

**TOWNSHIP OF FALLS  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

The meeting commenced at 7:33 p.m. with roll call and salute to the flag. All Board members were present with the exception of Member Vislosky who was absent. Also present were Township Manager Peter Gray, Township Solicitor Ed Rudolph, and Township Engineer James Sullivan.

**ITEM # 1 GALVANIZING GATE – NORTH END – WAIVER OF LAND  
DEVELOPMENT – BERDIS BOULEVARD – TPN 13-51-1**

Member Prokopiak moved to grant the letter of extension request until August 31, 2009 for the waiver of land development for the Galvanizing Gate, North End; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 2 CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS – 16 YARDLEY AVENUE –  
NEW SIDING, REPLACEMENT WINDOWS AND FENCING**

Mr. Jeff Lazar was present for the property owners. He spoke about the proposed renovations. Member Prokopiak moved to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 16 Yardley Avenue; Member Szupka seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 3 CONSIDER AWARDED INSURANCE CONTRACTS  
(PROPERTY/GENERAL LIABILITY/PUBLIC OFFICIALS/POLICE)**

Manager Gray said the township received five quotations for insurance for the period of June 18, 2009 to June 18, 2010. The quotations range from \$277,613 to \$445,726. The \$277,613 quote from Travelers is a decrease from this past year yet also includes coverage for the skate park and dog park. Member Prokopiak moved to open public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Mr. Andy Dell asked if Travelers paid out any claims and if so, how much. Manager Gray said there were claims that were paid, but the figure was not readily available. Mr. Dell asked how much the general liability coverage would be. Manager Gray said the umbrella policy is \$3M. Mr. Dell asked if the total amount was paid out, would the coverage be depleted for the year. Manager Gray said the coverage is for a per-occurrence basis. Mr. Dell asked if

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there were someone advising the township on the safety of the boat ramp. Chairman Harvie said that is something they can look at as they are doing construction. Mr. Dell asked if there have been any problems with the skate park or dog park. Chairman Harvie said there have been a couple of accidents, but no liability issues. Member Prokopiak moved to close public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Szupka moved to award the insurance bid to Travelers Insurance Company in the amount of \$277,613 for the period from June 18, 2009 to June 18, 2010; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

### **ITEM # 4 CONSIDER PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL UPGRADE AT NEW FALLS AND TYBURN ROADS**

Mr. Bob Stone from Traffic Planning and Design presented information in regard to the signal upgrade work. Member Szupka said that intersection gets interesting at times and if Mr. Arnao feels it is time for an upgrade then he is sure he has studied it. Member Snipes said there are a lot of accidents at this intersection and one of the problems is that it is hard to see the oncoming traffic over the hill. Member Prokopiak spoke about how this project is part of the township's energy upgrade. Chairman Harvie said he drives through this intersection every day and one of the issues he has is the traffic signal synchronization. Member Prokopiak moved to open public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Mr. Andy Dell suggested a solid red light since there is poor visibility with the oncoming traffic. Member Prokopiak moved to close public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Prokopiak moved to award the professional services for the traffic signal upgrade to Traffic Planning and Design in an amount NTE \$5,300; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

### **ITEM # 5 CONSIDER AWARDING BID FOR FINANCE SERVICE UPGRADE**

Mrs. Betsy Reukauf, Finance Director, spoke of the need for the finance service upgrade. Member Szupka asked if the upgrade was in this year's budget. Manager Gray said it is. Member Snipes asked how soon this would be implemented. Mrs. Reukauf said it would be implemented rather quickly. Member Snipes asked about the lower bid. Mrs. Reukauf spoke of the bid specs and said the lower bid did not meet the specs. Member Prokopiak asked if this has been reviewed by our computer consultant. Manager Gray said this was recommended by our IT provider. Mr. Rudolph said the second bidder was non-responsive and therefore it is not a bid to be considered. Member Prokopiak moved to open public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Mr. Roland Kenney said if this is something that is needed, they should be able to purchase it. Member Prokopiak moved to close public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Prokopiak moved to award the bid for the finance service upgrade to Design Data in Lancaster, PA in the amount of \$44,024; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 6 CONSIDER CHANGE ORDER FOR THREE ARCHES HISTORIC RESTORATION PROJECT**

