

**Board of Supervisors – September 15, 2009**

**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 7:32 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 GALVANIZING GATE – NORTH ENTRANCE – KIPC – WAIVER OF  
LAND DEVELOPMENT – BERDIS BOULEVARD – TPN 13-51-1**

Ms. Kellie McGowan, Esq., and Mr. Ron Klaus, from Bohler Engineering, represent the applicant. Ms. McGowan said this project is for installation of two gates in order to limit traffic on Berdis Boulevard. There will also be a re-location of a trailer which will house emergency personnel as well as construction of a building which will house a fire truck. The applicant is seeking three waivers. They include installation of curbing on this part of Berdis Boulevard, a waiver for curbing for three visitor parking spaces that will be constructed, and a partial waiver for site capacity calculations. Member Szupka said he is not in favor of waivers but for this particular project, he does not have any issues. Member Snipes asked about the setback that was granted by the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Klaus explained the reason for the setback. Member Prokopiak asked about installing signage for the temporary parking area. Mr. Klaus said they would work this out with Mr. Sullivan. Member Prokopiak asked Mr. Klaus to address the Bucks County Conservation District letter as well as the fire marshal letter. Mr. Klaus said they will comply with all of the comments from both letters. Member Prokopiak moved to approve Resolution # 09-16, approval of land development for the Galvanizing Gate, North Entrance; TPN 13-51-1; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 2 CONSIDER ORDINANCE AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 145-  
LICENSED BUSINESSES**

Mr. Tom Bennett, Zoning Officer, gave information on the proposed ordinance change. Member Prokopiak moved to approve Ordinance # 09-01, amendment to Chapter 145 – Licensed Businesses; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 3 CONSIDER PROPOSALS FOR LANDSCAPING OF THREE ARCHES/COMMUNITY PARK**

Manager Gray said they have three proposals for landscaping maintenance for the Three Arches and the Falls Township Community Park. Member Prokopiak moved to open public comment; Member Szupka seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Mr. Roland Kenney said Mr. Dell had volunteered his services in the past and believes Mr. Dell should have the opportunity to do this work. 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 proposal for landscaping of the Three Arches and community park to Dell Lawn and Garden in the amount of \$4,700; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 4 CONSIDER AUTHORIZING RE-ADVERTISEMENT OF BID SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE FALLS TOWNSHIP ELEVATOR MODERNIZATION PROJECT**

The township did not receive any response to the advertised bid for this work. Mr. Clarke said they are required to go out to bid again. If the township does not receive bids either time, within 45 days after the non-receipt of bids the second time they can go out and individually contract with a company to do the work. Member Prokopiak moved to authorize advertisement of bid specifications for the Falls Township elevator modernization project; Member Szupka seconded the motion. Member Prokopiak moved to open public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Mr. Andy Dell asked where they advertise. Mr. Sullivan said they advertised in the Bucks County Courier Times. This is also listed in a construction publication. Member Prokopiak asked if this advertisement could also be posted on the township website. Member Prokopiak moved to close public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) A vote was taken on Member Prokopiak's previous motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 5 CONSIDER RESOLUTION FOR HIRING OF NEW POLICE OFFICER STEPHANIE METTERLE**

Member Prokopiak moved to approve Resolution # 09-17 for the hiring of a new police officer, Stephanie Metterle; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 6 CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING 2010 MINIMUM MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION (MMO) FOR POLICE PENSION PLAN**

Member Prokopiak moved to approve Resolution # 09-18 establishing the 2010 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the police pension plan in the amount of \$1,570,253; Member Szupka seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

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**ITEM # 7 CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING 2010  
MINIMUM MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION (MMO) FOR NON-  
UNIFORM PENSION PLAN**

Member Prokopiak moved to approve Resolution # 09-19 establishing the 2010 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the non-uniform pension plan in the amount of \$131,012; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

There was a break in the meeting at 8:14 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 8:20 p.m. The board moved to agenda item # 9 at this time.

**ITEM # 8 CONSIDER APPROVAL OF LIEUTENANT’S CONTRACTS**

Member Prokopiak moved to enter into employment agreements as specified in the agreements as presented with Lt. Wynne Cloud, Lt. Ron MacPherson, and Lt. Todd Pletnick; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

The board moved to agenda item # 10 at this time.

