

Board of Supervisors – July 21, 2009

**TOWNSHIP OF FALLS
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

ROLL CALL:

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

The meeting commenced at 7:36 p.m. with roll call and salute to the flag. All Board members were present with the exception of Member Vislosky who was absent from the meeting. Also present were Township Manager Peter Gray, Township Solicitor Michael Clarke, and Township Engineer James Sullivan.

**ITEM # 1 CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS – 7 SOUTH MAIN STREET
NEW ASPHALT ROOF**

Member Prokopiak moved to approve the certificate of appropriateness for 7 South Main Street for a new asphalt roof; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 2 CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS – 9300 NEW FALLS ROAD
NEW SLATE ROOF**

Member Prokopiak moved to approve the certificate of appropriateness for 9300 New Falls Road for a new slate roof; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 3 CONSIDER RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 12 HOUR SHIFT
AGREEMENT WITH THE POLICE ASSOCIATION OF FALLS
TOWNSHIP**

Chief Wilcox presented information on the 12-hour shift. Member Prokopiak moved to approve Resolution # 09-15 amending the 12-hour shift agreement with the Police Association of Falls Township; Member Szupka seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 4 CONSIDER APPROVING POLICE ASSOCIATION OF FALLS
TOWNSHIP CONTRACT – JANUARY 1, 2009 – DECEMBER 31, 2012**

Manager Gray gave information on the police contract. Member Prokopiak moved to open public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Mr. Roland Kenney said he is not familiar with the contract, but the police should be given more. Member Prokopiak moved to close public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Prokopiak moved to approve

Board of Supervisors – July 21, 2009

the collective bargaining agreement for the Police Association of Falls Township, contract date from January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2012; Member Szupka seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 5 CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE KIPC POLICE PILOT PROGRAM

Manager Gray said the KIPC will provide payment of approximately \$16K per month for this 6-month pilot program. Member Prokopiak moved to approve the KIPC pilot program; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 6 CONSIDER AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT OF BID SPECIFICATIONS FOR BALLISTIC VESTS FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT

The police department is in need of new bullet-proof vests. They were last purchased in April of 2004 and are about to expire. Member Prokopiak moved to open public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Mr. Roland Kenney said there should be no question, this purchase needs to be made. Member Prokopiak moved to close public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Prokopiak moved to authorize advertisement of bid specifications for ballistic vests for the police department; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

The police department had to switch vendors for the purchase of raincoats and traffic vests. Member Prokopiak moved to approve the purchase of raincoats for the police department from Samzie's Uniforms in the amount of \$2,800; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Prokopiak moved to approve the purchase of traffic vests for the police department from Continental Fire and Safety in the amount of \$798; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 7 CONSIDER PURCHASE OF TRUCK FOR THE FIRE MARSHAL'S DEPARTMENT

Manager Gray said the total price for the 2009 Ford Expedition as well as additional equipment totals \$31,163.24. The amount of \$35K was budgeted for this item. Member Szupka said Warnock Fleet is part of the dealer group and they are on a number of bid lists in the eastern U.S. Member Szupka said that Havis-Shields has a good reputation and they do quality work. Member Prokopiak moved to approve the purchase of a 2009 Ford Expedition for the fire marshal's office from Warnock Fleet in the amount of \$24,741; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Prokopiak moved to approve the purchase of equipment from Havis-Shields in the amount of \$6,422.24; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 8 CONSIDER APPROVING PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACT JANUARY 1, 2008 – DECEMBER 31, 2010

Member Prokopiak thanked Manager Gray and Mr. Yeager for their work on this item. He said the employees in the Public Works Department work hard and they do a fine job.

