

Ross Township Commissioners Meeting  
1000 Ross Municipal Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237  
September 15, 2014  
7:30 p.m.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Grant Montgomery (via telephone), David J. Mikec, Paul Trilli, Jeremy Shaffer (via telephone), Daniel L. DeMarco, John Sponcer, Stephen Korbel, Lana Mazur and Junior Commissioner Jake Stanton

**ABSENT:** Grace Stanko

**SOLICITOR:** Bonnie Brimmeier, Esq.

**TOWNSHIP MANAGER:** Douglas Sample

**ZONING ADMINSTRATOR:** Domenic J. Rickert

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*Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation*

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**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None**

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**PETITIONS AND COMPLAINTS - None**

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**RESOLUTIONS TO BE ADOPTED:**

**Resolution No. 2149 – Temporary banner placement across Siebert Road at McKnight Road which message reads: Saint Sebastian School Open House.**

**Motion to adopt made by Commissioner DeMarco and seconded by Commissioner Korbel.**

**Motion passes 8 to 0**

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**Resolution No. 2150 – Authorizing the 2015 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMOs) for the police and general employees pension plans.**

**Motion to adopt made by Commissioner Korbelt and seconded by Commissioner Mazur.**

**Motion passes 8 to 0**

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**ORDINANCES TO BE INTRODUCED - None**

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**ORDINANCES TO BE ENACTED:**

**Ordinance No. 2343 – Amending the Ross Township Code of Ordinances at Chapter 14, Solid Waste, Part 1, Collection, Section 104, Hours for Collection.**

**Motion to enact made by Commissioner Mazur and Seconded by Commissioner Trilli.**

Commissioner DeMarco questioned whether there is a discrepancy in the section numbers. Discussion ensued as follows:

MS. BRIMMEIER: “Why don’t we just do this so we don’t hold you up. I’ll double-check it, and whatever the correct section number is, we’ll make sure --

COMMISSIONER DeMARCO: “Can we do that?”

MS BRIMMEIER: “Yeah. It’s just a section number. The verbage isn’t changing. I don’t have a code book here.”

Commissioner DeMarco stated that he believes Section 14 is the logging section. Commissioner Sponcer also mentioned that it doesn’t deal with leaf bags. Discussion continued as follows:

MS BRIMMEIER: “I thought it said – and I don’t have a copy.

COMMISSIONER DeMARCO: “It says all refuse and recycling, including garbage cans and recyclable -- I guess the question was: Did we cover that? Have we covered that?”

MS BRIMMEIER: “Well, I would have to again go back and look at the code to see how they’re defining refuse and recycling. I would imagine it would include that, but I can double-check it.”

Commissioner Sponcer asked Mr. Funk if the Township picks up the leaves, and Mr. Funk responded yes. Commissioner Mazur questioned whether there should be a separate ordinance for leaves. Ms. Brimmeier responded as follows:

MS. BRIMMEIER: "There might be a separate ordinance."

**Motion to table made by Commissioners DeMarco and Seconded by Commissioner Sponcer.**

**Motion passes 7 to 1  
Commissioner Montgomery voting in the negative**

Discussion continued with Commissioner Korbel stating Chapter 14 is listed as logging and Mr. Brimmeier stated:

MS. BRIMMEIER: "So we need to check to see how the leaves are being dealt with, if they're dealt with under a separate ordinance or not. I don't know."

Discussion continued about leaf bags, and Commissioner Mazur stated that they are only picked up certain months. Mr. Funk stated that it is October to the end of November. Discussion ensued about picking up leaf bags. Ms. Brimmeier commented as follows:

MS BRIMMEIER: "I'll check to see if there's a separate Ordinance dealing with leaves."

Commissioner Mikec reminded the Board that this item had been tabled and stated the solicitor should have been tapping him. Ms Brimmeier responded as follows:

MS BRIMMEIER: "Well, I mean, there's no point in tabling it if I don't know what you want added."

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**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Approval of Minutes – August 18, 2014  
Payment of Bills and Finance Reports**

**Motion to approve the minutes of August 18, 2014, and the Payment of Bills and Financial Reports made by Commissioner Korbelt and seconded by Commissioner Mazur.**

**Motion passes 8 to 0**

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**PLANNING COMMISSION:**

**Z-14-2 – A. Craig Lubbert requesting Conditional use approval to operate a Home Occupation on property located at 7927 Lindsfarne Drive in an R-I Zoning District of the 9<sup>th</sup> Ward.**

Mr. Rickert stated this request is for gunsmith, and the Planning Commission recommended approval by a vote of 8 to 0 with the following conditions: Federal firearms license be obtained, there be a safe and/or security system in place, and that customers be limited to two maximum at a time. He also stated there will be no retail sales from the home and no signage.

Commissioner Mikec questioned whether the conditions have been met of the permit and security system or gun safe. Mr. Lubbert stated that in order to get the federal firearms license, he must first have the occupancy permit.

**Motion to approve, subject to the conditions, made by Commissioner Sponcer and seconded by Commissioner DeMarco.**

**Motion passes 8 to 0**

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**PLANNING/ZONING DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT –None**

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**SOLICITOR’S REPORT - None**

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**RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Commissioner Mazur stated Community Day is this Saturday from 1:00 to 9:00. She stated there will be activities all day on the stage, in the gymnasium and on the baseball field, concluding with fireworks. She asked that everyone, including Commissioners, park at the alternate locations at the bottom of the hill next to Big Lots, at the Public Works Building or North Hills Village Mall.

She stated four shuttles will run nonstop. The only people allowed to park on top of the hill is somebody who has a handicapped placard.

