

**TOWNSHIP OF FALLS
ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

ROLL CALL:

ROBERT HARVIE, JR., CHAIRMAN	PRESENT
JAMES PROKOPIAK, VICE-CHAIRMAN	PRESENT
JONATHAN SNIPES, SECRETARY-TREASURER	PRESENT
PHILIP SZUPKA, SUPERVISOR	ABSENT
DOROTHY VISLOSKY, SUPERVISOR	PRESENT

**ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN PRESIDING**

The meeting commenced at 7:12 p.m. with roll call and salute to the flag. All Board members were present with the exception of Member Szupka. Also present were Township Manager Peter Gray, Township Solicitor Barbara Kirk, and Township Engineer James Sullivan.

ITEM # 1 CHAIRMAN APPOINTMENT

Member Prokopiak moved to appoint Member Harvie to be Permanent Chairman as well as Temporary Chairman; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who voted no. (3-1)

ITEM # 2 VICE-CHAIRMAN APPOINTMENT

Chairman Harvie moved to appoint Member Prokopiak to be Vice Chairman; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who voted no. (3-1)

ITEM # 3 SECRETARY – TREASURER APPOINTMENT

Member Prokopiak moved to appoint Member Snipes to be Secretary-Treasurer; Chairman Harvie seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who voted no. (3-1)

ITEM # 4 ASSISTANT SECRETARY – TREASURER APPOINTMENT

Member Prokopiak moved to appoint Manager Gray as Assistant Secretary-Treasurer; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who voted no. (3-1)

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ITEM # 5 ESTABLISH MEETING DATES AND TIME FOR REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Member Prokopiak moved to have the Board of Supervisor meetings on the first and third Tuesday of each month and to hold the meetings at 7:30 p.m.; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 6 APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR/SPECIAL COUNSEL – SET COMPENSATION FEES

Member Prokopiak moved to appoint the firm of Rudolph, Pizzo, and Clarke as general counsel at a rate of \$145/hr.; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who voted no. (3-1) Member Prokopiak moved to appoint Flager and Yockey as land development counsel at a rate of \$145/hr. for the township and \$315/hr. for developers; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who voted no. (3-1) Member Prokopiak moved to appoint the law firm of Ballard, Spahr, Andrews & Ingersoll to deal with police negotiations at the rate of \$250-\$280/hr. for Associates and \$350/hr. for partners; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who abstained from the vote. (3-0-1) Member Vislosky moved to appoint Mr. Jordan Yeager from Curtin & Heefner as special counsel. Member Prokopiak moved to amend Member Vislosky's motion to include the rate of \$140/hr. for general representation and \$170/hr. for arbitration and litigation; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 7 APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP ENGINEER AND TRAFFIC ENGINEER – SET COMPENSATION FEES

Member Prokopiak moved to re-appoint CMX as the township engineer at the rate of \$92/hr. for the principal and incorporating their fee schedule for the year 2009; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who abstained. (3-0-1) Member Prokopiak moved to appoint Traffic Planning and Design as the township traffic engineer at a rate of \$92/hr. for principal and incorporating their fee schedule for the year 2009; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who voted no. (3-1)

Chairman Harvie raised the matter of Biles Island and said Waste Management is looking for input from the township on how the township would like this area to be left when Waste Management is finished with operations. Chairman Harvie suggested that the township look for a special projects engineer to represent the township in discussions with Waste Management. Member Vislosky said she wishes to be involved in any Waste Management negotiations. Chairman Harvie asked if any board members have knowledge of any engineering firms that have expertise in this area to please inform the township. This request will also be advertised in the newspaper.

