

Ross Township Commissioners Meeting
1000 Ross Municipal Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
April 4, 2016
7:30 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Jeremy Shaffer, Daniel L. DeMarco, Grace Stanko, David J. Mikec, Lana Mazur, Stephen Korbel, Richard Avon, Patrick Mullin and Jack Betkowski

SOLICITOR: Bonnie Brimmeier, Esq.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER: Douglas Sample

RECORDING SECRETARY: Noreen A. Re

Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - None

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE:

Eagle Scout Jeremiah Mancino

Commissioner Stanko presented a plaque to Jeremiah Mancino of Troop 368 for attaining the highest rank in Scouting. He is the 63rd Eagle Scout from Troop 368. Jeremiah's Eagle Scout project consisted of landscaping renovation at Highland Presbyterian Church as well as helping with some drainage issues along the driveway.

PETITIONS AND COMPLAINTS – None

AWARDING OF BID:

Public Works Uniforms and Other Rentals

Mr. Sample stated this matter will be moved to the next meeting in April.

RESOLUTIONS TO BE ADOPTED - None



ORDINANCES TO BE ENACTED – None

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Minutes – None

PAYMENT OF BILLS AND FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Motion to approve made by Commissioner Mazur and seconded by Commissioner Mullin.

Motion passes unanimously

PLANNING COMMISSION - None

PLANNING/ZONING REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT:

Commissioner Korbel stated Mr. Rickert is continuing to work on several zoning amendments that were discussed in their committee. The sidewalk ordinance is also continuing to be worked on. Commissioner Korbel commented that everybody received the letter from the county that Mr. Rickert sent along with some comments about particular language they recommended for the “fee in lieu” portion of the ordinance.

Regarding the proposed Chick-fil-A, two variances were granted by the Zoning Hearing Board. Pending final Site Plan approval, the estimated start date for construction is September with completion in March of 2017. The Northway Mall subdivision plan has been recorded and is all set to go. Construction is ongoing. Ulta will be opening in the near future. Grading has begun on the new Verizon site. Construction should be complete in approximately six months. Drive Time is in the process of obtaining their PA state licensing requirements to open. The Milbert Lane subdivision will be before the Planning Commission on April 28th and will come before the Board at a later date.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT - None



RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT:

Board motion to approve Pashek & Associates to prepare the Sangree Park Feasibility Study.

Motion to approve made by Commissioner Mazur and seconded by Commissioner Korbel.

Motion passes unanimously

Commissioner Mazur requested Ms. Peet address the Board regarding the camera at Denny Park. Ms. Peet described in detail the camera situation at Denny Park. Having cameras in the park would allow Public Safety to effectively monitor Denny Park from the police station. Commissioner Mikec commented that the camera in Maple Park, which operates on a tape system and was donated on a trial basis, has helped to curb vandalism in the park. Ms. Peet commented further that having the cameras tends to be a deterrent.

Commissioner Mazur also commented that articles for the magazine need to be submitted by April 15th. She also indicated they are working on the Fishing Tournament, Community Day and the parade. There will be a dunk tank fundraiser again this year.

ADMINISTRATION/LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Board motion to appoint Lisa Herbert and Kathleen Buck to a four-year term on the Traffic Advisory Board.

Motion to approve made by Commissioner Stanko and seconded by Commissioner Mazur.

Commissioner Betkowski inquired if the openings were appropriately posted. Mr. Sample said they were. Commissioner Betkowski also requested that these appointments line up with the others made at the beginning of the year. Since the Traffic Advisory Board was not created at the beginning of the year, the term expires in March of 2020. Discussion ensued regarding changing the appointment to expire at the end of the year rather than March. Commissioner Korbel stated he thought they would just serve the

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remainder of the term of the person they replaced. Ms. Brimmeier commented as follows:

MS. BRIMMEIER: "We have to look at what the legislation that created this said. I don't know whether it says that or not."

Motion to table made by Commissioner Korbelt and seconded by Commissioner Betkowski.

**Motion passes – 8 to 1
Commissioner Mikec voting in the negative**

Request Board approval of the Lowries Run Joint Owned Sewer financials for the years ended December 31, 2015, and 2014.