Manager Gray said change order #1 is for an increase of \$10,700 for the restoration project at the Three Arches. Mr. Sullivan gave information for this project. Member Szupka asked Mr. Sullivan about when this was first planned and asked if the ADA was planned at that time. Mr. Szupka said a \$10K change order seemed high. Mr. Sullivan said none of this work was included in the original project bid. This makes it much better and is something that should be addressed at this point since the contractor is on site. Mr. Sullivan said there is a list of things they wanted to accomplish. These things were not put in the bid because they had limited funding. The county who was supposed to provide the grant reconsidered due to the way Falls Township does things with the responsible contractor ordinance. Mr. Sullivan said they are still in the same ball park of the original grant and they are getting a lot of work done. Member Snipes asked about the seeding structure. Mr. Sullivan said it is a brick-faced, concrete structure with a slate top that will match the patio. The original quote was far in excess of \$10,700 but they got it down to where it is now. Mrs. Liz Reese said what they need is a barrier installed where the railing used to be as there is a considerable drop between the walkway and the entrance to the door. It needs to have something that is safe so that no one could fall down. Member Prokopiak said the railing was removed as part of the work that is being done. Member Prokopiak asked Mr. Sullivan if he thought the quotes were fair and reasonable. Mr. Sullivan said yes. Member Prokopiak asked Mr. Sullivan when the last time there was a change order increase. Mr. Sullivan said it has been about three years since there has been a change order increase, but there may have been a small one with the skate park. Member Prokopiak moved to open public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Mr. Andy Dell asked about the dimensions of the planter box. Mr. Sullivan said it is about 2-1/2 ft. wide, less than 3 ft. high, and about 10 ft. long. Mr. Dell asked what it was made of. Mr. Sullivan said what they are using is a cinderblock with brick and a nice bluestone solid top. The front walkway needs work too. Mr. Dell said \$7,500 is a lot of money for that dimension of wall. Chairman Harvie said there are people who use the back walkway more than the front and maybe at a future time they can get the front walkway repaired as well. Member Prokopiak moved to close public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Szupka thinks they can find a better way to do this for about half the money, and still keep it historically correct. Member Prokopiak said he thinks they could award the parts everyone agrees is necessary and then look at the options for the seeding/planting box. Mr. Sullivan said it can happen simultaneously or independent of each other. Mrs. Reese said someone from Doylestown had to check every step of this project. A railing would not be approved. Member Prokopiak moved to approve change order # 1 to R.C. Legnini Co. for the amount of \$3,145.20; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Chairman Harvie directed the engineer to contact the architect in charge of this project to give them additional information on the concrete planter and other available options as well as the process they went through and to take a look at the steps and walkway.

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**ITEM # 7 PUBLIC COMMENT – FIVE MINUTE LIMIT PER PERSON  
FORTY-FIVE MINUTE MAXIMUM**

Mr. Robert Bugter does not believe the boat ramp is a project that is needed. Mr. Bugter thinks the timing for the traffic lights on Levittown Parkway can be improved. Mr. Bugter spoke about some traffic cones near St. Francis Cabrini and said they should be removed. Mr. Bugter said there are a lot of motorists speeding on Elderberry Drive and believes speed bumps should be installed. Mr. Bugter asked if any residents could get their driveways replaced during the road reconstruction process. Chairman Harvie said Levittown Parkway is a state highway. The work near St. Francis Cabrini is a PENNDOT project and the township has no control over that work. If we want our roads to be fixed sometimes we have to put up with some inconvenience. Regarding Elderberry, Chairman Harvie suggested increasing patrols in that area and possibly posting ‘slow down’ signs. Chairman Harvie said if residents want to replace their driveways, they are able to approach the contractor, but it is up to the contractor if they want to do that work.

