

Ross Township Commissioners Meeting
1000 Ross Municipal Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
September 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 and Lana Mazur

ABSENT: Junior Commissioner Jake Stanton

SOLICITOR: Bonnie Brimmeier, Esq.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER: Douglas Sample

Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Joe Zawoysky, 123 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15229, addressed the Board regarding the cost of the HVAC replacement. Commissioner Montgomery stated it came out of the General Fund.

PETITIONS AND COMPLAINTS - None

RESOLUTIONS TO BE ADOPTED:

Resolution No. 2147 – Approving a revision of the Official Sewage Facilities Planning Module Plan of the Township of Ross for Bohn Automotive located at 1927 Babcock Boulevard.

Mr. Sample indicated the Board has already approved the development and that this is part of the process.

Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Mazur and seconded by Commissioner Sponcer.

Motion passes unanimously

Resolution No. 2148 – Authorizing the demolition of structures at 802 Quail Avenue and 138 Reis Run Road.

Mr. Sample indicated this is through the CDBG program, a grant program that is administered through the North Hills COG.

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

Motion passes unanimously

Resolution No. 2149 – 2013 and 2014 Real Estate Tax Refunds – Various - \$24,355.28

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

Motion passes unanimously

ORDINANCES TO BE INTRODUCED - None

ORDINANCES TO BE ENACTED:

Ordinance No. 2344 – Flood Plain Ordinance

Mr. Sample indicated this needs to be passed by the township in order for the township to qualify for the flood insurance program. It has been approved by the DEP.

Motion to enact made by Commissioner Mazur and seconded by Commissioner Sponcer.

Motion passes unanimously

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion to approve the minutes of August 4, 2014, and Payment of Bills and Financial Reports made by Commissioner Trilli and seconded by Commissioner Mikec.

**Motion passes – 7 to 0 with 1 abstention
Commissioner DeMarco abstaining due to
absence from the meeting
(Commissioner Mazur not present for vote)**

PLANNING COMMISSION - None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT - None

ADMINISTRATION/LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Request Board approval for Pay Application No. 1 from Gerard Heating and Plumbing in the amount of \$295,264.20 for the HVAC Rooftop Unit Replacement Project.

Commissioner Stanko indicated this has been approved by Gateway Engineers.

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

Commissioner Mikec commented that this is not the final bill. Punch list items and calibration may be an additional amount.

**Motion passes – 7 to 1
Commissioner Shaffer voting in the negative
(Commissioner Mazur not present for vote)**

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT:

Request Board motion for approval to proceed with drawings and bidding process of proposed Public Works facility.

Motion to approve made by Commissioner Sponcer and seconded by Commissioner DeMarco.

Commissioner Mikec commented that bids will not vary greatly from the \$8 million price tag. He suggested looking at alternates to the plan. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Shaffer outlined alternatives to the project that he looked into.

Roll call:

Commissioner Sponcer – Yes
Commissioner DeMarco – Yes
Commissioner Stanko – No
Commissioner Mikec – No
Commissioner Mazur – No
Commissioner Korbel – Yes
Commissioner Shaffer – No
Commissioner Trilli – No
Commissioner Montgomery – No

Motion fails – 6 to 3

Commissioner Montgomery stated the matter will be placed into committee for discussion. Commissioner Mazur requested information on the possibility of removing the center of the building.

Regarding issues with the current building, Commissioner Mikec stated Gateway has indicated there are no significant changes in the cracks in the back wall, but they have placed crack monitors on the back wall to get more accurate readings. The 2014 Paving Program is complete. All that is remaining are punch list items. All of the quantity was used from the bid, so there will be no extra roads paved. All 14 units have been installed on the roof. The scoreboard has been installed.

Public Works is prepping for Community Day on September 20th. Commissioner Mikec also indicated two more hires are needed to get Public Works up to full force. Mr. Sample stated he would have something for the next agenda. Upon inquiry by Commissioner Sponcer if salt-clearing could be contracted out, Commissioner Mikec responded in the negative. Mr. Sample stated there were enough drivers to cover the snow routes. Commissioner Mikec indicated back-to-back storms could present a problem.

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT:

Commissioner Mazur commented that if anyone has anything for the next magazine to please provide it to the Recreation Department as soon as possible. September 20th is Community Day, which will be from 1:00

p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at the Community Center. Volunteers are needed as well as commissioners to meet and greet people.

PUBLIC SAFETY/POLICE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Motion to appoint John McDonagh, Kathleen Buck, Dana Bell and Shirley Adams to the Traffic Advisory Board made by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Mazur.

Motion passes unanimously

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

Commissioner Sponcer indicated the chiefs will meet on September 17th.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Mr. Sample requested any comments to the Employee Handbook be submitted by tomorrow. He also indicated the garbage ordinance was advertised for action on September 15th.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Commissioner DeMarco stated there would be a CONNECT meeting at Wagle Whiskey on Smallman Street next Wednesday. He requested if anyone would like to attend to please let him know.

Commissioner Stanko reminded everyone that the North Hills Council of Government will be having its annual dinner on September 18th at Sieb's Pub on Babcock Boulevard.

Commissioner Mikec encouraged everyone to attend the fall educational seminar. He also commented on the Highland Country Club project and an issue with dirty water that is ending up on Camp Horne Road. He also questioned enforcement of their Erosion and Sedimentation Plan. Mr. Sample stated he would have the Conservation District look into the matter.

Commissioner Shaffer inquired about the safety of patrons of Rum Runners crossing Babcock to park. He suggested that the Traffic

Committee could possibly look into having a walkway installed. Commissioner Stanko stated they were supposed to have valet parking. Mr. Sample indicated the valet parking was for weekends only. Commissioner Montgomery stated he would have the Public Safety Department look into the matter.

Commissioner Trilli stated he was excited to have the Traffic Advisory Board filled and that he looked forward to working with them. He also indicated he would be honored to work with Commissioner Mazur on Community Day.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

Mr. Joe Zawoysky, 123 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15229, addressed the Board regarding sewage on Cornell Avenue in West View and the location of a storm sewer on Fifth Avenue. He also commented on residents being notified of paving to occur on their streets. He also inquired regarding the loan on the current Public Works building, the use of the building, maintenance of vehicles and grass cutting at 115 Fifth Avenue. He also provided some Right-To-Know requests.

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

Motion passes unanimously

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:00 P.M.

Douglas Sample
Manager/Secretary

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

Minutes transcribed by Noreen A. Re, Court Reporter