Board of Supervisors – July 21, 2009

Member Prokopiak moved to approve the agreement between the Township of Falls and the Falls Township Public Works Department, SEIU Local 32BJ; Member Szupka seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 9 CONSIDER APPROVAL OF TENANT LEASE (INTERACTIVITY)

Member Prokopiak moved to approve the tenant lease with Interactivity Creative Services for the period ending December 31, 2009; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 10 CONSIDER AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT OF BID SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE FALLS TOWNSHIP ELEVATOR MODERNIZATION PROJECT

Manager Gray gave the proposed scope of work for the elevator modernization project. This project is expected to cost between \$120K and \$150K. Member Prokopiak moved to open public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Mr. Roland Kenney said he thought they voted on this item a while ago. Chairman Harvie said he believes they approved for CMX to research this item. Member Prokopiak moved to close public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Prokopiak moved to authorize advertisement of bid specifications for the Falls Township elevator modernization project; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 11 CONSIDER AUTHORIZING TOWNSHIP MANAGER TO FINALIZE BID AWARD FOR THE QUAKER PENN BOAT RAMP PROJECT

Manager Gray said that on June 2, 2009, James R. Kenney was awarded this bid in the amount of \$1,108,830. Mr. Sullivan said they have received all of the required documentation from the contractor. Member Szupka said it is not that he does not support the boat ramp, but he does not support it at this particular time. Member Snipes said there are people who have thanked him for approving the boat ramp, but he respects folks who do not agree with his decision. He is in favor of moving this project forward. Member Prokopiak said he has also heard positive feedback from the public. Member Prokopiak said this is something that is long overdue. From beginning to end, it will take approximately six months to complete, but could be longer than that due to the winter weather. Member Snipes suggested they keep in contact with Pennsbury Manor so they have an idea of equipment and traffic flow. Chairman Harvie said he has heard from several people who are anxious for this project to move forward. He said we are one of the few communities who has the ability to do this type of project with no cost to the taxpayers and we can also provide some employment to people who might otherwise not be employed. Member Prokopiak moved to open public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Ms. Regula Sheehan said she is very pleased to hear about the boat ramp. She said she recently took a boat trip on the river and it was very pleasant. She looks forward to this project moving forward. Mr. Guido Mariani spoke about history and how the past relates to current situations. Mr. Mariani said in times of plenty, you have to save so that you will still have in times of lean. Mr. Mariani believes

Board of Supervisors – July 21, 2009

this project is un-necessary and un-wanted. Chairman Harvie said the assumption is that we are not saving for the lean times. Chairman Harvie said we are able to do projects such as this and we are still able to put money into the bank. Mr. Roland Kenney said he has no problem with the boat ramp as long as the township gets money off of the boaters who use that ramp. Member Prokopiak moved to close public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Prokopiak moved to authorize the Township Manager to finalize the bid award for the Quaker Penn Boat Ramp project to James R. Kenney; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Szupka who voted no. (3-1)

ITEM # 12 PUBLIC COMMENT – FIVE MINUTE LIMIT PER PERSON FORTY-FIVE MINUTE MAXIMUM

Mr. Guido Mariani spoke of a House of Representative bill backed by Nancy Pelosi. Mr. Mariani spoke of how taxes will be increased, jobs will be lost, and said America will be strangled by its own green hand.

Mr. Roland Kenney said he met with some folks who are supporters of Member Vislosky. Mr. Kenney said those folks believe that Member Vislosky should move to Florida to be with her sister and write her book.

Mr. Gallus Obert said he still has issues with the Quaker Penn boat ramp project. He said he submitted a request on May 21st to obtain copies of formal documentation regarding this project, and he has still not received any response. Mr. Obert asked if the Army Corps of Engineers changed the location. Chairman Harvie said yes. Mr. Obert asked about the shack. Chairman Harvie said it is not part of the plan. Mr. Obert commented on the lighting for this park. Mr. Sullivan said there is a possibility that people will be riding back to the boat ramp after dark. They are proposing some lighting in order to provide for the safety of any boaters who do not make it back before dusk. Mr. Obert asked about the elevator modernization project. Chairman Harvie said the current elevator is beyond its useful life and breaks down on a regular basis. Mr. Obert said he understands the need for new police vests. Chairman Harvie asked Manager Gray about Mr. Obert's documentation request. Manager Gray said there is no formal report from the Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Sullivan said they have e-mails and the Army Corps gave them suggestions, but there is no formal report until they submit a permit. This was done as a site visit.

