

Ligonier Township Supervisors  
Reorganization Meeting  
January 4, 2016

Solicitor Michael Korn called the Reorganization Meeting of the Ligonier Township Supervisors to order at 4:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Chairman Wade Thomas, Vice Chairman Paul Knupp, Gary Thistlethwaite and Bruce Robinson – D. Scott Matson not present.

- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Paul Knupp to appoint Wade Thomas Chairman for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Gary Thistlethwaite and seconded by Bruce Robinson appointing Paul Knupp Vice Chairman for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Gary Thistlethwaite to appoint Bruce Robinson Secretary/Treasurer for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Gary Thistlethwaite and seconded by Paul Knupp to appoint Terry Carcella Township Manager for 2016. Motion carried.

### **Public Comment**

**Carol Darr** – During the past 12 months, we have had the opportunity to observe the new system of management for Ligonier Township. We have seen firsthand the effects of having 5 supervisors as opposed to 3. We have witnessed the potentially illegal adoption of a zoning ordinance. We have seen the township manager receive an unjustified wage increase. We have seen the advertisement for the appointment of a township works director. All this equates to an unnecessary, costly bureaucratic expansion. We have seen the proposed sale of the Ligonier Township Municipal Authority, which is solvent and locally managed for the benefit of residents. This can only lead to increased costs for township taxpayers. We are outraged by the level of arrogance and ineptitude demonstrated by the current management of Ligonier Township.

- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Paul Knupp to promote Officer Brett Markle to full time position. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Gary Thistlethwaite and seconded by Paul Knupp to approve Resolution #01-2016 for a Planning Commission alternate with the change of shall attend the meetings. Motion carried.

### **Correspondence**

1. **Avolio Law Firm Letter**
2. **Markosky Engineering Letter**

- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Bruce Robinson to appoint Roxanne Shadron as Assistant Secretary/Treasurer for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded Gary Thistlethwaite to appoint Avolio Law Group and Solicitor, Michael Korns for 2016 at the hourly rate of 120/hr. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Paul Knupp to appoint Michael Matrunic as Ligonier Township Police Chief for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Gary Thistlethwaite to appoint Roger Wilson as Ligonier Township Police First Lieutenant for 2016 at the current contract rate. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Paul Knupp to appoint Amber Noel as part-time Animal Control and Code Enforcement Officer for 2016 at the current contract pay rate. Motion carried with Gary Thistlethwaite voting No.
- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Paul Knupp to appoint Berkheimer to collect 511 Taxes and Wage and Local Services Taxes if they are able to. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Gary Thistlethwaite and seconded by Bruce Robinson to appoint First Commonwealth the depository for the General Fund and Developer's Account for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Gary Thistlethwaite to appoint Robert Ramsey as Auditor for a five year term expiring December 31, 2020. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Gary Thistlethwaite to appoint Commercial National Bank depository for Liquid Fuels Funds and K-9 Account for 2016. Motion carried with Bruce Robinson Abstaining
- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Paul Knupp to appoint The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is appointed depository for the State Liquid Fuels Fund for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Gary Thistlethwaite to appoint PNC Financial depository for the Police Pension Fund for 2016. Motion carried.

- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Bruce Robinson designating the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm and the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 4:30 pm to be regular meeting nights for the Ligonier Township Supervisors for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Gary Thistlethwaite to appoint Richard Bell as Zoning Officer and Zoning Administrator for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Bruce Robinson to appoint Michael D'Arrigo as Sewage Enforcement Officer and the appointment of Mesko Engineering as Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Paul Knupp to appoint Roxanne Shadron assistant zoning officer for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Gary Thistlethwaite to appoint William Stablein to a five year term on the Ligonier Township Municipal Authority beginning 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Bruce Robinson appointing Markosky and Associates Township Engineers for 2016 at a contracted hourly rate of 140/Hr.. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Gary Thistlethwaite to compensate the Planning Commission members at a rate of \$30.00 per meeting to be paid quarterly for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made Bruce Robinson and seconded by Paul Knupp to appoint Eric Schreiber to a five year term on the Planning Commission. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Bruce Robinson to compensate the Zoning Hearing Board members at a rate of \$30.00 per meeting to be paid quarterly for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Gary Thistlethwaite to appoint Linda McDowell to a three year term on the Zoning Hearing Board. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Gary Thistlethwaite and seconded by Paul Knupp to appoint Terry Carcella as Chief Administrative Officer of the Non-Uniformed Pension Plan for 2016. Motion carried.

- A motion was made by Gary Thistlethwaite and seconded by Paul Knupp to appoint Bruce Robinson as Chief Administrative Officer of the Non-Uniformed Pension Plan for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Gary Thistlethwaite that supervisor's stipends be paid quarterly for 2016. Motion carried
- A motion was made by Gary Thistlethwaite and seconded by Bruce Robinson limiting the amount to the rate stipulated by the Second Class Township Code. Motion carried. Bruce Robinson and Wade Thomas stated that they will not be accepting any supervisor pay for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Gary Thistlethwaite and seconded by Paul Knupp to appoint John Rhoades as Chairman of the Agricultural Security Program in addition to Lewis Thomas and Alan Smith to serve on the Agricultural Security Program for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Paul Knupp to appoint Larry Shirey as Chairman of the Vacancy Board for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Paul Knupp to appoint Wessel & Company as CPA for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Gary Thistlethwaite establishing the fees for the township services for 2016. **SEE ATTACHED COPY Fee Resolution #02-2016.** Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Bruce Robinson to appoint Roxanne Shadron Open Records Officer for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made Bruce Robinson and seconded by Wade Thomas to collect a Street Light Tax for 2016 at a Flat Rate fee of \$36.32. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Gary Thistlethwaite seconded by Bruce Robinson to collect a Fire Hydrant Tax on all parcels 780 ft. from a hydrant at a rate of \$.05/ft. for 2016. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Bruce Robinson and seconded by Paul Knupp to appoint Terry Carcella as representative to the Act 32 Westmoreland County Wage Tax Committee. Motion carried.

- A motion was made by Paul Knupp and seconded by Gary Thistlethwaite to appoint Paul Fry as the alternate representative to the Act 32 Westmoreland County Wage Tax Committee. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Gary Thistlethwaite and seconded by Paul Knupp to appoint Barbara Nalle as the Alternate Planning Commission member for a four year term ending in January of 2020. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by Gary Thistlethwaite and seconded by Bruce Robinson to solicit for Co-Emergency Management Coordinator for 2016, pending PEMA Training. Motion carried.

The supervisors went into executive session at 4:25 pm and returned at 4:33 pm. Solicitor Michael Korn verified that he attended the executive session and the topics discussed were in compliance with the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act.

### **Supervisor's Comments**

**Gary Thistlethwaite** – No Comment

**Wade Thomas** – No Comment

**Paul Knupp** – Pleased with the people in their positions and how the township is being run.

**Bruce Robinson** – Responded to the Public Comment stating that the township running smoothly and efficiently as it has never been before and that he does not understand the comment on the financial status of the township as the township ended 2015 with a 500,00.00 in funds and there was not a tax increase to the tax payers.

- A motion was made by Gary Thistlethwaite and seconded by Bruce Robinson to adjourn the meeting at 4:35 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne Shadron  
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer