



West Pikeland Township
1645 Art School Road
Chester Springs, Pennsylvania
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
DECEMBER 29, 2014 AT 7:30 P.M.

ATTENDING
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Ernie Holling, Chairman
Richard Bright, Jr., Vice Chairman
Pamela Conti, Supervisor
Harold Hallman III, Supervisor
Tom Tucker, Supervisor

ATTENDING
TOWNSHIP PERSONNEL

Vincent M. Visoskas, Township Manager
Shane Clark, Chief of Police
Joan C. Matthews, Township Secretary
Robert McCarron, Patrolman

Chairman Holling called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. at the Township Meeting Room. Mr. Holling gave tribute to recently deceased Resident and Planning Commission Member John Henssler followed by a moment of silence.

Wayne Freese then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Holling opened the floor for any additions or corrections to the Agenda and noted that the item "Purchase of new copier" be added to New Business. After no further discussion the Chair accepted the Agenda as amended.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Holling noted that the Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting for personnel matters.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chairman Holling opened the floor for any additions or corrections to the December 1, 2014 minutes. No comments were made and the Chair ruled the minutes accepted as submitted.

CONFIRM EMPLOYMENT AND SWEARING IN OF KURT DEFORREST AS PROBATIONARY, PART TIME POICE OFFICER WITH WEST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP

Mr. Hallman III made a motion to approve the hiring of Kurt DeForrest as a part time probationary Police Officer with the West Pikeland Township Police Department. Dr. Bright seconded the motion. After no further discussion the motion carried with all voting Aye. Mr. Holling then administered the Oath of Office to Officer DeForrest.

PERSONS WISHING TO BE HEARD

Chairman Holling opened the floor for public comment.

Ron Ferrara asked the Board if it would be more cost effective to hire one additional full time officer instead of several part time Officers since it seems they do not stay employed by the Township for very long. Chief Clark responded the hiring of one full time Officer would enable the Township to have police coverage 24 hours, seven days a week. The Board acknowledged that there is a considerable cost difference between full time and part time. However, this matter may be reviewed in the future.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Hold Public Hearing on the 2015 Budget

Mr. Holling opened the public hearing and presented the 2015 Budget. Mr. Holling entered into exhibit the original Proof of Publication from the Daily Local News and opened the hearing for public comments. Wayne Freese asked for clarification of the agreement the Township has with Salt Performing Arts, and other matters pertaining to Employee Health Insurance costs, Police costs for coverage at Miss Betty's Day Camp, Office Administrative Assistant increase, and Engineering costs for the White Property. There were no further comments and the Chairman then closed the public hearing.

Dr. Bright made a motion to adopt Resolution 2014-12-12 appropriating the General Fund Budget based on a rate of 0.5 mills Real Estate Tax and 0.5% Earned Income Tax, estimated revenues and cash balances of \$2,635,378., estimated expenditures \$2,274,896, Liquid Fuels Funds estimated revenues and cash balances and contribution from the General Fund totaling \$262,110.00, estimated expenditures \$231,360., Open Space Funds based on the rate of 0.25% Earned Income Tax, estimated revenues and cash balances \$2,476,200., estimated expenditures \$1,627,480., and Library Fund based on 0.3 mills Real Estate Tax, Estimated revenues and a cash balance of zero totaling \$111,200., estimated expenditures \$111,200. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion. After no further discussion the motion carried with all voting Aye.

Consideration of Resolution 2014-12-13-2015 Tax Rate

Mr. Holling made a motion to adopt Resolution 2014-12-13 enacting the tax levied on all real properties within the Township of West Pikeland Township as follows; Real Estate Tax rate of 0.8 mills (0.5 for the Township General Fund Purposes and 0.3 mills for the voter-approved Library Tax) of the assessed valuation, Fire Hydrant Fees of \$25.00 per year on all residents connected to public water, Reenact 0.50% Transfer Tax to Chester County Recorder of Deeds Collector, Reenact .50% Earned Income Tax and Reenact .25% voter-approved, Earned Income Open Space Tax. Mr. Tucker requested that the Township Manager oversee that a notice be included with the 2015 tax bills explaining the Township and Library's percentages of the Real Estate Tax. Mr. Holling requested that Mr. Visoskas advise the Board if there is a charge to the Township for this. Dr. Bright seconded the motion. After no further discussion the motion carried with all voting Aye.

NEW BUSINESS

Ratification of Bills for Approval

Mr. Holling made a motion to approve the bills submitted. Dr. Bright seconded the motion. Mr. Hallman III abstained from checks 5153 and 5154. After no further discussion the motion carried with all voting Aye.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Visoskas gave the Treasurer's Report

Consideration of Request from Natural Lands Trust for a Partial Waiver of Building Permit Fees for the Binky Lee Preserve Restroom Project.

Mr. Holling made a motion to grant a waiver to Natural Lands Trust for 50% of the Building Permit Fee for the Phase I construction project of a restroom at Binky Lee Preserve. Ms. Conti seconded the motion. After no further discussion the motion carried with all voting Aye.

Ratification of Changes to the West Pikeland Township Personnel Policies and Benefits Manual

Mr. Holling made a motion to approve the changes to clarify Exempt Employees, Health Insurance Contributions, Leave time, and Election Days being a floating holiday for Public Works. Ms. Conti

seconded the motion. After no further discussion the motion carried with all voting Aye with the exception of Mr. Hallman III who abstained.

2014 Non-Uniform Employee Salary Evaluations

Mr. Holling made a motion to approve the 2014/2015 salary ranges and bonuses for the Non-Uniform employees. Ms. Conti seconded the motion. After no further discussion the motion carried with all voting Aye.

Approval of Application to the PECO Green Region Grant Program for Improvements to the White Property

Mr. Holling made a motion to designate Vincent Visoskas, Township Manager as the designated agent for the Township in making application to the PECO Green Region Grant Opportunity for \$10,000 in funding towards the implementation of the Master Plan for the White Property. Mr. Hallman III seconded the motion. After no further discussion the motion carried with all voting Aye.

Consideration of the Proposal from the French and Pickering Creek Conservation Trust to Accept Conveyance of Four Existing Conservation Easements Held by West Pikeland Township and the West Pikeland Land Trust

Mr. Visoskas explained that there are four easements held by West Pikeland Township and/or West Pikeland Land Trust as part of the Township's Open Space Program that have not been monitored since their acquisition. Mr. Visoskas and the West Pikeland Land Trust recommend that these four easements be moved to French and Pickering Creek Conservation Trust that has a greater capacity for monitoring and defending them. The Board decided to table this matter for formal action after West Pikeland Land Trust is able to find out the total cost of the endowment for the Trust.

Purchase of a New Copy Machine

Ms. Conti made a motion to approve the purchase of a new copy machine for the Township Office at a cost of \$8,295 under the State's piggyback program. The present copier will come off lease in May and will be provided to the Police Department. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion. After no further discussion the motion carried with all voting Aye.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Holling read the following announcements:

- The Township Office will be closed on January 1, 2014 for the New Year's Holiday.
- The Board of Supervisors will hold their annual organizational meeting on Monday, January 5, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.
- The Board of Auditors will have their annual organizational meeting on Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Tucker made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Conti seconded the motion. The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan C. Matthews,
Township Secretary