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ITEM # 8 APPOINTMENT OF VACANCY BOARD CHAIRMAN

Member Vislosky moved to table this item until a full board is present. There was no second to the motion. Member Prokopiak moved to appoint Arlene Goulding as the Vacancy Board Chairman; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who voted no. (3-1)

ITEM # 9 APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS, COUNCILS AND COMMISSIONS

Member Prokopiak moved to re-appoint Mr. Bill Renson to the Cable Advisory Board for a term to expire December 31, 2012; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Prokopiak moved to appoint Mr. Cully Philips to the Cable Advisory Board for a term to expire December 31, 2012; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Prokopiak moved to re-appoint Mr. John Bentz to the Environmental Advisory Council for a 3-yr. term; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who voted no. (3-1) Member Prokopiak moved to re-appoint Mr. Timothy Clinton to the Historical Review Board for a 5-yr. term; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) There are two openings on the Open Space Committee. Member Prokopiak moved to re-appoint Brian Binney for a 4-yr. term to the Planning Commission; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who abstained from the vote. (3-0-1) Chairman Harvie moved to re-appoint Member Szupka as the board representative to the Police Pension Committee; Member Prokopiak seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Prokopiak moved to re-appoint Thomas Roche to the Police Pension Committee; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Prokopiak moved to appoint Henry Conroy to the Police Pension Committee; Chairman Harvie seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Prokopiak moved to approve Resolution # 09-01 to re-appoint John Palmer to a 5-yr. term on the Water and Sewer Authority; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who abstained from the vote. (3-0-1) Member Prokopiak moved to approve Resolution # 09-02 appointing Colin Henderson to the Zoning Hearing Board for a 5-yr. term; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Vislosky who abstained from the vote. (3-0-1)

ITEM # 10 PUBLIC COMMENT – FIVE MINUTES PER PERSON – FORTY-FIVE MINUTES MAXIMUM

Mr. Bill Renson said the Cable Advisory Board will have a meeting on Monday, January 12, 2009 with representatives from both Comcast and Verizon. Mr. Renson thanked the board for his re-appointment to the Cable Advisory Board and also for re-appointing Mr. Palmer to the Water and Sewer Authority. Mr. Renson said Mr. Palmer does a good job.

Mr. Roland Kenney thanked the 10 to 20 WWII veterans for attending the recent Holly Night at Pennsbury Manor. Mr. Kenney said with the large expenditure items, there are a number of people in the community who would like to see these items on the ballot. Mr.

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Kenney said to remember our police and fire departments and he hopes the police officers and firefighters make it home safe every night. Mr. Kenney asks for everyone to say a prayer for them as well as their families.

Mr. Gallus Obert said he is glad there will be public comment at the Cable Advisory Board meeting. Mr. Obert would like to have these meetings broadcast live. Mr. Obert said sometimes when he sees a vote being taken, he does not see lips moving. He feels the board should have a roll call vote for every motion. Mr. Obert said he takes objection to Member Vislosky's 'drunken sailor' comment and said it should not be used during this meeting. In regard to the boat ramp, Mr. Obert said he feels a better location would be at Biles Island instead of Quaker Penn Park. Member Vislosky spoke about Mr. Obert's suggestion. Chairman Harvie said they are not yet sure what they will be able to do at Biles Island and it will not come to us for another couple of years. He said the township does not know anything about the costs they may incur. He said this area is not designed for traffic and they do not know if it is suitable for a boat ramp. The engineering firm will give the township an idea of what they can or cannot do. Member Vislosky said she knows Falls Township and wants to be involved in Biles Island. Member Prokopiak asked Mr. Sullivan if they have looked at Biles Island as a possible boat ramp. Mr. Sullivan said he has been told that some of it is probably too shallow for boats. Chairman Harvie asked Member Snipes when his family first came to Falls Township. Member Snipes said it has been hundreds of years.

Mr. John Petras, Manager of Falls Township Senior Center, said they have formed three committees in regard to the senior center expansion. They hope to offer as many activities as possible. Mr. Petras said they have a mission statement, a vision statement and a marketing plan. Mr. Petras said they have estimates that there are 30,000 seniors living in a 10-miles radius. He hopes to have a membership drive to attract new members. Mr. Petras gave information on some of their community programs. He spoke of how their facilities are open to all residents of the community; not just seniors. Mr. Petras said they have obtained a \$41K grant for equipment-related improvements. Mr. Petras thanked the Board of Supervisors for all of their support.

