TOWNSHIP OF FALLS
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

ROLL CALL:
ROBERT HARVIE, JR., CHAIRMAN PRESENT
JEFFRY DENCE, VICE-CHAIRMAN PRESENT
JEFFREY ROCCO, SECRETARY PRESENT
JONATHAN SNIPES, SUPERVISOR PRESENT
BRIAN M. GALLOWAY, SUPERVISOR PRESENT

The meeting commenced at 7:00 p.m. with roll call and salute to the flag. All Board members were present. Also present were Township Finance Director Betsey Reukau, Township Solicitor Michael Clarke, Township Solicitor Lauren Gallagher, and Township Engineer James Sullivan. Manager Gray was attending a conference.

ITEM # 1 PUBLIC COMMENT – FIVE MINUTE LIMIT PER PERSON FORTY-FIVE MINUTE MAXIMUM

Mr. Roland Kenney said he went to the St. Patrick’s Day Parade. He asked Member Galloway if he still ran the St. Patrick’s Day Parade. Member Galloway said yes. Mr. Kenney did not see Member Galloway or his brother, but said he saw Lt. Governor Jim Cawley. Member Galloway said he was at the grandstand. Mr. Kenney asked Member Snipes if his father was in the parade. Member Snipes said his father was not feeling well and could not make it this year. Mr. Kenney asked if Member Rocco was there. Member Rocco said yes. Mr. Kenney said we now have a new Pope.

Mr. Gallus Obert said he was reviewing the meeting from last month and said he agrees with Mr. Mariani that $60,000 is too much money for a pier to go fishing. Mr. Obert said we built a boat ramp and he does not believe there are more than one hundred people who use it. Mr. Obert said on tonight’s agenda items two and three look similar and asked if these were the same project. Chairman Harvie said yes. Mr. Obert said he doesn’t like how this project is coming about and he also does not agree with everything the board is doing. Mr. Obert said this project will probably add more traffic to West Trenton Avenue.

Mr. Bill Dayton said he is in support of live meetings being aired on the cable channel. Mr. Dayton said he would still like to see the January meeting. Chairman Harvie said he believes it was already piggy-backed onto another meeting. Mr. Dayton asked about the bridge behind St. Joseph The Worker Church. Chairman Harvie said it is not the township’s bridge; it belongs to St. Joseph The Worker Church. Chairman Harvie said it had become an issue because of the New Falls Road bridge being re-constructed. Mr. Clarke said it is not Falls Township’s bridge. We did take a look at it about eighteen months ago and it is
not our bridge. It is private property. Mr. Dayton asked Chairman Harvie about a comment he made about laws being made for the minority. Chairman Harvie said laws are made because of the minority of the people that happen to break the law. Mr. Dayton asked Chairman Harvie about a comment he made about the type of families who use the pool. Chairman Harvie said the tracking element he spoke about would be so that the Park and Rec Department could track families to know the ages of children and that would allow them to design various programs. If there are a lot of families with very young children who use the pool, maybe they can offer a program to teach children how to swim. They can figure out what age groups come to the pool and offer movies for those age groups.

Mr. Andy Dell asked about the Biles Island progress and how much money has been spent to date on that project. Chairman Harvie said right now we are waiting for Waste Management because of the new landfill operation going in. They have to mitigate a certain amount of wetlands and they are working with the DEP to figure out how much they need to set aside and also find out about any restrictions. While they are figuring out these things, ACT cannot fully plan on where to put trails, parking, etc. Any money spent has been spent on things such as consultation fees, design work, and attending meetings. Mrs. Reukauf said we are around the $20,000 figure on what was spent. Mr. Dell said there will be some upcoming voting and thinks this should be put on the ballot. Mr. Clarke said it is not proper for a referendum. Mr. Dell asked if there was a legal way to find out from the people who live here if they really want this project. Chairman Harvie said referendums cannot be done for everything. He can rely on input from all of the public meetings they had. They have not received a lot of negative feedback on this project. This meeting is aired twice a day. This subject has been in the newsletters that have been distributed and it has also been in the newspaper. It has been a couple of years that they have been working on this. Chairman Harvie said Waste Management doesn’t plan to leave the entire area for at least a couple of decades. Member Dence said we had to have a plan in place in order to get funding or grants. Chairman Harvie said if we have the money and if the desire is there, in twenty years if someone wants to move forward, then they can move forward at that time. If they decide they don’t want to move forward, then they won’t.

