

**TOWNSHIP OF FALLS
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

ROLL CALL:

ROBERT HARVIE, JR., CHAIRMAN	PRESENT
JEFFRY DENCE, VICE-CHAIRMAN	PRESENT
JEFFREY ROCCO, SECRETARY-TREASURER	PRESENT
BRIAN GALLOWAY, SUPERVISOR	ABSENT
JEFF BORASKI, SUPERVISOR	PRESENT

The meeting commenced at 7:05 p.m. with roll call and pledge to the flag. All Board members were present with the exception of Member Galloway who had a work commitment. Also present were Township Manager Peter Gray, Finance Director Betsy Reukauf, Township Solicitor Michael Clarke, Township Solicitor Lauren Gallagher, and Township Engineer James Sullivan.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS FOR THE HALLOWEEN HOUSE AND THE SCARECROW DECORATING CONTESTS

Parks and Rec Manager, Mr. Brian Andrews, and Mr. Ralph Asplen were here to present certificates and gift cards to the top three winners of the Halloween house decorating contest (3rd place - 724 Austin Drive, 2nd place - 206 Winding Way, and 1st place - 64 Eventide Lane). The top three winners of the scarecrow decorating contests were presented with awards as well (3rd place - Cub Scout Pack 100, 2nd place - Kira and Leanne Sebastian, and 1st place - the Pennsbury Kids Care after-school program).

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

Mr. Guido Mariani said on Penn Valley Road, between the two entrances to Thornridge, cars have been placed for sale on the greenbelt. Mr. Mariani wants to put a stop to this before it becomes a used car lot. Hopefully, the car owners will get a warning, then if not removed a fine, and possibly towed at the owner's expense. Mr. Mariani said he recognizes this board's frustration with not being able to execute the new building plan which he believes went up to \$26M. Mr. Mariani said that had the potential for a future Armageddon. This building is not suitable for its present use. Mr. Mariani said he does not agree with the belief that it is more efficient to tear it down than to renovate. His preference was phase 4 option 1 is an addition and renovation to this existing building. He believes this building can and should be renovated to conform and accommodate to our present needs. We can do this well below the cost of the present plan that we had. Let us not give up on a new complex. It is a huge program, but it is a doable program. Let us identify and select best solutions and get started on a new complex. Mr. Mariani said he believes the cost can be financed in a five-year period without using any host fees.

**ITEM # 2 CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS – 26 YARDLEY AVENUE –
TMP # 13-020-322 – REMOVE ALUMINUM SIDING; REPLACE
WITH HARDIE PLANK SIDING**

Member Rocco moved to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 26 Yardley Avenue, TMP # 13-020-322 to remove aluminum siding and replace with hardie plank siding; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 3 MORRISVILLE COMMONS, LP – REMANDED CONDITIONAL USE
WEST TRENTON AVENUE AND PINE GROVE ROAD – TMP # 13-
028-028**

(also reported under Executive Session)

Member Rocco moved to table item # 3 until a date certain of December 19, 2017; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

**ITEM # 4 2018 PROPOSED BUDGET PRESENTATION AND
AUTHORIZATION FOR ADVERTISEMENT**

Manager Gray said both he and the finance director have met with the department heads and received information for the 2018 preliminary budget. Mrs. Betsy Reukauf presented details of the proposed 2018 budget. The tax millage rate remains the same at 7.22 mils. Proposed capital projects include the 2018 Road Program, mill and overlay projects, intersection improvements, tree trimming and removal at the Community Park, miscellaneous police purchases, Public Works purchases, and replacement of the existing emergency generator. The budget is scheduled to be adopted at the December 19, 2017 meeting. Chairman Harvie said this process began several months ago when the department heads were asked to put together their proposals for the coming year and then meet with Manager Gray and Mrs. Reukauf. Mrs. Reukauf and Manager Gray compiled the budget and then reviewed this with the department heads and supervisors. That gives us the final budget this evening. We have already been briefed with the budget so that is why we do not ask a lot of questions when the budget is presented. The proposed budget will be available for viewing at local libraries, in the township building, and on the township website. Member Dence moved to authorize advertisement of the 2018 proposed budget; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 5 CONSIDER ADOPTING THE ACT 537 PLAN UPDATE

Ms. Vanessa Nedrick (Remington Vernick Beach) said the Act 537 Plan is a sewage planning document that the township and the Township of Falls Authority (TOFA) would have to use together to make sure that they can accommodate the existing and future sewage flows and needs for the township. Member Dence moved to adopt the Act 537 Plan update; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 6 CONSIDER RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2017 FEE SCHEDULE

Manager Gray said recently the state increased the Uniform Construction Code (UCC) charge from \$4.00 to \$4.50. This UCC charge is applied to every non-zoning permit that the township issues. In turn, the township submits quarterly, all UCC payments collected to the state. Member Rocco moved to approve Resolution # 17-29 to amend the 2017 Fee Schedule; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0) The board went into Executive Session at 7:40 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 7:45 p.m.

