

Ligonier Township Supervisors  
Regular Meeting  
May 26, 2015

The Ligonier Township Supervisors met in regular session at 4:31 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance opening the meeting. Secretary Bruce Robinson took roll call. Present were D. Scott Matson, Paul Knupp, Bruce Robinson, and Chairman Wade Thomas.

**Public Comment**

1. **Susan Huba** – Recycling Program and the importance of continuing this program for the area residents. Spoke with Terry last year regarding the program and its dwindling funds for the program. The Loyalhanna Watershed Association has been overseeing the program in cooperation with the Ligonier Township, Ligonier Borough, and Cook Township since the late 1980's. As of this month there is no money in the donation account held by LWA and there is approximately \$7,000.00 in the account held by the Ligonier Township for this program from grants. It takes about \$1,700.00 per month and there are enough funds to keep it going to through August 2015 and once again the program will need to be shut down. She is asking today to consider making the Ligonier Valley Recycling Program and municipal service to the Ligonier Township residents as well as those to other nearby municipalities that currently utilize the program including those in the Ligonier Borough, Cook Township, and Laurel Mountain Borough. As other programs and services are currently being looked at as shared ventures between these cooperating municipalities we feel that we should be also. Their organization will assist in any way they can to provide equipment or services to accomplish this and Susan provide some options on how it possibly can be accomplished.

There are two applicants for the open Township Supervisor term ending January 8, 2018 and they are Gary Thistlewaite and John Beaufort. Each briefly addressed the board on how they feel they can help the Township of Ligonier.

**Gary Thistlewaite** - stated he feels he can provide some diversity to the board and he has a diverse background.

**John Beaufort** – stated he has lived here all his life and has been in the Township workings for the last 30 years.

- A motion was made by Scott Matson and seconded by Bruce Robinson to appoint Gary Thistlewaite as Ligonier Township Supervisor, term ending January 8, 2018. Motion carried.

Michael Korns stated that Gary Thistlewaite will need sworn to the Oath of Office and we do not have a Magistrate here today, so at the first opportunity that will need to be done as well as all the appropriate paper will need to be completed.

## **Executive Session**

The Supervisors went into executive session at 4:40 PM and returned at 5:05 PM. Solicitor Michael Korns stated that he was in attendance and items discussed were in compliance with the Pennsylvania Sunshine Law.

- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Scott Matson to approve the minutes of the May 12 2015 meeting. Motion carried with Chairman, Wade Thomas Abstain as he was out of town.

## **Staff Reports**

**Solicitor's Report**-Michael Korns noted that the Trib stated that there was a meeting of Supervisors at Eat N' Park regarding Mr. Komar and Michael Korns stated that no meeting took place that he was part of.

**Treasurer's Report**-Terry Carcella stated that the General Fund account balance is \$445,331.97, the Act13 account balance is \$135,332.28, the K-9 account balance is \$26,607.49, the Liquid Fuels account balance is \$2,084.89, the Developer's account balance is \$12,200.00, and the Liquid Fuels Investment Account is 389,785.25 for a total of \$1,011,341.80. No action required.

- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Scott Matson to pay bills of May 22, 2015 bill pay list as presented. Motion carried.

## **Old Business**

Michael stated that Ordinance 2015-OR-02 UCC Code Ordinance has been previously advertised.

- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Scott Matson to approve Ordinance 2015-OR-02 (UCC OPT-IN Code Ordinance. Motion carried.

## **New Business**

No committee reports.

Terry Carcella stated that there have been some discussions concerning of our tragedy with Lt. Esalary to have a memorial committee setup and we have three other names along with Paul Knupp, Chief Matronics (Roy Hutchinson-Commander of local American Legion Post 267, Bobby Rummell-President of the local FOP Lodge 23, and Steve Smithley-friend of Lt. Esalary) be appointed to this memorial committee

- A motion was made by Scott Matson and seconded by Bruce Robinson to appoint a Township Memorial Committee. Motion carried.

Chairman, Wade Thomas directed Terry Carcella to handle the request from Richard Little to use township roads to move his Sherman Tank and for the recycling bills to be sent to and paid by the Township and for the recycling program options to continue the program.

For personnel there are two items:

1. The creation of the New Administrative Assistant part-time position along with the job description. Would like to realign the staff with the recommendation to eliminate the Receptionist position and add the Administrative Assistant position that will administer to the Police Department and the Public Works. In doing so the other personnel decision is to hire a Zoning Officer that is a full-time position with a job description that creates Zoning Officer, Code Enforcement, and Community Development. We have interviewed and number of candidates and we have three particular names that I have addressed and given to the board for that position. The one name that was recommended if the supervisor so desire is Joseph Bleehash and the recommendation is to recommend Mr. Joseph Bleehash of Poland, OH for the Zoning Officer, Code Enforcement, and Community Development for Ligonier Township. If you make that motion in order to fund the position we have to add the Administrative Assistant position part-time and eliminate the Reception position which employees will be relocated to that position, moving Barbara Hollick to that position.
- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Scott Matson to approve hiring Joseph Bleehash to fill the Zoning Officer, Code Enforcement, & Community Development position at the funding rate discussed. Motion carried.
  - A motion was made by Scott Matson and seconded by Wade Thomas to approve to create the Administrative Assistant part-time position. Motion carried.
  - A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Scott Matson to approve to eliminate the Receptionist position. Motion carried.

Resolution 2015-R-07 K-9 Fundraising was requested by the Eslary family, Mary Beth in particular that this resolution be adopted to show that this fundraiser at the Ligonier Country Club is directly related to the funds for the Ligonier Township K-9 Program with Blek. This fundraiser is for June 9<sup>th</sup> 2015 and is a golf outing and that was the recommendation and the request of the family that it be noted that this K-9 Fundraiser is strictly for Blek and is not for anything else at this time.

- A motion was by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Scott Matson to approve Resolution 2015-R-07 for K-9 Fundraising. Motion carried.

One last thing under personnel Terry missed that currently talking about paying out the remaining days for Lt. Eslary and a suggestion was made to pay out the remaining days at full rate that would include the Personnel Days, Vacation Days, and Sick Days to the Eslary family. It will incur a large hit to the budget, but it is believable we can make that work and move money around to make that happen. The amount of money in the budget for the sick day alone \$14,3xx.xx (odd) dollars, so the recommendation is made we pay that out at the full rate for Lt. Eslary.

- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Scott Matson to approve paying the late Lt. Eric Eslary's sick days at the full rate. Motion Carried.

### **Supervisors Comments**

**Supervisor Scott Matson** – No comment.

**Supervisor Paul Knupp** – No comment.

**Supervisor Bruce Robinson** – No comment.

**Supervisor Wade Thomas** – No comment.

A motion was made by Scott Matson and seconded by Paul Knupp to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne Shadron  
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer