

Ross Township Commissioners Meeting
1000 Ross Municipal Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
November 5, 2014
7:30 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Daniel DeMarco, Grant Montgomery (via telephone), Paul Trilli, Jeremy Shaffer (via telephone), John Sponcer, Stephen Korbelt, Lana Mazur and Junior Commissioner Ruby Brunet

ABSENT: David J. Mikec and Grace Stanko

SOLICITOR: Bonnie Brimmeier, Esq.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER: Douglas Sample

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR: Dominic J. Rickert

Before the meeting began, Junior Commissioner Ruby Brunet was sworn in by District Magistrate Richard Opiela.

Commissioner DeMarco chaired the meeting this evening.

Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - None

PETITIONS AND COMPLAINTS:

Robert Bronder, 250 Stevens Drive – Re: Permit Parking on Stevens Drive

Mr. Robert Bronder, 250 Stevens Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15237, inquired of the Board if there was any movement regarding the permit parking ordinance. Commissioner DeMarco indicated the matter was discussed and that some controls need put in place for permit parking on Stevens Drive. Mr. Bronder was in agreement and indicated he would be willing to help. Mr. Bronder indicated parking was added at a major expense.



Retired Police Officers: Howard Boyd, Thomas Koedel, Donald Dreier, Matthew Remaly and others – Re: Health Care

Mr. Thomas Koedel, 209 Pittview Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237, addressed the Board regarding a letter that the retirees received stating there would be a 53.349 percent increase for retiree participants for medical benefits. He indicated this increase was a hardship. Commissioner DeMarco indicated the figures come from MEIT.

RESOLUTIONS TO BE ADOPTED:

Resolution No. 2151 – Requiring a five percent (5%) police officer contribution to the Ross Township Police Pension Plan for the year 2015.

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

Motion passes – 7 to 0

Resolution No. 2152 – Requiring a three percent (3%) general employee contribution to the Ross Township General Employees’ Pension Plan for the year 2015.

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

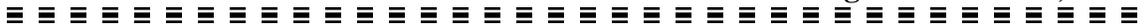
Motion passes – 7 to 0

ORDINANCES TO BE INTRODUCED:

Ordinance No. 2345 – Repealing Ordinance No. 1854 which established a Handicapped Parking Space at 711 Ravenswood Avenue.

Public hearing to be held on November 17, 2014

ORDINANCES TO BE ENACTED - None



CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Minutes – Monday, October 6, 2014

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

**Motion passes – 6 to 0 with 1 abstention
Commissioner Mazur abstaining**

Payment of Bills and Financial Reports

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

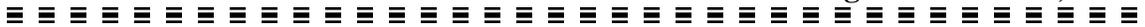
**Motion passes – 6 to 0 with 1 abstention
Commissioner Mazur abstaining**

PLANNING COMMISSION:

S-14-5 – Lane and Maureen Letky requesting the consolidation of seven lots (218-S-160, 162, 158, 156, 152 and 150) to one in order to construct a garage for residential use and to bring all parcels under one tax bill. The properties are all contiguous with the applicants’ current residence being located on Parcel 218-S-160. Access to the residence is via an easement agreement as noted on the plan. The applicant has no current or future desire to alter or add access. The parcels are located on Peoples Road in an R-1 Zoning District of the 7th Ward.

MR. RICKERT: “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 6-0.”

Ms. Maureen Letky, 4570 Peoples Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237, explained her request in detail. She indicated they would like to consolidate so they will have one tax bill and that they would like to build a garage.



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

Motion passes – 7 to 0

PLANNING/ZONING REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT - None

SOLICITOR’S REPORT - None

RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT:

Commissioner Mazur indicated there were 85 participants in the Halloween parade. She thanked all the volunteers and the Recreation Department for their efforts. Contents for the magazine are due by 10-31-14. Drafts will be available in approximately two weeks. A smaller file is requested for review for the Board of Commissioners. The mailing date is going to be around December 10th. She also indicated the recreation director provided information in the packets about granite walkways for the ECP. Commissioner Mazur stated any questions could be directed to Ms. Peet or she could come to the meeting to explain. Senior surveys went out to all the seniors in Ross Township. 180 responses have been received.

Lunch with Santa will be on December 13th from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. There will be live reindeer at the event. Quotes will be going out to replace the carpeting in the Community Center with vinyl flooring. Ms. Peet will be meeting with the DCNR forester to discuss Evergreen Park. A public meeting will be scheduled for discussion.

ADMINISTRATION/LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Request Board approval for Pay Application No. 3 and Final from Insight Pipe Contracting, LP, in the amount of \$8,357.33, for repair work completed between July 1, 2014, and September 30, 2014, for the CCTV Inspection as required by the Consent Order.

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



Motion passes – 7 to 0

Board acceptance of The Phoenix Benefits Group, Inc., Actuarial Services Engagement Letter for the Ross Township Police and Non-Uniformed Employees’ Pension Plans.

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

**Motion passes – 6 to 1
Commissioner Korbel voting in the negative**

Request Board approval to combine Community Day and the 4th of July celebration for 2015.

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

Motion passes – 7 to 0

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT:

Commissioner Mazur indicated Public Works is wrapping up its end of the year duties and also picking up leaf bags. She extended her thanks for their hard work.

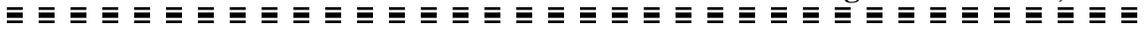
PUBLIC SAFETY/POLICE COMMITTEE REPORT:

Commissioner Mazur extended her thanks to the police and fire departments for their efforts on Halloween to help protect the children and families.

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

Commissioner Sponcer reported “progress.”

MANAGER’S REPORT - None



JUNIOR COMMISSIONER REPORT:

Ms. Brunet updated the Board on events happening at the high school. The North Hills High School Women’s Choir will be participating in the Women’s Choral Festival to be held at First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood on Sunday, November 9th, at 3:00 p.m. The high school fall play of “Incognito” will be presented on November 13-15 at 7:30 p.m. including a special free senior citizen matinee on November 15th at 1:30 p.m. North Hills High School will be participating in the KDKA-TV’s Hometown High Q on November 15th.

COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS:

Commissioner Korbelt also commented on the presence of the police and fire departments on Halloween night. He also indicated the voting turnout on Election Day in the 2nd Ward was over 50 percent. Commissioner Korbelt also stated he had a short meeting last Monday with now Governor-Elect Tom Wolf to discuss some of the economic issues in the township as well as some other general municipal issues. He also congratulated Commissioner DeMarco on his upcoming 50th birthday.

Commissioner Trilli indicated the Traffic Advisory Board will be meeting on Wednesday, November 12th, at 7:00 p.m. He echoed the comments made regarding Halloween.

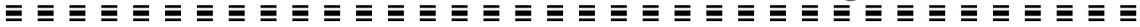
Commissioner DeMarco also echoed the comments regarding Halloween. He also indicated he would like to speak to the chief regarding speeding issues on the lower end of Nelson Run Road.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS - None

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

Motion passes – 7 to 0

MEETING ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:16 P.M.



Douglas Sample
Manager/Secretary

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

Minutes transcribed by Noreen A. Re, Court
Reporter