ITEM #2 CONSIDER AGREEMENT AND STIPULATION BETWEEN FALLS TOWNSHIP AND VIKING ASSOCIATES – WEST TRENTON AVENUE – TMP # 13-028-012-002

Mr. Clarke said items two and three are related. This involves an application that was before the Falls Township Zoning Hearing Board in 2009 where a developer wanted to build a high-rise, age-restricted building on this site. We filed an appeal on behalf of the township and another appeal was filed by Catherine Ross. Since that time, the township, the owner of the property, and a potential developer of the property have been involved in discussions and negotiations to figure out a way for the owner and developer to develop their property, but not the original high-rise plan. What most of the residents objected to was the height of the building. This new plan, which has been the subject of many meetings, many discussions, and many plans over the last several years, has eliminated the high-rise and is limited to townhouses. The applicant is represented by Mr. Charles Marty and the owner is
represented by Mr. Thomas Hecker. The stipulation would resolve the litigation. The change of zoning would allow them to move forward and build the townhouse community that is proposed. Mr. Sullivan and the developer’s engineer have reviewed multiple sets of plans. The plans that will be approved with these conditions will be included with this agreement. We have been in contact with the attorney for Ms. Ross and the attorney has indicated that Ms. Ross is not opposed to the current plan and procedurally, she would rather see her appeal withdrawn if we move forward with the stipulation. There is no objection with the only resident who filed an appeal in 2009. Mr. Clarke said a copy of the plan Mr. Marty just handed out is the record plan that Mr. Sullivan has reviewed and is the plan that, if the board approves the stipulation, will be made part of the record. This plan conforms to the zoning changes. Mr. Marty said MarMar Builders is the developer of the project. Both owners of MarMar are present this evening as well as Mr. Heath Dumack, the project engineer. Mr. Marty spoke about the proposed project. The property is a vacant tract less than four acres in size and is located along West Trenton Avenue between the Morrisville Post Office and Rt. 1. The development consists of forty townhome units. Each unit will have a garage and they would be served by public water, public sewer, and natural gas. There will be parking in the garage, street, and the driveway. There is also a separate parking area in the adjoining apartment complex with sixty-two additional parking spaces. The parking area is adjacent with this parcel and is connected with the roadway that is part of this development. The development is designed with a full retention storm water management system so that all the water that falls on the site will stay on the site and infiltrate into the ground. It has two surface basins, a rain guard system and a vegetative swale, which is a draining swale with a French drain. There is single access to this development which is off of West Trenton Avenue. There are buffer plantings which consist of 141 trees and shrubs. The development is designed with street lights, curbs, and sidewalks. They have been submitting plans and revised plans, in excess of two years, to try to bring everything as close as possible into the township’s compliance. Member Snipes asked about the variances that were being requested. Ms. Gallagher said they are for the rezoning. There are 29 waivers. Member Snipes asked about the location of the rain gardens. Mr. Dumack explained how the water retention system would operate. He said they have a primary retention basin on the corner of the site. They have an interior courtyard with a rain garden which will run via piping to the primary retention system. Member Snipes asked if there would be a traffic light at the entrance to the development. Mr. Dumack said no, it is currently under review with PENNDOT, but they have not suggested any need for a traffic light. Member Snipes said he is concerned with the traffic, especially with the nearby post office and entrance to the neighborhood across the street. Member Dence said this is a project that has been going on for quite some time. He lives less than one hundred yards away. On the original plan, there were houses on both sides. It has been scaled down from forty-six to forty homes. He thinks this is a good plan and believes this is as good as it’s going to get for the neighbors in back of this property. Member Dence asked about the drainage system and run off. Mr. Dumack said everything is designed to be contained onsite. This project will have zero impact on Independence Drive, Trenton Avenue toward Rock Run, and the post office. Member Rocco asked about the height of the townhouses. Mr. Dumack said they are thirty-five feet high. The garage is considered part of the first floor. Member Rocco asked what the rain garden is like when it
is not wet. Mr. Dumack said there would be two- to three-feet high flowering plants, much like what you would see on the edge of a stream. Member Rocco asked if they have LED lights for the street lighting. Mr. Dumack said they have considered this and the final plans are still in review. The fire marshal requested five additional lights for a total of nine light standards throughout the development. Mr. Dumack indicated where the lights would be located. Member Rocco asked if these streets would be dedicated back to the township.

