Board of Supervisors - March 21, 2016

TOWNSHIP OF FALLS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

ROLL CALL:

ROBERT HARVIE, JR., CHAIRMAN

JEFFRY DENCE, VICE-CHAIRMAN

JEFFREY ROCCO, SECRETARY-TREASURER

BRIAN GALLOWAY, SUPERVISOR

JEFF BORASKI, SUPERVISOR

PRESENT

PRESENT

The meeting commenced at 7:00 p.m. with roll call and salute to the flag. All Board members were present with the exception of Member Rocco. Also present were Township Manager Peter Gray, Township Solicitor Michael Clarke, Township Solicitor Lauren Gallagher, and Township Engineer James Sullivan.

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

Ms. Marla Lipkin said she is here on behalf of the education support professionals of Pennsbury. Their group proposes an initiative for students to help them create a passion for reading. Having a library near the township park and next to a playground would enable students to easily access books. There are currently four libraries being built for them which will be located in surrounding communities including Falls Township and Lower Makefield. Ms. Lipkin thanked the board for consideration of their proposal and said they look forward to a positive response. Chairman Harvie said some of the team members have approached the township in past months. He suggested that Ms. Lipkin meet with Mr. Brian Andrews (Parks and Rec Department) and Mr. Jason Lawson (Public Works Department).

Ms. Shawn Stillwell spoke about Elcon. She said everyone she talks with is absolutely against it. She thinks it is important that they keep attending these meetings to let the board know they are against having this company located in our community. Ms. Stillwell thinks it should go somewhere else and certainly not near a water source.

Ms. Jennifer Sayors said many people in her neighborhood feel the same way she does. We do not want Elcon here.

Ms. Alica Jorgenson said she doesn't want Elcon and doesn't want her kids to breath in the air. She is also concerned about a decrease in her home value.

Ms. Lisa Farrell said she is here again in regard to Elcon. She said people are scared about the power with which Elcon wants to force this on us. If anyone went to the Sheaton meeting, Elcon said they have no problems with permits. Ms. Farrell shared an article from an Israeli newspaper and said they do have problems. Ms. Farrell said people are saying

that this is not an incinerator, but she believes a thermal oxidizer is an incinerator. There is a difference in the way it is being portrayed. They are not saying that this is a horrible company or what they are doing is horrible thing. They are saying that there is too much population here and too much damage that could be done to our waterways and our air. We don't want the possibility of an accident. No matter what their best intentions are, something will always go wrong.

Ms. Veronica Lee said she has been a Falls Township resident for 22 years. She wanted to attend tonight's meeting to show her support for the people who are against Elcon. Ms. Lee said we do not need another hazardous waste facility in our area.

Mr. Roland Kenney told Member Galloway that it was a fantastic St. Patrick's Day parade. Mr. Kenney asked where the money goes for the vendor sales. Member Galloway said there were specific items being sold that benefited the parade and other vendors as well. Mr. Kenney is against Elcon and said we do not need this in our township.

Mr. George Baxter is a local businessman with his business located off of Rt. 13. Mr. Baxter spoke about Dean Sievers Place and said he spoke with business people in that area. Three of the four businesses across from the proposed Elcon site are opposed to his business being located here. If you go down there on a cloudy day, when you get out of your car, there are times you could use a respirator due to poor air quality. People who work in that area cover up their cars during the day. Mr. Baxter said there will be an informational meeting this Wednesday at the Bucks County Free Library off of New Falls Road for those who want to know more about Elcon.