**ITEM # 9 GOAL PRESENTATION**

Mr. Dale Frazier gave a presentation on the GOAL program. He spoke about past and future projects. Mr. Frazier said if anyone is interested in having their section cleaned, they should sign a minimum of 30 people to do this work and then contact the GOAL organization to schedule the date. Member Prokopiak moved to approve a donation in the amount of \$2K toward the GOAL program; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

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

**ITEM # 10 PUBLIC COMMENT – FIVE MINUTE LIMIT PER PERSON FORTY-  
FIVE MINUTE MAXIMUM**

Mr. Roland Kenney expressed well wishes to Pat Reynolds who just returned from leave. Mr. Kenney welcomed the Miller’s to Avenrowe. Mr. Kenney spoke about money that was donated to purchase the police dog, Tag. He said this money went to a good cause. Mr. Kenney said he has spoken with numerous folks who do not want a clock at the podium. He said people should watch the entire meeting on television, not the portions people may tell them to watch. Mr. Kenney encouraged everyone to wear their seatbelts. Mr. Kenney is taking a group to Waste Management on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. If anyone is interested in attending, call Mr. Kenney at 215-295-7684.

Mr. Paul Krowczun works for New Jersey Transit, Morrisville Yard. He spoke about the population of feral cats in the area. Mr. Krowczun said the Animal Control Officer had been trapping the cats and taking them to the SPCA where they may be euthanized. Mr. Krowczun would rather support a catch, neuter/spay, release program. Chairman Harvie asked Manager Gray to look into this situation.

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**ITEM # 11 MINUTES – AUGUST 18, 2009**

Member Snipes moved to approve the minutes from August 18, 2009; Member Prokopiak seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 12 ENGINEER’S REPORT**

Mr. Sullivan gave an update on the road program, the boat ramp, and the McDonald’s project. Member Prokopiak moved to accept the August, 2009 Engineer’s report; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 13 BILL LIST – SEPTEMBER 15, 2009**

Member Prokopiak moved to approve the bill list dated September 15, 2009 in the amount of \$2,691,517.04; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Member Szupka who voted no. (3-1)

**ITEM # 14 EXECUTIVE SESSION – There was no Executive Session held.**

**ITEM # 15 MANAGER COMMENT**

1. Member Prokopiak moved to accept the letter of extension for 69<sup>th</sup> Street Properties, Oxford Valley Shopping Center, to December 1, 2009; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
2. Member Prokopiak moved to approve the letter of extension for the Viking Associates land development plan until December 21, 2009; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
3. Member Prokopiak moved to accept the letter of extension for the Mariano/1501 South Pennsylvania Avenue project until November 30, 2009; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
4. Member Prokopiak moved to enter into the agreement with Beacon Services as presented from September 1, 2009 to August 31, 2010; Member Szupka seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
5. Manager Gray has mylars available for 269 Canal Road for the Conrail subdivision.

**ITEM # 16 BOARD COMMENT**

Member Snipes said he was glad to see the draft of the Open Space Plan. He would like to encourage the board to think about how to use the township resources above and beyond what they are already thinking of. Member Snipes said he and his wife recently used the bike trail and connector trail to Pennwood Crossing. He said it was a good to see so many people using every section of the Falls Township Community Park. Member Snipes looks forward to additional projects within the township.


Member Szupka reminded everyone to be careful, especially around schools. Member Szupka encouraged pedestrians to walk on the sidewalks and walkways and not in the streets.

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Member Prokopiak said he reviewed the open space plan and believes it needs more work. Member Prokopiak asked how many available spots were open on the Open Space Committee. Manager Gray said there were two spots available. Member Prokopiak said in looking at the draft, he thinks there are properties they need to go back to look at. He is concerned that something may not be on the Open Space Plan and the county may say since it is not on the plan, you are not eligible for the money. Member Prokopiak asked who owns the Fuddruckers property. Mr. Clarke said Falls Township owns the ‘shops’ parcel next to Fuddruckers. Mr. Clarke said the Fuddruckers property is owned by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and they are still arguing over what the property is worth. Member Prokopiak spoke about signs being placed along the Fuddruckers property. Member Prokopiak hopes to look at proposals soon for the pedestrian walkway along New Falls Road. Manager Gray said he would have information available for the next supervisors meeting. Member Prokopiak said the Falls Township Family Festival has been rescheduled to Saturday, October 10th, starting at 4 p.m.

Chairman Harvie said he heard from a resident who complained about people who park their vehicles in their driveways, but block the sidewalk area. This is not really allowed and it makes it difficult for people who are walking on the sidewalk. Another issue is people who place their trash on the ramps from the sidewalk leading out into the street. These ramps should not be blocked. Chairman Harvie said they received a resignation from Amy Convery from the Shade Tree Commission and also Ryan Berry from the Park and Rec Board. Chairman Harvie wished Mr. & Mrs. Pullen a Happy 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

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 9:34 p.m.

  
Jonathan Snipes, Secretary