Mr. Dumack said no. Member Rocco said the gentlemen mentioned zero run off on Independence Drive and West Trenton Avenue. He asked Mr. Sullivan if that was accurate. Mr. Sullivan said yes. Member Snipes asked if the homes were three levels. Mr. Dumack said they are two- to two-and-a-half story homes. Based on the doormning, there is a third floor attic loft, but they are basically two-story homes. Member Dence asked if these homes would be sold or if they would be rental properties. Mr. Dumack said they would be sold. Member Snipes said he is still concerned about the proximity to the post office. Mr. Sullivan said there is no real traffic study here. This is a state highway. There will be about forty extra cars during peak hours. This is still under review by PENNDOT, but they don’t anticipate any changes to what is on the plan right now. Mr. Sullivan said it would never meet the signal warrants for a traffic light. Chairman Harvie asked if the homeowner rules would be on the deeds. Mr. Marty said it will be on the homeowner documents and the plans. Chairman Harvie said this is a lightly wooded area. It was slated to be seven-story apartment complex. Chairman Harvie asked how many units were originally proposed. Mr. Marty said it started with seventy-six units and is now down to forty. Chairman Harvie asked about the price of the homes. Mr. Marty said the selling price is below $300,000. Chairman Harvic said we are having an issue with mosquitos and wondered if this area would drain pretty quickly. Mr. Dumack said the system itself and the rain garden will act as a filter. Everything will get directed toward the retention basin at the corner of the property. They should have no problem meeting the seventy-two hour dry time requirement. Member Snipes asked about the size of the lot. Mr. Dumack said it is 3.88 acres. Member Dence asked about the land behind this development and if there was an easement. Mr. Dumack said that property is owned by Mr. Nolty and is not cut off by this project. Member Rocco asked about timing and when the builder would settle. Mr. Marty said they want to start construction as soon as possible. The first settlement should occur three months after that. Member Rocco asked if Pennsbury would get involved with this. Mr. Clarke said Pennsbury does not have any standing in a matter such as this. It is the township’s responsibility to make a decision about this. Member Snipes asked about the size of the property owned by Mr. Nolty. Mr. Dumack said it is smaller than this site, but larger than one acre. Member Snipes said when the first proposal came out, there was a lot of negative reaction to this. This is a big improvement from the beginning stages of the plan. Member Dence moved to open public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) Mr. Mike Falkevitz asked what the waivers would entail. Chairman Harvie said they involve the depth of the lot, front yard size, rear yard size, side yard size, setbacks, minimum buffer yard, screen plantings, recreation, trees, off-street parking, lighting, and size of the cart ways. Mr. Scott Scheffler asked how this was arranged to come out tonight or announced to the people who live around that parcel. Ms. Gallagher said there were two notices placed in the Bucks County Courier Times and the property itself was posted last week. Mr. Scheffler said previously, the neighbors in the
