

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING – JANUARY 4, 2010

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Glass called the Washington Township Council Meeting to order on January 4, 2010 at 7:18 P.M. at the Washington Township Administration Building at 11800 Edinboro Road, Edinboro, PA 16412. Those present were Vice-Mayor Foulkrod, Councilmen Stefano and Patterson, and Councilwoman Campbell. Also present were Manager Anthony, Community Development Specialist Deborah Anthony and Zoning Officer Carcella. Visitors were Christy Reed and Jon Foulkrod.

AGENDA **It was voted** on motion by Campbell, seconded by Stefano, to amend the Agenda with the move-
APPROVAL up of 11B, Erie County Tax Collection Committee, following #4, bills. **Motion carried unanimously.**

COUNCIL MINUTES **It was voted** on motion by Stefano, seconded by Campbell, to approve the Minutes of the semi-monthly Council Meeting of December 15, 2009. **Motion carried unanimously.**

TREASURER'S REPORT The following checks presented for approval: General Fund #12654-12701 Water Fund #4686-4697 and manual check #4659, Sewer Fund #5755-5777 and manual check 35685, CDBG check #587, and payroll checks #10000151, 10000150-10000151, #995508-995518. **It was voted** on motion by Stefano, seconded by Campbell, to approve all the checks as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

SECRETARY'S REPORT Manager Anthony presented following report:

For a number of years our emergency call-outs have been routed through the West County Communication Center. Our three departments have relied upon this service to contact us with emergency situations relating to roads, water, or sewer problems. They maintain a list of appropriate names in a particular order that correspond to the various departments. As we progressed through the process of the change-over to the new County 911 Center, it had been my understanding from the beginning that this service would be provided in a similar manner. It has now come to my attention at the eleventh hour that this is not the case. I was told that we would have to contract on our own with a messenger service if we wanted to continue in a similar manner. Some other municipalities are doing this.

I was disappointed in this situation as we have regularly contributed to the Fire Department and this has been part of the service that we received. We make no direct contribution to West County; the Fire Department did so, and our funding towards them was to help with the communication costs. I contacted David Henderson who is affiliated with West County Communications and asked when their services would cease to exist. He commented that currently they are still operating and that he would see that Washington Township's needs would still be met. This will be the case until they either close or require a fee for the service.

We did see some double-time for snowplow crews on Christmas Day. Overtime so far has been minimal, as the winter weather has now finally arrived. We have a several complaints on the plowing and have hopefully addressed those in a timely manner. I remind Council that our drivers do fall under the Commercial Driver License rules and regulations and cannot work over a certain amount of hours without a rest. With a five-man crew and shifts, this can be a problem. We now are responsible for over 100 miles of road and handle that in about 5 hours per completed trip. Malfunctions and breakdowns, which are normal, increase that time.

Council discussed at length the Township's lack of emergency response coverage with the decision to transfer all emergency call-outs to the Erie County 911 Center; the Center recently stated they will not handle 'non-emergency' calls for municipalities. Manager Anthony asked West County Emergency if they will continue to service the Township for an undetermined timeframe until their office closure for non-emergency calls. Council directed Manager Anthony to contact West County to find out what costs will be incurred with West County for this service, and to get quotes for an answering service to provide this service to the residents. The costs of said call service will then be deducted from the Edinboro Volunteer Fire Department's annual donation that previously supplied the call-out service for the Township.

CORRESPONDENCE Manager Anthony presented the following correspondence: a letter from Erie County Health on rodent control, 4 letters concerning the salvage yard on Fry Road, and a letter from Jim Conway concerning snowplowing.

Manager Anthony informed Council Mr. Conway is not a Township resident, but he had responded to Mr. Conway's email and stated the Township's policy on the use of road salt.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING – JANUARY 4, 2010

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT Zoning Officer Carcella presented the Showman re-plot #6-09 and the 2009 Year-end Zoning Report. **It was voted** on motion by Patterson, second by Stefano, to approve the Showman re-plot as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

SOLICITOR'S REPORT Solicitor Burroughs had no report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PLANNING COMMISSION Mayor Glass presented the Minutes of the December 22, 2009 Meeting and Pearl Bartelt's resignation. **It was voted** on motion by Glass, second by Campbell, to accept the resignation of Pearl Bartelt from the Planning Commission, the term expiring April 1, 2013. **Motion carried unanimously. It was voted** on motion by Glass, second by Campbell, to appoint Richard Sega to the Planning Commission, serving the remainder of Ms. Bartelt's term expiring April 1, 2013. **Motion carried unanimously.**
Zoning Officer Carcella also presented draft Ordinance #1-10, wind and solar energy sources and the Yearly Planning Commission Report for Council's Review. **It was voted** on motion by Patterson, second by Stefano, to table said proposed ordinance until the need arises for such an ordinance. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ZONING HEARING BOARD No Meeting.

ERIE COUNTY ASSOCIATION No Meeting.

EDINBORO VFD No report.

WATER AUTHORITY Manager Anthony presented the Minutes of the December 17, 2009 Meeting. Manager Anthony requested the Minutes reflect the Water Authority unanimous vote not to merge with the Sewer Authority at this time.

ERIE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION No meeting.

EDINBORO LIAISON No Meeting.

WATERSHED ASSOC. No report.

OLD BUSINESS

YEAR-END INVESTMENTS **It was voted** on motion by Stefano, second by Campbell, to approve the year-end investments as presented by Manager Anthony, to re-invest \$45,800.00 in the Equipment Fund and \$7,900.00 in the Unappropriated Fund for a total investment of \$53,700.00. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ERIE CO. TAX COLLECTION BY-LAWS Manager Anthony presented Council member with a copy of the Erie County Tax Collection By-Laws for their review. Jon Foulkrod, the Council's representative on said Committee, addressed Council with excerpts of the proposed By-Laws and future costs of compliance.

NEW BUSINESS None.

VISITORS None.

ADJOURNMENT **It was voted** on motion by Campbell, seconded by Stefano, to adjourn the Meeting at 8:52 P.M. **Motion carried unanimously.**