She stated this year the Township did Community Week. If you go to the Web site and click on "Upcoming Events, Community Week," you will see different businesses that are giving discounts for Community Week.

Commissioner Mazur also stated Eloise Peet wanted her to mention that the complete electric at Denny Park was updated. Commissioner Mazur also thanked the Recreation Department for everything they did for the scoreboard on the baseball field, and she stated they've gotten many comments that everyone is happy.

Commissioner Mazur also reminded everyone to fill out their surveys for the Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Mikec questioned Commissioner Mazur whether it's true that there will be a dunk tank at Community Day. Commissioner Mazur confirmed that there will be and stated she's looking specifically for Commissioners to volunteer to sit in it. Commissioner Montgomery nominated Commissioner DeMarco. Commissioner DeMarco stated he will do it if Commissioner Montgomery does it. Mr. Sample and Commissioner Shaffer also volunteered.

Commissioner Trilli stated as part of Community Week, there will be a "Movie in the Park" at Denny Park on Friday evening, beginning around 8:00. The movie is going to be Wizard of Oz.

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## **ADMINISTRATION/LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

**Request Board approval for Pay Application No. 2 from State Pipe Services, Inc., in the amount of \$68,974.65 for repair work completed between July 1, 2014, and July 31, 2014, for the Ross Township 2014 Sewer Repair Contract A – Excavation Repairs as required by the Consent Order.**

**Motion to approve made by Commissioner Trilli and seconded by Commissioner DeMarco.**

Commissioner Mikec stated that all three requests tonight have been reviewed by the engineer and approved for payment.

**Motion passes – 8 to 0**

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**Request Board approval for Pay Application No. 2 from State Pipe Services, Inc., in the amount of \$132,152.28 for repair work completed between June 30, 2014, and July 30, 2014, for the Ross Township 2014 Sewer Repair Contract B – Lining Repairs as required by the Consent Order.**

**Motion to approve made by Commissioner Trilli and seconded by Commissioner DeMarco.**

**Motion passes 8 to 0**

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**Request Board approval for Pay Application No. 2 from State Pipe Services, Inc., in the amount of \$37,740.00 for repair work completed between July 1, 2014, and July 31, 2014, for the Ross Township 2014 Sewer Repair Contract C – Special Repairs as required by the Consent Order.**

**Motion to approve made by Commissioner Trilli and seconded by Commissioner DeMarco.**

**Motion passes 8 to 0**

Mr. Sample requested Board permission to advertise the special meeting on September 29, 2014, in regard to the Public Works Building, to be held at 6:30 P.M. at the Public Works facility.

**Motion to approve made by Commissioner Mazur and seconded by Commissioner Sponcer.**

**Motion passes 8 to 0**

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**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT - None  
PUBLIC SAFETY/POLICE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

**Motion to confirm the terms of the following initial appointments to the Traffic Advisory Board made by Commissioner Trilli and seconded by Commissioner Mazur:**

**Edward Monroe – March 31, 2018**  
**John McDonagh – March 31, 2018**  
**Dana Bell – March 31, 2017**  
**Kathleen Buck – March 31, 2016**  
**Shirley Adams – March 31, 2016**

**Motion passes 8 to 0**

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**PUBLIC SAFETTY/FIRE/FIRE POLICE/EMS COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Commissioner Sponcer reported that the chiefs meet Wednesday night.

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**MANAGER’S REPORT – None**

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**JUNIOR COMMISSIONER REPORT:**

Junior Commissioner Jake Stanton reported that the North Hills High School’s Wind Ensemble has received a national honor from the National Association for Music Education. He also reported that the North Hills High School planetarium will welcome community members in September for three shows aimed at specific age groups. Details can be found at [www.nhsd.net](http://www.nhsd.net).

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**COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS:**

Commissioner DeMarco questioned Mr. Sample about the status of the tree logs on Thompson Run Road. Mr. Sample stated the tree company Hazlett was retained to do three to four additional days of cleanup.

Commissioner DeMarco also asked Mr. Sample about the permit requirement for Rum Runners for valet, and Mr. Sample stated that the

Township is negotiating with them to resolve that issue, the permit is a temporary occupancy, and they will not be given the final until that issue is resolved.

Commissioner DeMarco also stated that it was great to be at the North Hills football game on Friday, and Commissioner Sponcer was recognized at halftime for his service to our country.

Commissioner Mazur reminded the Board that this coming Thursday at Sieb's at 6:30, Grace Stanko is taking presidency of the North Hills Council of Government. Ms. Stanko is the first woman to ever hold that office.

Commissioner Montgomery requested the Township send a letter of condolence to the slain state trooper in Scranton, PA, and also asked that the Public Safety Department and the Board offer their assistance and support to the state troopers to resolve the issue that happened on Friday night.

Commissioner Mikec reminded everyone that the educational seminar is the 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. There are still opportunities to register or at least appear for the banquet dinner. Since Ross Township is promoting the event, he suggested everyone try to attend at least one day.

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**CITIZENS' COMMENTS:**

Mr. Joe Zawoysky, 123 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15229, addressed the Board regarding the new air conditioner, his request to view documents, county meeting, 115 Fifth Avenue and the speed limit on Babcock Boulevard. He asked Commissioner Mazur if she ordered no rain for this weekend, to which she responded, "Absolutely."

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**Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Korbelt and  
Seconded by Commissioner Mazur.**

**Motion passes 8 to 0**

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**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:10 P.M.**

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**Douglas Sample**  
**Manager/Secretary**

**By:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Grant Montgomery, President**  
**Ross Township Board of**  
**Commissioners**

**Minutes prepared by** Deborah Betzler, Court  
Reporter