surrounding neighborhood were notified by mail, but this time no one was notified by mail. Mr. Scheffler said he saw the small blue signs along the road an stopped to see what they were for. Ms. Gallagher said the advertising was done pursuant to the Second-Class Township Code. The township complied with all of the requirements of the Second-Class Township Code. Mr. Scheffler said he has a concern about the traffic. In the winter it is not as prevalent, but when good weather sets in, every Saturday there is an accident or near accident at the post office. He is wondering if there is something they can do to get PENNDOT to escalate a traffic study in that area. Chairman Harvie said this is a PENNDOT road, but one of the things they can do to start is to ask our police department to compile data in terms of accidents from the Woolston Drive intersection down to the creek. Mr. Clarke said one of the things regarding this issue, is that reportable accidents are already automatically sent to PENNDOT. When PENNDOT is doing their review, they are already looking at those accidents. If there is no police report generated, PENNDOT will not base their decision on anecdotal data over what people think may happen there. Member Snipes said PENNDOT did put a sign saying no driving on the shoulder, but zero people respond to the sign. Mr. Clarke explained how difficult it is to get PENNDOT to take a look at roads, certain areas, and/or traffic accidents. It is very difficult dealing with PENNDOT and very often PENNDOT only looks at the data, not concerns from the public. Mr. Scheffler asked about the location of the additional parking area. Mr. Dumack said it is in the existing apartment complex. Mr. Roland Kenney said when he was president at Avenrowe, he did not want their streets dedicated, but there were five residents who did. Mr. Kenney asked when the current project gets developed, if this would change the zoning status at Avenrowe as well. Chairman Harvie said no; it is just this location. Mr. Guido Mariani said he is not opposed to this project, but has a question. He asked if this will require us to amend Chapter 209-7 again when they get a high-rise development in our township. Chairman Harvie said it is specific just for this parcel, at this location; not anywhere else. Mr. Matt Arlen spoke about a traffic study. He asked if reportable accidents are defined as sustainable injuries, vehicles that need to be towed, or an accident causing death. Mr. Clarke said if they are using the PENNDOT forms and submitting it on the PENNDOT system, that entails a reportable accident. He doesn’t think it requires serious injury or death. Mr. Clarke said people say this is something ‘we’ should look into or change. When there are accident reports, the police are governed by those forms. Everyone has to use the PENNDOT form. It is not something we can change. Chairman Harvie said he understands the point Mr. Arlen is making, but it is something we cannot control. Member Snipes moved to close public comment; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) Member Rocco said it looks like the parking is one space in the garage and one space in the driveway. Mr. Marty said that is correct plus there are provisional spaces as well as the sixty-two parking spaces that they have an easement for in the adjoining parcel. Member Rocco asked about the waivers. Mr. Marty said some of the requests for waivers or variances might be a side yard of five feet instead of eight feet and they might only involve one lot. Mr. Dumack said the reason they cannot light the parking lot is because it is not their parcel. Member Rocco asked how they got permission to use that parking lot. Mr. Marty said they have a cross-easement agreement. Chairman Harvie asked if the owner of the apartment complex is also the same owner of this parcel. Mr. Marty said he believes they are a related entity. Member Dence asked if there is on-street