Mr. Roland Kenney said at the last meeting Member Vislosky said he owed her an apology. Mr. Kenney said if Member Vislosky was referring to Mr. Bergman’s job, he did misunderstand the information he was told about Mr. Bergman working in Florida. Mr. Kenney said for the 1995 Waste Management agreement, it was signed by Mr. Armstrong. In 2001, it was signed by Mr. Wilson and in 2005, it was signed by Member Snipes and Chairman Harvie. Mr. Kenney asked if there was any new information in regard to the noise ordinance. Manager Gray told Mr. Kenney that Chief Wilcox has the information and to please call Manager Gray in the morning. Mr. Rudolph said we have an existing ordinance they can look into modifying.

The board moved to Executive Session at this time.

**ITEM # 8 MINUTES – JUNE 2, 2009**

Member Prokopiak moved to approve the minutes from June 2, 2009; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Szupka who abstained as he was absent from the June 2, 2009 meeting. (3-0-1)

**ITEM # 9 ENGINEER’S REPORT**

Member Prokopiak moved to approve the May Engineer’s report dated June 12, 2009; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 10 BILL LIST – JUNE 15, 2009**

Member Prokopiak moved to approve the bill listed dated June 15, 2009 in the amount of \$4,318,713.49; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Szupka who voted no. (3-1)

**ITEM # 11 EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The board went into Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 9:38 p.m. Mr. Rudolph said that while in Executive Session, the board discussed matters involving personnel and potential litigation.

The board moved to agenda item #8 at this time.

**ITEM # 12 MANAGER COMMENT**

1. Member Prokopiak moved to approve the time extension for the Viking Associates project until September 21, 2009; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
2. Member Prokopiak moved to approve the purchase of the Optoma TX1080 projector in the amount of \$2,498.70; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM #13 BOARD COMMENT**

Member Szupka said it was mentioned earlier about motorists speeding and also about installing speed bumps. These speed bumps are frowned upon by emergency vehicles and school buses. Member Szupka believes something needs to be done in regard to this matter. Police officers say that when they stop someone for speeding, that person lives very close in the area where they are stopped. Member Szupka encourages everyone to be cautious, especially since the school season will soon be over. He does not want to see anyone getting hurt. Member Szupka said the traffic light program is continuing and the upgrades are welcome. The intersection they spoke about earlier this evening does have a sight problem, but maybe these upgrades will help to improve the intersection.

Member Prokopiak asked Manager Gray about any progress by the Open Space Committee. Manager Gray said they have looked at several locations. He will ask the Open Space Committee to look at another site at their next meeting. Member Prokopiak said he would like to see a list of any potential properties. Member Prokopiak said as reported in the newspaper, there are several boroughs in the county that are looking for grants for LED street lights. Member Prokopiak believes Falls Township is the first municipality in Bucks County to install LED street lights and said he would like to expand and keep looking at that program. Member Prokopiak echoed Member Szupka's comments about speeding. Member Prokopiak said the biggest culprits of speeding are by people who live in the area where they are speeding. Member Prokopiak said people need to watch their speed and make a commitment not to speed.

Member Snipes also spoke about the Open Space Committee and asked about a site on New Falls Road. Manager Gray said that is one of the properties the Open Space Committee is looking at. Manager Gray said there is about \$934K available from the county and Falls Township is required to match the purchase amount. Manager Gray said they are looking at properties and they are trying to decide how to proceed with them. Member Prokopiak said he would be interested in seeing the updated plan. Member Snipes said there have been

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some ongoing conversations with Biles Island and he knows they will come back to this topic.

Chairman Harvie announced an All-You-Can-Eat Father's Day Breakfast to be held on Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at the Levittown Fire Co. No. 1 from 7:30 a.m. until 12 noon. Chairman Harvie spoke about the Delaware Valley Vietnam Veterans Flag Memorial. He read a thank you plaque that was presented to the township. Chairman Harvie said he e-mailed information and provided hard copy to all board members about Biles Island. Chairman Harvie asks all board members to look at the information so they can take it into consideration at a future board meeting. For the months of July and August, the Board of Supervisors meeting dates will be Tuesday, July 21<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>. Chairman Harvie echoed comments about speeders and asks everyone to be careful as they drive. Chairman Harvie wished everyone a happy summer.

Member Prokopiak moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all Board members were in favor. (4-0) The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

  
Jonathan Snipes, Secretary