ITEM # 7 CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION FOR ADVERTISEMENT AMENDING ORDINANCE CHAPTER 198 – TAXATION, ARTICLE V, LOCAL SERVICE TAX, SECTION 44, LEVY OF TAX

Manager Gray said this is authorization for advertisement. Currently, Falls Township has a local service tax which is a deduction of \$30, assessed on a pro-rated basis during each calendar year from the salaries of all current full-time employees in Falls Township. This program is submitted to the township quarterly. At this time, they request an increase of \$22 to the limit of \$52. The board is asked to authorize advertisement amending the local service tax. This is for full-time employees, not part-time employees. It is estimated to bring in another \$280,000 to the township to be allocated to police functions and operations. Member Dence moved to authorize advertisement amending Ordinance Chapter 198 – Taxation, Article V, Local Service Tax, Section 44, Levy of Tax; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 8 CONSIDER PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FROM T&M ASSOCIATES FOR THE 2018 FALLS TOWNSHIP ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Manager Gray said the township received a proposal from Mr. Sullivan from T&M for professional engineering services for the 2018 Falls Township Road Improvement Program. This program includes Walton Drive and Share Drive. The total cost of this program is \$282,800. Member Dence moved to award to T&M Associates the proposal for professional engineering services for the 2018 Falls Township Road Improvement Program in the amount of \$282,800; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 9 MINUTES – OCTOBER 17, 2017

Member Rocco moved to approve the minutes from October 17, 2017; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 10 ENGINEERS REPORT

Mr. Sullivan said the Vermillion Hills foot bridge is in place. The walking path has been restored. It should be 100% complete by Monday. The work on the fishing pier has begun with the pylon work being started on Monday. The contractor said they will be done before

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Christmas. Walton Drive is substantially complete. The grass is coming in nicely. The grass also looks good on Howley Drive. The docks at the Quaker Penn Park boat ramp will be removed next week. Member Rocco moved to approve the October Engineers Report dated November 16, 2017; Member Dence seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 11 BILL LIST

Member Boraski moved to approve the November 21, 2017 bill list in the amount of \$3,192,419.79; Member Rocco seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 12 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Clarke said prior to tonight’s meeting, the board held an Executive Session to discuss a matter of litigation and several personnel matters.

At Executive Session held after item # 6, Mr. Clarke said the board discussed litigation regarding item # 3 and an issue that has arose with item # 3, and discussed some scheduling issues among the board. It appears there is a notice issue with respect to item # 3 and in an abundance of caution, we recommend that item # 3 be tabled until December 19th at 7 p.m. in this room. Member Rocco moved to table item # 3 until a date certain of December 19, 2017; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)

ITEM # 13 POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT

Chief Wilcox provided the following information:

- Chief Wilcox recognized the Police Association of Falls Township who recently fed 125 seniors. People were well taken care of and they did a great job.
- Chief Wilcox wanted to recognize and remember two folks who recently passed away. They are Madeleine Jones and Henry Conway and will be missed.

ITEM # 14 MANAGER COMMENT

- A. Member Dence moved to approve the escrow release for CNG Fueling Station in the amount of \$21,523; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
- B. Member Dence moved to approve escrow release # 2 for Premium Lift in the amount of \$87,586.74; Member Boraski seconded the motion; all board members were in favor. (4-0)
- C. Manager Gray announced new township businesses. They are: CJ’s Tires, Dollar General, DeMark, SoHo USA LLC, New Harvest Transportation, and Crossfit Yards.

ITEM # 15 BOARD COMMENT

Member Rocco thanked everyone for voting to re-elect him for another term as Supervisor. He is looking forward to serving for another six years. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

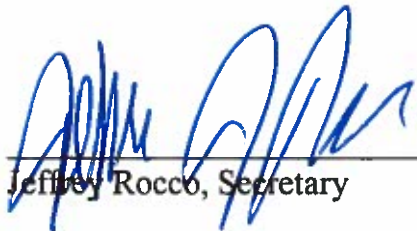
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Member Dence also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. People have been questioning the leaf pick up schedule. The schedule is not something the township creates. The dates are given to us by Waste Management.

Member Boraski - no comment.

Chairman Harvie said he received a message from Ms. Quinn Kelly, a very active volunteer in the township. Ms. Kelly is stepping down from the Parks and Rec Board. Chairman Harvie thanked her for all the work she has put in. Chairman Harvie echoed Chief Wilcox's comments about Henry Conway and Madeleine Jones. Ms. Jones was always very active and tried to make Falls Township the best it could be. A few people spoke in the past couple of months about the issue of dogs and asked us to look at our ordinances. Looking over the ordinances we have, Chapter 116 - Sections 2 and 10, both establish that it is illegal for dogs to be allowed to run loose. On their own properties that is different, but one individual who was here spoke about a dog who was not leashed, and it chased her granddaughter home from the bus stop. She had a photo of the dog sitting on another person's property. There are fines already in place for dogs that are considered a nuisance and that is what that dog was doing. We spoke about increasing the fines and there are some limitations. It comes down to making our police department aware. Sometimes people are afraid to call 9-1-1. That is what the police officers are there for. We also have an animal control officer as well. It is something to be aware of and our police officers can be contacted if a dog is chasing people around. Chairman Harvie said he went to a ceremony at the Delaware Valley Vietnam Veterans (DV3) headquarters located in Edgely and they presented Falls Township with a plaque which we will be happy to hang here in this meeting room. Chairman Harvie thanked them for the work they do. They had an awareness program about Agent Orange and the various debilitating diseases because of Agent Orange. When the toxins get into the bloodstream of persons, some illnesses can be passed down to their children. More information can be found at the Vietnam Veterans Assistance site, the Bucks County site, and the Veterans Assistance for Bucks County as well. The DV3 can also point you in the right direction. Chairman Harvie wishes everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and hopes everyone has a safe holiday season. In regard to the Live Here, Spend Here program, a reminder that this Saturday is Small Business Saturday. Take a look at the businesses here in Falls Township and help out your neighbors and friends. Chairman Harvie thanked the staff for all their work.

Member Rocco moved to adjourn the meeting; Member Boraski seconded the motion all board members were in favor. (4-0) The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.



Jeffrey Rocco, Secretary