parking. Mr. Marty said yes. Member Rocco asked about the width of the streets. Chairman Harvie said they are twenty-four feet and the standard is twenty-six feet. Member Rocco asked Mr. Sullivan about the lights. Mr. Sullivan said the parking lot is lit to the standards that were enforced at the time and to him it is okay. Member Rocco asked if there are sidewalks. Mr. Dumack said they have a sidewalk that runs around the perimeter of the site. You cannot park on a sidewalk so some of the sidewalks were shifted to the other side of the street. Mr. Clarke said both he and Mr. Sullivan felt this was a reasonable accommodation under the circumstances. Member Snipes said sidewalks along West Trenton Avenue are a big improvement. He sees people walking along there pretty frequently. Member Snipes asked what the seller of the homes is legally required to disclose to the prospective buyers about non-dedication of the streets. Mr. Clarke said the plans you have in front of you include a number of notes. Most of this will be contained in the homeowner documents. When a prospective buyer gets the title report or recorded plans, it will tell them all of these different restrictions. There will be ample notice for the buyers of these properties to know that we are not taking dedication of the streets or the detention basin or the rain garden. Member Snipes asked if there is any kind of slippery slope that the township would need to worry about in terms of changing the zoning. Mr. Clarke said you can never prevent anyone from coming to you, but there is no legal precedent. This is a site-specific rezoning. It is zoning for a particular parcel of land in order for the developer to develop the property in the matter in which they have proposed. This does not bind you with regard to anyone else. Each matter and each parcel is reviewed on its own merits. Member Snipes asked about PENNDOT's review timeline. Mr. Dumack said PENNDOT has thirty days to review and respond. The submission was just sent in. The previous submission had very minor comments and changes that were required. Member Gallloway said they have seen many plans that came by. In this particular case, we are working with the owners to bring about their dream of developing their land. We have seen them work in earnest to accomplish a task. Mr. Clarke said that is exactly what has occurred here. The owners of the property were working with the existing zoning at the time. The township and a great deal of the neighbors didn't like it. They have been working with the township. They have cut back on the number of units, and they have made many changes. Mr. Dumack and Mr. Sullivan have spent a great deal of time discussing this. This is a plan they have done which is more in line with what the township wanted to see. Member Dence said he was at the original zoning meeting and it was clear that no one wanted to see a seven-story building. This is a big improvement from where they started a long time ago. Member Rocco asked if these streets could ever be dedicated. Mr. Clarke said unless you or your successors change your mind, you can't be forced to change dedication. Mr. Sullivan said it is his understanding that parking is only on one side of the street since emergency vehicles need to be able to get through. Member Snipes said the feeling tonight is a lot different than the first plan that came forward. As he listened to the plan, he said he felt much more comfortable with this plan. He also appreciates all of the input from the public. Member Galloway moved to approve the stipulation between Falls Township and Viking Associates for West Trenton Avenue, TMP # 13-028-012-002; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)
ITEM # 3  CONSIDER ADOPTING AMENDMENT REVISING CHAPTER 209-7 – REZONING CERTAIN LANDS FROM AQ – AGE-QUALIFIED ZONING DISTRICT TO HRTH – HIGH-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TOWNHOUSE DISTRICT

