adopt Proposed Ordinance No. 12 of 2009, the 2010 Budget. If adopted, this would be Ordinance No. 2140.

Motion: Mr. Martino I'll make that motion.

Second: Mr. Austin

Remarks

Mr. Gray said the budget is lopsided towards the Police Department and he would like it turned back to Chief Daugherty for more cuts. 4.1 million dollars of the General Fund is going to the Police Department which is about 41% of the budget. The Police budget should be 25% to 30% of the budget. He asked the Local Government Academy if the 30% was still a valid number and it is. This budget is 11% over and he will not support it.

Motion Carried 4 – 1 – 0 (Mr. Gray)

- 4) Action to adopt Proposed Ordinance No. 11 of 2009, the 2010 Tax Levy. If adopted, this would be Ordinance No. 2139.

Motion: Mr. Austin So move.

Second: Mr. Martino

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

- 5) Action to adopt Proposed Ordinance No. 13 of 2009, accepting Bradgate Drive, Oxford Court, Lockport Drive and Nottingham Court in the Lincoln Hills Plan, Phase IV. If adopted, this would be Ordinance No. 2141.

Motion: Mr. Austin So move.

Second: Mr. Moffatt

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S REPORT

- 1) Action to approve the November check register.

Motion: Mr. Martino I'll make that motion.

Second: Mr. Austin

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

- 2) Budget Report – November 2009.

There were no Board comments.

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- 3) Action to approve the Norwin School District Occupation Resident and Per Capita Report for the month of November 2009.

Motion: Mr. Martino I'll make that motion.

Second: Mr. Austin

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

- 4) Action to approve Resolution No. 149 of 2009, enter an agreement with PennDOT to use the **dot Grants** on-line reporting system to file the required Liquid Fuels forms annually.

Motion: Mr. Martino I'll make that motion.

Second: Mr. Austin

Remarks

Mr. Moffatt asked if they were requesting the Township do that.

Mr. Shepherd said they are making it mandatory requirement. They want the agreement electronically.

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

- 5) Action to approve Resolution No. 150 of 2009, which adopts the salary scale for various administrative positions.

Motion: Mr. Martino I'll make that motion.

Second: Mr. Austin

Remarks

Mr. Moffatt asked if it went up.

Mr. Shepherd said it went down .06 across the board.

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

- 6) Action to approve the second distribution to the Volunteer Fire Departments in the amount of \$6,000.00 each.

Motion: Mr. Martino I make that motion.

Second: Mr. Austin

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

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- 7) Action to terminate the Disaster Declaration issued on June 18, 2009 by the Board of Commissioners.

Motion: Mr. Austin So move.

Second: Mr. Martino

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

- 8) Action to approve the agreement for the Construction of Sanitary Sewer Facilities for Phase 5 of the Lincoln Hills Plan.

Motion: Mr. Martino I'll make that motion.

Second: Mr. Austin

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

- 9) Action to establish the meeting time for the Reorganization Meeting on January 4, 2010.

Mr. Shepherd said in the past the meetings have been at 6:30 P.M., but District Justice Weimer is only available at 6:00 P.M. that evening.

Motion: Mr. Gray I'll make a motion to set the time for 6:00 P.M.

Second: Mr. Moffatt

Remarks

Mr. Dice said that isn't a meeting night but it is just for swearing in. He has meetings that night with other communities and asked if he was needed that night.

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

- 10) Action to sell the Public Works 1991 Chevrolet Pick-Up Truck to Jeffrey Watters for \$501.00.

Mr. Shepherd said he provided a memo to the Board from Mr. Albert whose recommendation is to sell the truck. It was bid in the past and they only received a bid for \$100.00 which wasn't high enough.

Mr. Moffatt asked if this vehicle was on Municibid.

Mr. Albert said it wasn't on that bid but had been bid out twice in the past. Since the bid received was only \$100.00, he had recommended at that time not to sell it because they could get more money for scrap. Right now it would only be about \$300.00 to \$400.00 in scrap, so he recommends selling it to Mr. Watters.

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Motion: Mr. Martino I'll make that motion that we sell it.
Second: Mr. Austin

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

FURTHER BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Gray asked if a letter was send to Larimer Fire Department regarding the use of their trucks.

Mr. Shepherd said he send out the letter to Larimer only.

Mr. Gray said if the Board could get a copy of the letter and that a copy was sent to the rest of the Fire Departments.

Mr. Herold thanked Mr. Furlin for his years of dedication to the Township on the Board.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) North Huntingdon Department of Parks and Recreation is sponsoring “A Night with Santa and Friends” on Friday, December 18, 2009 from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. at the Norwin Middle School. The event will include activities such as balloon artists, face painters, coloring crafts, take-home treats, holiday movies and pictures with Santa. Register at the Town House in person or by calling 724-863-3806.
- 2) Discount ski tickets are available for sale at the Township Administration Office for Seven Springs. Please call the office at 724-863-3806 for details on times or rates or go to the web site: www.nhtpa.us.
- 3) North Huntingdon Department of Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a “Family Fun Snowman Contest” beginning with the first snow and ending on February 27, 2010. The family’s entry can be registered in one of three categories, Biggest Snowman, Funniest Snowman or the Norwin Community Spirit Snowman by submitting the snowman photo by mail, e-mail or hand delivery to North Huntingdon Township, Department of Parks & Recreation or dmiller@nhtpa.us. To register, please provide Name, Address, Phone Number and Snowman Category along with photo entry.
- 4) North Huntingdon Department of Parks and Recreation invites the public to join in the Official Westmoreland County Elvis Presley 75th Birthday Party Celebration at Shafton Volunteer Fire Department on Friday, January 8, 2010 beginning at 5:30 P.M. Ticket includes a buffet dinner show featuring Elvis Tribute Artist, Eddie Steen. Tickets for the event are \$25.00 and can be purchased at the North Huntingdon Town House. Seating is limited so purchase tickets early.

Mr. Herold wished the community a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mr. Austin
Second: Mr. Moffatt

So move.

Motion Carried 5 – 0 – 0

- Regular Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2009 were approved by the Board of Commissioners on _____.

David E. Herold, President

John M. Shepherd, Township Secretary

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