Member Vislosky left the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

ITEM # 11 APPOINTMENT OF DEPOSITORIES BY RESOLUTION

Member Prokopiak suggested removing Wachovia and Sovereign Bank from the depository list. Member Prokopiak moved to approve Resolution # 09-03 for the appointment of depositories; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 12 RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF AUDITORS TO SET THE TREASURER'S BOND AT \$2,000,000.00

Member Prokopiak moved to set the treasurer's bond at \$2M; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

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ITEM # 13 NOMINATE DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE TO THE STATE ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Member Prokopiak moved to nominate Member Snipes as Delegate for the PSATS Conference; Chairman Harvie seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)
Member Prokopiak moved to appoint Peter Gray as Alternate for the PSATS Conference; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 14 CONSIDER TOWNSHIP MANAGER'S AGREEMENT

Member Prokopiak moved to approve the Township Manager's agreement between Peter Gray, Manager and Falls Township; Chairman Harvie seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 15 MINUTES – DECEMBER 16, 2008

Member Prokopiak moved to approve the minutes from December 16, 2008; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (3-0)

ITEM # 16 EXECUTIVE SESSION – There was no Executive Session held.

ITEM # 17 MANAGER COMMENT

Manager Gray said it is anticipated the township channel will be up and running on Tuesday, January 6, 2009.

ITEM # 18 BOARD COMMENT

Member Snipes asked about the energy efficiency study. Manager Gray said he received an e-mail from David Smith of Princeton Energy. They are in the process of completing the report and the township should have it shortly. Member Snipes said he is interested in seeing a long-term financial picture for the township. Member Snipes wished everyone a Happy New Year. He said he looks forward to 2009 and also looks forward to the cooperation and contributions from the folks in the township.

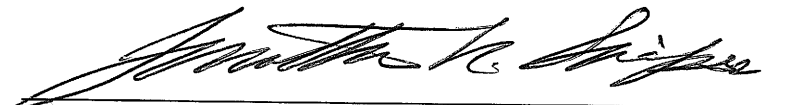
Member Prokopiak said we received a response from the PA Public Utilities Commission regarding concerns over the expiring energy caps. Part of the letter said that, "Relatively speaking, the increase in PECO's territory should be mild compared to the projected increases in other electric utility territories." Member Prokopiak said to him a 20% increase is not mild. Member Prokopiak spoke about energy and said it is too important to our economy to let it run amuck. He thinks that something needs to be done about these potential increases. He does not think people can afford a 20% increase. Member Prokopiak said they are looking for ways to reduce energy use in the township but they are very limited as to what they can do. Member Prokopiak asked if Waste Management had a Christmas tree recycling program. Member Prokopiak also mentioned a CFL recycling program and said Waste Management is just about ready to present some information to the township. Member Prokopiak said re-organization meetings are important and even though not all members may be present, they still need to move forward with the business of the township. Member Prokopiak said they needed to make appointments because the advisory

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boards and commissions needed to have a quorum for their January meetings. Member Prokopiak wished everyone a good night and said “Go Eagles!”

Chairman Harvie said Waste Management will hold an open house meeting on Thursday, January 8th from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. This is an informational meeting in regard to the former Coke Works which will now be known as the Fairless Landfill. Waste Management has to spend \$7M cleaning up this property before they can use it as a landfill. Chairman Harvie said the holidays are coming to an end. He thanked the Reese Family, the Public Works Department and the public for their help at the Three Arches. He also thanked Member Prokopiak, Manager Gray and the Public Works Department for the lights outside of the township building. Chairman Harvie spoke about the tree lighting in Fallsington. He thanked Erica Armour and the folks who donated and decorated the trees. Chairman Harvie also thanked the Quaker Meeting House and the Fallsington United Methodist Church for hosting the public and providing refreshments. In regard to the township channel not being broadcast on Verizon, Chairman Harvie said it is scheduled to be broadcast on Verizon sometime in June, but they hope it will be sooner than that. Chairman Harvie announced the winning houses in the House Decorating Contest. The addresses are: 11 Yardley Avenue, 412 Austin Drive, 108 Martha Drive, 257 Elderberry Drive, and 77 New Pond Lane. Chairman Harvie asked about changing the second meeting in January. Member Prokopiak moved to have the second meeting on January 21, 2009 (there was no second to the motion). Chairman Harvie said there is a D.A.R.E. graduation scheduled for that night. Manager Gray will be in contact with all board members and professionals to confirm the date.

Member Prokopiak moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all Board members were in favor. (3-0) The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.



Jonathan Snipes, Secretary