Member Galloway moved to approve Ordinance # 13-01, amendment revising Chapter 209-7 – Rezoning Certain Lands from AQ – Age-Qualified Zoning District to HRTH – High-Density Residential Townhouse District; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor.  (5-0)

ITEM # 4  CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM POLICE PENSION COMMITTEE FOR PENSION FUND – DIVERSIFICATION AND CONTROL

Mrs. Betsy Reukauf introduced this item. Mr. Patrick Blizzard from SEI explained what SEI proposes to do with the Police Pension Fund as it relates to diversification and control and also the impact on the portfolio. They are looking to shorten the duration of the overall fixed-income portfolio. They will also be looking to diversify into other asset classes. Member Galloway said the board felt very positive about the recommendations of Mr. Blizzard. He was impressed with Mr. Blizzard’s explanation of the standard deviation where you decrease the risk slightly by distributing funds differently. As far as the 10% variance, it only seems to make sense in this day and age that funds shouldn’t be sitting in a place too long without anyone looking at it. He saw it as a best practice to allow a 10% variance to move funds to other places best suited to our needs. Someone brought up at the meeting that we are only a day away from reversing anything SEI made a decision about. Member Snipes asked what exactly they are being asked to do. Mrs. Reukauf said there are two things. One is to amend our investment management agreement with SEI. That amendment allows the 10% movement between funds to they can respond better to the market and allow them to make those changes. The second item is the adoption of an investment policy statement which the township does not currently have. We should have an investment policy statement that shows our fiduciary responsibility to these funds to maintain our safety as well as the earnings. Member Snipes asked if they have to follow the same rules with the township funds as the Police Pension Fund. Mr. Clarke said what we are allowed to enforce in applying everything presented here is the same as what we are allowed to do under the Second-Class Township Code. Member Rocco asked how the notification of funds allocation would occur. Mr. Blizzard has an updated schedule and allocation and they will send that off to the trustees. They all have internet access set up and have daily access to the website. Chairman Harvie asked how long Mr. Blizzard has been working with Falls Township. Mr. Blizzard said about three and a half years and SEI has been working with the township for about twelve or thirteen years. Chairman Harvie said we hear horror stories in other areas about having to sell off everything due to bad investments. Chairman Harvie asked Mr. Blizzard how many other municipalities he handles and about what size they are. Mr. Blizzard said they currently have about forty municipal plans; some of which are $600M to $700M in size. They also have corporate plans which range from $10M to $2B. Member Snipes moved to open public comment;
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Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) Mr. Roland Kenney said if Mrs. Reukauf is okay with it, this should be passed. Mr. Andy Dell asked how this gentlemen’s firm is compensated. Mrs. Reukauf said it is on basis points and SEI is 0.6. Mr. Dell asked how much money is in our Police Pension Fund. Mrs. Reukauf said currently we have $12M with SEI and a little over $10M with PLIGIT. We will be moving the bulk of that money over to SEI shortly. Mr. Dell asked why the Falls Township money is not doing as well as SEI. Chairman Harvie said the long-term fund is put into safer investments and is based on restrictions. Mr. Clarke said the township has certain issues with having to be a little more liquid. The Police Pension Fund can base their investments on the ages of the police officers since they know when they will need the funds. Mr. Dell asked if we are allowed to invest in the same things as the Police Pension Fund. Mr. Clarke said no. Mr. Dell asked if we are getting in the 1% range. Mrs. Reukauf said rates are low. Mr. Dell asked if there is any other way to earn more than 1%. Chairman Harvie said we follow the advice of Mrs. Reukauf and Manager Gray and they have the ability and the freedom to move money if they see a better fit for the money. Member Dence said we are very limited. He read in his last township newsletter that there is legislation being proposed to allow us to do some more things, but that is in the future. Right now there are about five places to put the money. Mr. Guido Mariani said there are some insured CDs that earn from 1-1/2% that run up to 11-1/2%. Mrs. Reukauf said we are investing in short-term CDs. Mr. Mariani said when he was in the industry, they had their pensions with the Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation. Mr. Mariani asked if there is any possibility we can do something like combining our township Police Pension Fund with other townships in order to lower our risks in these investments so that we can be a little more aggressive. Mr. Clarke said he does not know if it is being contemplated, but it is not permitted at the moment. Member Dence moved to close public comment; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) Member Galloway moved to approve an amendment to the Investment Management Agreement with SEI as stipulated in the March 14, 2013 memo and also the agreement which Township Supervisors have in front of them; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 5 CONSIDER ADOPTION OF INVESTMENT POLICY STATEMENT FOR THE POLICE PENSION FUND

Member Dence moved to approve the adoption of investment policy statement for the Police Pension Fund; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 6 ENGINEERS REPORT

