

## WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL MEETING – DECEMBER 1, 2009

**CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Glass called the Washington Township Council Meeting to order on December 1, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. at the Washington Township Administration Building at 11800 Edinboro Road, Edinboro, PA 16412. Those present were Vice-Mayor Foulkrod, Councilmen Patterson and Stefano and Councilwoman Campbell. Also present were Manager Anthony, Community Development Specialist Deborah Anthony, Zoning Officer Carcella and Solicitor Paul Burroughs. Visitors were Michael Feikles, Nancy Weil, Dennis Gilbert, Ryan Cook, Shirley Berchtold, Charles Berchtold, Kelly Cook, Bill Lowry, and Amber Wellington.

**AGENDA** It was voted on motion by Stefano, seconded by Campbell, to approve the Agenda as presented.  
**APPROVAL** Motion carried unanimously.

**COUNCIL MINUTES** It was voted on motion by Stefano, seconded by Campbell, to approve the Minutes of the monthly Council Meeting of November 17, 2009. Motion carried unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** The following checks presented for approval: General Fund #12603-12649 and manual check #12553, Water Fund checks #4674-4683 and manual check #4658, Sewer Fund #5732-5751 and manual check #5684, CDBG checks #580-582 and payroll checks #10000034, 10000148, #995494-995503. 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:

An unexpected expenditure arose due to the malfunctioning of the emergency generator for the Administrative/Garage buildings. The generator is set to exercise once a week for approximately 25 to 30 minutes. As of late, it was not shutting down and would run for several hours if left unchecked. Several calls to local electricians revealed that the only one qualified to repair it was the initial installer. Penn Power was then contacted and repaired it last week. It seems a computer board had become dysfunctional and had to be replaced. The minimum call-out for this company and the associated costs with the repairs amounted to a bill in excess of \$1,700.00. Although this has been the first major repair to the piece of equipment, it was a rather large expense that we did not anticipate.

All is prepared for the winter season. One small truck will be located at the Township's main lift station. This truck will be used by the Sewer/Water Department to keep their lift stations and respective plants cleared of snow, thus allowing the regular snowplow crew more time to concentrate on main roads. Be aware that we once again responsible for snow removal in Franklin Township as outlined in the previously approved agreement with them. This agreement runs from November 23, 2009 to April 15, 2010. The payment for those services will total \$15,000.

The Sewer/Water Departments are looking at electrical cost saving measures in anticipation of the rate increase at the end of 2010. A smaller, more efficient blower has been ordered for the lift station and will significantly reduce our electric cost. As the system grows, the larger ones will be available to take over when the time comes. We are still making plans to convert a portion of the old press building into office space for the department. Hopefully this can be accomplished next year with additional help from the road department as needed. The old area is still susceptible to flooding in torrential rainfalls and risk damage to records and equipment. This area can then be utilized by the Parks Department or others as needed in the future.

Manager Anthony verbally added that the Township started receiving flows from the PennDot Rest Stop today.

**CORRESPONDENCE** Manager Anthony presented the following correspondence: a letter from Dick Ropp concerning the removal of the Salvation Army box from the Washington Township recycling location, letters from Rep. John Evans and Sen. Jane Earll concerning H.B. 1500, and a letter from Chuck and Shirley Berchtold concerning the location of proposed junkyard on Fry Road. Councilperson Campbell commented on the Ropp letter and stated that Council's decision was "not without thought" to remove the Salvation Army donation box from the Township's recycling center. Neighbors speaking against the said proposed junkyard were Charles Berchtold, Dennis Gilbert, Nancy Weil, and Ryan Cook.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** It was voted on motion by Campbell, second by Stefano, to enter into Executive Session. Voting in favor were Foulkrod, Glass, Campbell, and Stefano. Voting opposed was Patterson. Motion  
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carried. Council convened in Executive Session at 7:39 P.M. and re-convened at 7:53 P.M. to discuss

current enforcement action involving a claimed violation of Township ordinances and the procedures being employed to address the claimed violation.

**ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT** Zoning Officer Carcella had no subdivisions to report but presented the monthly Building Report.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT** Solicitor Burroughs updated Council on the Erie Insurance liability coverage for the Kranick litigation concerning the construction at the Edinboro sewer plant. The Solicitor also advised Council on the process of merger or consolidation of the Water and Sewer Authorities.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PLANNING COMMISSION** Mayor Glass presented the Minutes of the November 24, 2009 Meeting. Glass stated the Planning Commission recommends that Council approve the amended Joint Comprehensive Plan as submitted.

**ZONING HEARING BOARD** No Meeting.

**ERIE COUNTY ASSOCIATION** Councilman Stefano presented the Minutes of the November 19, 2009 Meeting.

**EDINBORO VFD** No meeting.

**WATER AUTHORITY** Minutes were unavailable.

**ERIE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION** No report.

**EDINBORO LIAISON** No meeting.

**WATERSHED ASSOC.** Vice-mayor Foulkrod advised Council that a draft ordinance addressing riparian buffers will be sent for review.

**VETS PARK** Councilman Patterson presented the Minutes of the October 20, 2009 Meeting and a request to Remove Mr. John Allen from the Veterans Park membership due to lack of meeting attendance. **It was voted** on motion by Campbell, second by Stefano, to remove Mr. Allen from the membership as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**ERIE CO. TAX** Vice-Mayor Foulkrod reported on the November 18, 2009 Meeting and the proposed by-laws of **COLL. COMM.** said Committee.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

**CDBG** Manager Anthony updated Council on the future of services the Township will receive from Graney and **UPDATE** Associates as of January 1, 2010. He also recommended that the Township do not submit an annual application for future funding for a 3-year term, but continue the program funds open through this 3-year period. **It was voted** on motion by Stefano, second by Campbell, to submit a letter to the DCED office informing them that the Township will not submit an application for the next 3 years. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**PROPOSED 2010** Manager Anthony presented a draft copy of the 2010 budget for Council's review. **It was** **BUDGET** **voted** on motion by Glass, second by Campbell, to present the budget for public comment. **Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **NEW BUSINES**

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**EMPLOYEE XMAS** **It was voted** on motion by Campbell, seconded by Stefano, to approve \$100 Wal-Mart gift **GIFT CARDS** cards for each of the employees. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**WERTH** Manager Anthony advised Council that no public hearing date could be set for the Werth Conditional Use

**COND. USE** application for consideration of a junkyard on Fry Road because the Zoning Office needed to determine if the application is complete. No action was taken.

**VISITORS** None.

**ADJOURNMENT** It was voted on motion by Campbell, seconded by Stefano, to adjourn the Meeting at 8:48 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.

