

Ross Township Commissioners Meeting
1000 Ross Municipal Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
June 2, 2014
7:30 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Grant Montgomery, David J. Mikec, Paul Trilli, Jeremy Shaffer, Daniel L. DeMarco, John Sponcer, Stephen Korbel, Grace Stanko, Lana Mazur, Junior Commissioner Stanley Marciniak, III, and Junior Commissioner Jake Stanton

SOLICITOR: Bonnie Brimmeier, Esq.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER: Douglas Sample

BUILDING CODE OFFICIAL/ZONING OFFICER: Dan Hankins

Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Joe Zawoysky, 123 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15237, inquired if the amounts listed for items in the Recreation Committee Report were budgeted amounts. Mr. Sample responded in the affirmative. Mr. Zawoysky also inquired if the cost of the Ford Focus automobiles were budgeted. Mr. Sample responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Patrick Bauer, 21 Wentworth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15229, president of the West/View Ross Athletic Association, stated he was in support of the new scoreboard at Herb Field.

Mr. Randy Miller, 606 Bittersweet Court, Gibsonia, PA 15044, head baseball coach at North Hills High School, stated he was in support of the new scoreboard at Herb Field and thanked the Board for considering a new scoreboard.

PETITIONS AND COMPLAINTS – None

AWARDING OF BID:

2006 Ford Expedition police vehicle – (Minimum Bid: \$4,000.00)

Mr. Sample stated one bid was received from Chicago Motors for \$4,007.00.

Motion to award the bid to Chicago Motors made by Commissioner DeMarco and seconded by Commissioner Mazur.

Motion passes unanimously

CHECK PRESENTATION:

North Hills Food Bank

Commissioner Montgomery stated the township participated with Gateway Engineers in a fundraiser for the Food Bank. He presented Mr. Bill Lindner, volunteer with the North Hills Food Bank, with a check for \$1,500 as well as a small basket of food for the North Hills Food Bank. Mr. Lindner stated the North Hills Food Bank was made up of 100 percent volunteers.

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE:

Eagle Scout Matthew Carnprobst

Commissioner Montgomery presented a plaque to Matthew Carnprobst for achieving the highest rank in Scouting, Eagle Scout. Matthew's project was rehabbing the back pathways at Animal Friends on Camp Horne Road.

RESOLUTIONS TO BE ADOPTED - None

ORDINANCES TO BE INTRODUCED - None

ORDINANCES TO BE ENACTED - None

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion to approve the minutes of May 5, 2014, made by Commissioner Sponcer and seconded by Commissioner Mazur.

Motion passes unanimously

Motion to approve the Payment of Bills and Financial Reports made by Commissioner Mikec and seconded by Commissioner Mazur.

**Motion passes – 8 to 0 with 1 abstention
Commissioner Stanko abstaining due to Check No. 20841 to North Hills Printing**

PLANNING COMMISSION:

SP-14-4 – James Laird requesting Site Plan approval to construct a one-story commercial building for a tree service on property located at 702 Rochester Road in a C-2 Zoning District of the 4th Ward.

MR. HANKINS: "Commissioners, this here is an application for Site Plan approval to construct a one-story commercial building for a tree service located at 702 Rochester Road in a C-2 Zoning District of the 4th Ward. The Planning Commission, having reviewed this application, is of the opinion that it meets the terms as set forth in the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance and/or the Zoning Ordinance and hereby recommends approval of the request by a vote of eight to zero with the following conditions: That a note shall be added to the title sheet stating that the lighting and landscaping plans were submitted to and approved by the Lowries Run/Rochester Conservation Overlay Committee; and, two, a note shall be added to the plan stating that the proposed sanitary and storm sewers shall adhere to the profile which shows vertical separations of three feet and one foot between the sanitary lateral and respective storm sewers.

"Also, this plan did receive the Overlay Committee approval back on May the 8th of 2014. There was also one variance granted for a side yard buffer reduction. That was granted by the Zoning Hearing Board on February 12, 2014."

Mr. James Laird, 4060 Windfall Drive, Gibsonia, PA 15044, explained his request in detail. Mr. Laird said the conditions would be taken care of. Mr. Hankins stated Ms. Sandy Nelko from Shoup Engineering was advised of the conditions and was not able to provide the additions before the meeting. Upon inquiry by Commissioner Shaffer, Mr. Laird described the location of the property in detail.

Motion to approve with conditions made by Commissioner Korbelt and seconded by Commissioner Mazur.

Motion passes unanimously

SOLICITOR'S REPORT - None

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT:

Request Board motion to appoint Gateway Engineers as the Project Engineers for Herge Park at a cost not to exceed \$8,000 and Evergreen Park Grant Projects at a cost not to exceed \$14,000.