ITEM # 2 CONSIDER PROPOSAL FOR PARANORMAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE THREE ARCHES HISTORICAL BUILDING

Mr. Brian Andrews said last year they received an inquiry from Mr. David and Sherry Newman about paranormal studies at the Three Arches. Mr. Newman spoke of their group's proposal to conduct paranormal activities at the Three Arches. He said their group wishes to not only conduct studies, but learn about the history of the Three Arches and volunteer for any clean ups at the facility and help with other events. Mr. Newman spoke of other places his group has been to. They like to focus on the history and awareness of these buildings instead of seeing them vacant. They use their own equipment in the buildings and respect the property. Ms. Gallagher said they required the individuals to have a rider with our insurance carrier which was an extra cost and the organization did pick up the cost. Member Boraski moved to open public comment; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Mr. Guido Mariani wanted to remind the board that the Three Arches building is as much his building as anyone else in the township. He does not want anyone to get involved with this satanic garbage and adamantly opposes paranormal activities or trying to contact some spirits or invite entities into that building. Member Boraski moved to close public comment; Member Galloway seconded the motion: all board members were in favor. (4-0) Mr. Andrews said the group proposes to meet a couple times each year and then help out at special events. Mr. Newman said there are

different groups that do the types of things Mr. Mariani mentioned, but their group does not want anything to do with something like that. They take it as to what is going on inside of the walls. They don't do exorcisms or other things you read about in the newspaper. It is about the history of the building, the people who lived there, and the spirits. Member Boraski moved to deny the proposal for paranormal activities at the Three Arches Historical building; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor with the exception of Chairman Harvie who voted no. (3-1)

ITEM #3 CONSIDER NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD BID FOR THE THREE ARCHES HISTORICAL BUILDING EXTERIOR PAINTING PROJECT

Manager Gray said one bid was received and opened for painting of the Three Arches building. The bid was from Castle Painting, Inc. and is in the amount of \$10,880. Member Galloway moved to authorize the township engineer's office to issue a notice of intent to award the bid to Castle Painting, Inc. in the amount of \$10,880; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 4 CONSIDER REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR THE THREE ARCHES HISTORICAL BUILDING RESTORATION SERVICES

Mr. Wesley Sessa, from 18th Century Restorations, was here to answer questions for the board, in regard to his proposal. Mr. Sessa provided information on his plans and how he operates. He looks forward to working with Castle Painting. Member Dence moved to approve the proposal from 18th Century Restorations in the amount of \$88,385; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 5 CONSIDER AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER TO FINALIZE THE AWARD FOR THE PINEWOOD POOL REPAIRS PROJECT

Member Galloway moved to authorize the township manager to finalize the award for Poolside Plastering, Inc. for the Pinewood Pool repair project; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) This work will need to be completed before Memorial Day.

ITEM # 6 CONSIDER THE 2016-2017 STONE AND ASPHALT BIDS FOR FALLS TOWNSHIP

Manager Gray said the Bucks County Consortium Road Material Bid was opened by New Britain Township and forwarded to Falls Township. It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors award the Consortium Road Materials Bid to three companies as follows: 1) The stone and aggregate items to Eureka Stone Quarry; 2) The blacktop and binder material to Walter R. Earl (with Eureka Stone Quarry as a backup vendor); and 3) The cold patch material to HEI-Way, LLC. Member Dence moved to accept the bids as presented in the

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March 3rd memo from Mr. Jason Lawson regarding stone and aggregate, blacktop and binder material, and cold patch; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all boardmembers were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 7 CONSIDER PURCHASE OF A 2016 FORD F250 CREW CAB FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Member Boraski moved to approve the purchase of a 2016 Ford F250 Crew Cab for \$33,225 from Hondru Ford in Manheim, off of the Costars list; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM #8 CONSIDER PURCHASE OF A DUMP TRUCK FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Mr. Jason Lawson provided information in regard to this purchase. The budgeted amount for this purchase is \$167,000. Member Boraski thanked Mr. Lawson for the extra time he put into this to get the pricing reduced. Member Galloway moved to approve the purchase of a new dump truck in the total amount of \$162,643 off of the Costars list, according to the memo from Mr. Lawson; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 9 CONSIDER MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS AND THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Since last year, Manager Gray and Mr. Clarke have had meetings to review our collective bargaining agreement with the operating engineers for the Public Works union. They also met with the union about four times and have reached a memorandum of agreement for a new 4-year contract. This has been approved by the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 542. Mr. Clarke reviewed highlights of the agreement. It also adds an agreement to allow for Public Works employees, who are members of our local fire departments, to respond to fire calls during the day. This will be reviewed after the first year of implementation. Board members said they appreciated the work by Manager Gray and Mr. Clarke. Member Boraski moved to open public comment; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Mr. Guido Mariani had questions about the new contract. He asked about the cost for a family in a single plan and how much the employee contributes. Manager Gray said it is about \$38,000 a year. There is no employee contribution. Mr. Mariani asked if the health plan follows employees when they retire. Manager Gray said they would go on cobra. Mr. Mariani asked about the various types of plans and the tax on them. Mr. Mariani would like to see the salary increase changed and suggested there be a tier plan. Mr. Mariani also commented on pension contributions. Mr. Clarke said the union was requesting a 5-year contract and they approved a 4-year contract. The excise tax Mr. Mariani asked about has been pushed back to January 1, 2020 and may get pushed back even further. Mr. Clarke said our employees are fairly compensated for the work they do for the township. We have a lot of high-quality,