Motion to approve made by Commissioner Stanko and seconded by Commissioner Mazur.

Motion passes unanimously

Board motion to accept additional option year for COG Garbage and Recycling Contract.

Motion to approve made by Commissioner Stanko and seconded by Commissioner Mazur.

There will be a \$0.45 increase per month.

**Motion passes – 8 to 1
Commissioner Shaffer voting in the negative**

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT:

Request Board approval regarding Massaro Construction Management Services, LLC, Proposal for Extended Services Change Order No. 1. Total not to exceed \$31,344.00.

Motion to approve made by Commissioner Mikec and seconded by Commissioner Mazur.



Motion passes unanimously

Request Board approval for Merit Electrical Group Change Order No. 1. Total not to exceed \$66,083.20.

Motion to approve made by Commissioner Mikec and seconded by Commissioner Mazur.

Motion passes unanimously

Commissioner Mikec reminded everyone there are three full-time laborer positions and up to nine part-time summer positions available at the Public Works Department. He advised anyone interested to check the website for details.

Commissioner Shaffer commented on the progress of the Public Works Building and the capacity of the salt dome.

PUBLIC SAFETY/POLICE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Commissioner Avon stated the Ross Police Department will be hosting a safety program on personal safety on Saturday, April 9th, at 11:00 a.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY/FIRE/FIRE POLICE/EMS COMMITTEE REPORT - None

MANAGER’S REPORT:

Mr. Sample stated the township had its MS-4 compliance inspection last Tuesday for the stormwater discharge to the streams. He indicated the examination went well and that there were no violations or deficiencies. Mr. Sample also stated that next Monday at 6:30 p.m. will be the goal-setting agenda meeting. Dinner will be served.

COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS:

Commissioner Mikec mentioned the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners will have their educational



seminar this year in the Philadelphia region. The township has historically taken out a \$250 ad on its behalf. Since there is no current group photo, Mr. Sample stated he would submit the same ad that has been used previously with everyone’s names listed. All commissioners were in agreement. Commissioner Mikec also stated he attend the PSATC executive board meeting in State College, which is not a direct cost to the township. He indicated he met with State Representative Kerry Benninghoff and had a very informative meeting. Topics discussed were the use of radar at the municipal level, House Bill 340 regarding local government debt and the legalization of marijuana.

Commissioner Mazur reminded everyone that the Great American Cleanup is April 23rd. If any groups are interested, the township will provide gloves and bags.

Commissioner Korbel stated Berkeley Hills participates in the Great American Cleanup every year in both the spring and fall. He encouraged everyone to participate. He congratulated Commissioner Shaffer on the birth of his newest daughter, Lauren Grace.

Commissioner Stanko welcomed the new chief to the meeting, Chief Ley. She also congratulated Commissioner Shaffer and his wife on the birth of their daughter.

Commissioner Shaffer thanked McDonald’s for its recent upgrades. Their improvements included a sidewalk, a crosswalk through their parking lot and a handicapped ramp that goes up and over. Commissioner Betkowski also commented that the improvements are a welcome addition for people in the area. Commissioner Shaffer also commented that the Bike/Walk Ross Committee have continued to have meetings. Bike/Walk Ross has adopted about a two-mile section of Babcock Boulevard for cleanup. He wasn’t sure exactly what day they would be cleaning this area, if it would be on April 23rd, but they will be scheduling a time in the future.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS:

Mr. Joe Zawoysky, 123 5th Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15229, questioned whether Waste Management was the company for

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recycling, which Mr. Sample confirmed. He also confirmed that the \$66,000 was for the new Public Works Building. Mr. Zawoysky also congratulated Commissioner Shaffer on the birth of his daughter.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Korbelt and seconded by Commissioner Mazur.

Motion passes unanimously

**MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:15 P.M.
NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN**

**Douglas Sample
Manager/Secretary**

**By: _____
Jeremy Shaffer, President
Ross Township Board of
Commissioners**

Minutes transcribed by *Noreen A. Re, Court Reporter*