The board moved to Executive Session at this time.

ITEM #13 MINUTES – JUNE 15, 2009

Member Snipes moved to approve the minutes from June 15, 2009; Member Prokopiak seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

Board of Supervisors – July 21, 2009

ITEM #14 ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Sullivan gave an update on the road program. The estimated date to complete is October, 2009. Member Prokopiak moved to approve the Engineer's report dated July 16, 2009; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM #15 BILL LIST – JULY 21, 2009

Member Prokopiak moved to approve the bill listed dated July 21, 2009 in the amount of \$2,792,922.64; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Szupka who voted no. (3-1)

ITEM #16 EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board went into Executive Session at 8:54 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 9:46 p.m. Mr. Clarke said that while in Executive Session, the board heard from Bill Kennedy, Labor Counsel. They discussed matters involving personnel, contract negotiations, and then the board discussed another personnel matter.

The board moved to agenda item #13 at this time.

ITEM #17 MANAGER COMMENT

1. Member Prokopiak moved to approve escrow release #3 to Rock Creek Run in the amount of \$575,230.10; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
2. Member Prokopiak moved to grant the extension of time request for Mariano for 1501 S. Pennsylvania Avenue, until September 30, 2009; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM #18 BOARD COMMENT

Member Snipes said they had a good meeting and he looks forward to the on-going projects in the township.

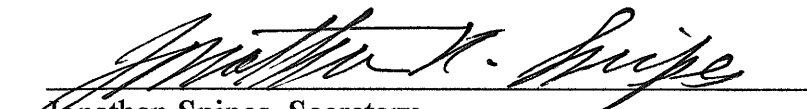
Member Szupka said the Dennis Ostopowicz Polka Band will perform in the community park this Sunday, July 26th.

Member Prokopiak said they accomplished a lot of things on tonight's agenda. Member Prokopiak spoke about the Roosevelt years and work that was able to be done during that time frame. Member Prokopiak said they will have to start talking soon about policies and procedures for the boat ramp. Member Prokopiak said he believes it is time to see some healthcare reform. He said ever year healthcare costs go up 8-10% and people cannot afford those increases. Member Prokopiak suggests writing to your congressman about this issue. Member Prokopiak asked about the open space plan. Manager Gray said the committee members are meeting next week and he should have something for the board members after that meeting. Member Prokopiak said he is still interested in the board looking at a pedestrian walkway along New Falls Road.

Board of Supervisors – July 21, 2009

Chairman Harvie thanked the board members for their time tonight and for helping to make this a productive meeting. Chairman Harvie said he sent correspondence to the other board members about the Pinewood Pool. Member Prokopiak said he thinks they can discuss the pool now. The board agreed to either reimburse current pool members the \$15 for the week the pool was closed for repairs or apply a \$15 credit toward next year's pool membership. Chairman Harvie would like the board to send out an RFP to all or some of the engineering firms who are interested in Biles Island. Chairman Harvie asked if any board members have input to the RFP, to please let him know. Chairman Harvie asked if any board members received correspondence or telephone calls in regard to the possible sale of Lower Bucks Hospital. There is a letter for the board to sign, expressing concern about how this would have a negative impact, as far as available healthcare, for the lower end of the county and also have a negative impact in terms of employment. The board members agreed to send out the letter. Chairman Harvie announced that Brandon Weintraub from Troop 53 has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. He asked Manager Gray to send Brandon a letter of congratulations.

Member Prokopiak moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all Board members were in favor. (5-0) The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.


Jonathan Snipes, Secretary