Mr. Sullivan said the South Olds Boulevard culvert replacement is underway at this time. They are preparing for installation of the new bridge for the first week in April. Regarding the 2012 Road Program, 85% of the storm water work is done. The only streets left are Winding Way West and Midway Drive. The contractor for the Quaker Penn Park Baseball Field is working on the turf. The in-field is not in great shape and is a work in progress. At the request of Member Rocco, they have ordered break-away bases. The weather hasn’t cooperated as well as they would have liked for that project, along with the soccer fields.
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With regard to the senior center, most of the work going on is interior work. For the tennis court, it has to be at least forty five degrees and rising in order to pave and for the color coat, it has to be warmer than that. Mr. Sullivan said the 2013 Road Program is still in design. They propose going out to bid in April. The Fallsington paving is actually part of the 2012 Road Program. Member Galloway moved to approve the February Engineer’s Report dated March 15, 2013; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 7   BILL LIST

Member Galloway moved to approve the bill list in the amount of $1,633,083.28; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 8   EXECUTIVE SESSION – There was no Executive Session held.

ITEM # 9   MANAGER COMMENT

A. Member Dence moved to approve the letter of extension for Aria Health to the date of May 31, 2013; Member Snipes seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

B. Member Snipes moved to approve escrow release #1 to Air Products and Chemicals in the amount of $760,938.20; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0)

ITEM # 10   BOARD COMMENT

Member Snipes said many people in the community are aware of an incident that occurred at Dick’s Sporting Goods. There was a suicide that occurred in the restroom of the store. Member Snipes acknowledged emergency personnel, police, and staff and customers in the store who had to deal with that tragic situation. It was a very hard situation to deal with in the unfolding of it and afterwards when the death occurred. It has to be hard to encounter these things and he wants to acknowledge that we respect the work they do, and they know how difficult it is, especially in that kind of situation. What happened is unfortunately, very common in our country. There are probably about 16,000 to 17,000 suicides by hand guns in our country. There needs to be a larger conversation about mental illness and depression. We need to reach out to one another with whatever conversation we can begin to have about this kind of situation dealing with mental illness and depression. We need to have a long conversation about the availability of weapons and mental state and we need to work on this issue of suicide as a society. Member Snipes again thanked the township personnel, police, and emergency personnel. He said he speaks for all board members when he says he hopes they don’t have to do this again.

Member Dence – no comment

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Member Galloway said he had the good fortune of being involved in the Bucks County St. Patrick’s Day Parade and said they have just completed their 25th year. There were well over one hundred people who work throughout the year to make this event a success. They had about 2,000 marchers. There were a lot of spectators who came out and braved the weather. Member Galloway said they look forward to putting on their 26th parade next year.

Member Rocco – no comment

Chairman Harvie thanked Member Galloway as the head of the parade commission and all the work he put in. As they were looking at the weather leading up to Saturday, they wondered how the day would turn out. Chairman Harvie said he echoes the comments from Member Snipes about the first responders, not only from Falls Township, but also officers from other areas that were called in. They tried to bring a peaceful end to that situation, but it did not happen that way. It was sad, but it could have been worse. Unfortunately, another tragedy occurred a day later when a mobile home fire claimed the life of a gentleman who was unable to get out of his home. Chairman Harvie said their thoughts and prayers go out to the gentleman’s family. It helps to have working smoke detectors in the home and it is good to have an escape plan. Chairman Harvie congratulated Mrs. Reukauf on being awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Financial Recording. This is the 15th consecutive year the township has received this award. Chairman Harvie moved to appoint Mr. Bill Renson to the Cable Advisory Board; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) Chairman Harvie said the firm of Flager and Yockey has changed their name. They need to make a motion in this regard. Chairman Harvie moved to appoint the firm of Flager and Associates as the land development attorney at the fees stated in their letter earlier this year; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) Chairman Harvie wished the residents of the township a Happy Easter and a Happy Passover. He thanked the township employees and the professionals for all their work as well as Mr. Bennett and the Fire Marshal. Chairman Harvie also thanked the members of the Police Pension Committee. Chairman Harvie appreciates Mrs. Reukauf filling in tonight in Manager Gray’s absence and also the public for attending tonight’s meeting to voice their input.

Member Snipes moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (5-0) The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Jeffrey Rocco, Secretary