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very skilled employees who have been here for a long time. If they were to leave, we would not have their expertise and that is something that ends up costing the township. Member Boraski moved to close public comment; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) Member Dence moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the International Union of Operating Engineers and the Public Works Department, retroactive to January 1, 2016; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM #10 MINUTES - MARCH 7, 2016

Member Dence moved to approve the minutes from March 7, 2016; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 11 ENGINEERS REPORT

Mr. Sullivan gave an update about the Quaker Penn Park boat ramp. The missing pile was installed at the boat ramp and the right-side docks have been floated. The left-side docks need repairs and should be floated by April 15th. Member Dence asked about the driveways on Bernard Drive. Mr. Sullivan will look into this. Member Boraski moved to approve the February Engineers Report dated March 18, 2016; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 12 BILL LIST

Member Boraski moved to approve the bill list in the amount of \$1,905,263.15; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 13 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Clarke said prior to tonight's meeting, the board held an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

ITEM # 14 MANAGER COMMENT

- A. Member Galloway moved to approve escrow release # 3 for Mar Mar Builders in the amount of \$29,075.85; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
- B. Member Galloway moved to approve escrow release # 2 for the Fairless Hills Credit Union in the amount of \$48,025.57; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
- C. Member Dence moved to approve the extension of time on the land development/Conditional Use application for McGrath Homes to July 31, 2016; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

- D. Member Dence moved to approve the time extension for Pennsbury Manor waiver of land development to May 23, 2016; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
- E. Manager Gray provided information about a violation of Chapter 206 by Emily Towing. Member Dence moved to accept the manager's recommendation in regard to Emily Towing; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
- F. Ms. Gallagher spoke about the siding replacement at 27 Lower Morrisville Road which is located in a historic district. They have been able to come up with a proposal for alternate siding which meets the satisfaction of the property owner. Member Boraski would like to have the ordinance looked at to try to avoid some of these issues. Member Boraski moved to authorize the solicitor's office to execute the agreement for 27 Lower Morrisville Road; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 15 BOARD COMMENT

Member Dence - no comment.

Member Boraski - no comment.

Member Galloway said last Saturday's St. Patrick's Day parade and celebration went off beautifully. Congratulations to Maggie Lorady, the Grand Marshal of the parade. We had wonderful weather and marched in honor of our law enforcement. There were over 100 volunteers and thousands of participants and thanked everyone who was involved.

Chairman Harvie thanked Member Galloway for the St. Patrick's Day parade. As we are coming up to this weekend, it is a special time of the year for Christians and Jewish as well. Happy Easter and Happy Passover to members of our community. Chairman Harvie said at a time when we are supposed to be recognizing peace, harmony, and rebirth, he would ask people to think seriously about the upcoming elections and decide if their vote is going to reflect what this country should be doing and where it should be going. Some things that are happening are worrisome and people have legitimate concerns. There are times were we need to step back and make sure we are living up to the phrase of the 'greatest country in the world.' Hopefully, this week will make people think about the words they say, post online, the things they believe, the direction they want the country to go, and will make the right decisions. Chairman Harvie thanked everyone for their time and effort in this meeting.

Member Dence moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Galloway seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.