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

Motion passes unanimously

Request Board motion to purchase a scoreboard from Institutional Specialties for Herb Field at a price not to exceed \$14,600.00.

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

Upon inquiry by Commissioner Shaffer regarding a sponsor on the scoreboard, Commissioner Montgomery stated it will only have the Ross Township logo at this time. Commissioner Trilli stated sponsorship will be looked at later down the road.

Motion passes unanimously

Request Board motion to purchase Tot Playground from

Sports & Recreation Association for Scharmyn Park at a price not to exceed \$11,600.00.

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

Motion passes unanimously

ADMINISTRATION/LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT - None

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT:

Commissioner Mikec reported “progress.”

PUBLIC SAFETY/POLICE COMMITTEE REPORT - None

PUBLIC SAFETY/FIRE/FIRE POLICE/EMS COMMITTEE REPORT:

Commissioner Sponcer reported “progress.”

PLANNING/ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT - None

MANAGER’S REPORT - None

JUNIOR COMMISSIONER REPORT:

Junior Commissioner Marciniak reported that 300 students will be graduating from North Hills High School this Friday. He also thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as a junior commissioner.

COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS:

Commissioner Shaffer stated he has been trying to get pictures of people walking on the sides of the road. He stressed the importance of adding sidewalks in the township, especially along the retail corridors. He also mentioned Marcellus Shale drilling and zoning. Mr. Hankins indicated there is an ordinance in progress.

Ms. Brimmeier indicated there was a Supreme Court case that was pending which has been resolved. Commissioner Shaffer encouraged the Board to take advantage of the new Supreme Court flexibilities that townships were given. He indicated there are certain areas that may be drilled in the township and that they should be done safely, if at all.

Commissioner Trilli stated that now that the website is up that everyone should take a look at it and make suggestions or improvements. He indicated he was willing to meet with Ms. Peet this week to take a look and perhaps tweak it and make it better. Commissioner Montgomery requested Ms. Peet set up a couple workshops for the commissioners on the new website. Ms. Peet responded affirmatively.

Commissioner DeMarco requested the manager contact Allegheny County regarding some patchwork on Thompson Run Road. He stated one area in particular was located at the intersection of Thompson Run and Babcock at Monticello's Restaurant.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

Ms. Shirley Adams, 7925 Spruce Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15237, addressed the Board regarding the light at Route 19 and Sewickley Oakmont Road. Commissioner Montgomery recommended Ms. Adams apply for the Traffic Advisory Board. Commissioners Mazur and Trilli both stated applications will be taken. She also spoke about commercial trucks going through her neighborhood. She also discussed timing of the light at Washington and Route 19. Commissioner Montgomery stated he would make sure the chief took care of that for her. Another topic she discussed was garbage ordinances. Mr. Hankins stated there would be a new ordinance coming soon. She also questioned easy access to ordinances online. Mr. Hankins suggested Ms. Adams E-mail him and he can send her a link that she can search by name or title or other criteria.

Based upon comments made by Ms. Adams, Commissioner Shaffer inquired if load postings could be posted on township streets. Ms. Brimmeier commented as follows:

MS. BRIMMEIER: "For example, Thompson Run Road has bridges. There can be a weight load because at some point the truck is going to

have to cross that bridge, even though it may not be apparent there is a bridge there.”

Commissioner Mikec stated there are postings throughout the township, but you see it mostly in rural areas. Most of them are on state roads.

Commissioner Shaffer also inquired as to the status of the garbage ordinances. Ms. Brimmeier commented as follows:

MS. BRIMMEIER: "We adopted one saying -- I can't remember -- like we were affecting the hours of when it could be collected. Now we're in the process of drafting it, of limiting the time when the cans can be put out."

Commissioner Montgomery stated they would look into the matter of the garbage ordinance.

Mr. Christopher Smeathers, 120 Cardiff Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237, inquired if the Board had any information regarding a proposal for a development of houses at the top of Colwyn at Babcock and Evergreen. Ms. Brimmeier commented as follows:

MS. BRIMMEIER: "We haven't received anything official. There has been some preliminary discussions with the developer, as you are aware. But procedurally once something would be submitted, it would go to our Planning Commission. They would have a meeting, and it would be open to the public for anyone to come and express concerns. That would be the appropriate thing. And then when and if the Planning Commission is finished with it, then it would come to this Board for consideration."

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

Motion passes unanimously

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:02 P.M.

Douglas Sample
Manager/Secretary

By:_____
Grant Montgomery, President
Ross Township Board of
Commissioners

Minutes prepared by Noreen A. Re, Court Reporter