

KIDDER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, May 20, 2010

Chairman Polansky called the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Kidder Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 20, 2010 at the Kidder Township Municipal Building, Lake Harmony, PA.

ROLL CALL: Township Manager John Finnerty, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Lisa Klem, Supervisors Polansky, Bradley, Farnschlader, Gluck and Lengle were present along with Attorney Miscavige.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Jack Kalins questioned what was going to be done with the stumps remaining after PPL took down all the trees along Route 940 to make way for the new power lines into Jack Frost. He said it looks absolutely horrible and it's at the entrance to the two resorts. Chairman Polansky agreed with him that something needs to be done and asked Attorney Miscavige if the Township had any recourse concerning the condition the area was left. Attorney Miscavige said that it was an issue that would have to be looked at.

Ralph Lennon, Chief of the LHVFC, announced that this years Fireman's Convention will be held nearby in Wilkes-Barre. Since Lake Harmony and Albrightsville will be hosting the Convention next year they will have the privilege of marching right after the host Fire Companies. He formally invited the Supervisors and the Police Chief to participate in the parade. It would be great publicity for the Township and they will get to see what is coming our way next year.

Jason Steranko, of the LH Rescue Squad, gave an update from last month concerning the ambulance coverage. He said that they managed to meet with representatives of Golden Oaks in reference to the coverage and have also voted in six new members in the Tannery which brings a total of eleven volunteers. He would like to know if any decision has been made to allow the LHRS to cover the entire Township. Chairman Polansky said that he understood one of the reasons they wanted to cover the entire Township was because White Haven, which is the current provider for that area, had not been operational 24/7. He said he understands that WH is back in service 24/7 and that they have not been out of service for the last two months as was claimed last month. Chairman Polansky said that he would have Mr. Finnerty contact the Luzerne and Carbon County Communication Centers in order to get to the bottom of this matter.

Ellen McGinnis said that at the Lake Harmony Association meetings they had discussed that prior to the Fireman's Convention they would like to rent a chipper and have volunteers clean up the dead trees branches along the parade route. She also said that it would be nice to have flags on the poles along Lake Drive, as they have in many other communities, but said that she heard that the Supervisors had an issue with this in the past. Chairman Polansky said that some of their issues were never addressed as to who would be purchasing and maintaining the flags, who would be responsible for installing the flags and they would have to have PPL's permission. He said they should have all the details together before the board would reconsider. Mr. Kalins said that Split Rock intended to place flags along Moseywood Road during the convention.

Chairman Polansky presented a trophy to **Ralph Lennon** to congratulate him on his nomination as the Kidder Township Emergency Services Person of the Year. Ralph has been a fire fighter for 50 years starting in Jim Thorpe. He has been the LHVFC Chief since 2005 and was previously the Chief in Glenside, where he resided until his retirement in 1997. It was noted that many times the Chief responds to call by himself,

driving the fire truck. Chief Lennon thanked everyone and congratulated the other runner ups, each one he felt was deserving of the award. He asked if anyone knew of someone who would like to volunteer noting that responding to call by yourself waives a flag that they need help. The other nominees for the award were Bruce Berger, Fire Chief of the AVFC, Jason Steranko, Director of Operations of the Rescue Squad and David Troell, Fire Chief of the KTVFC.

Chairman Polansky announced that there will be an arbitration meeting concerning the police contract tomorrow at 10:00 A.M. This meeting is open to the public.

Marv Raphaelson questioned why nothing was being done about the problem with the sand from the Lake Harmony Estates beach. He said that the Lake Harmony Watershed Group has been complaining for the past three years about the sand build up in the lake caused by the Estates Beach and was told last year that Mr. Finnerty would be looking into it. Mr. Finnerty asked the Zoning Officer for the status of the situation. Ms. Compton said that no permits would be issued for any additional sand to be placed on the beach until the problem could be resolved. It was also her understanding that the different lake groups had been told by the Estates that a bulk head would be installed to keep the sand from spreading into the lake. **Lorraine Sloss** said that she spoke to the President of the Estate Property Owners Association and was assured that they would not put any new sand on the beach. Ms. Sloss said that she was also working with DEP and Carbon County Conservation on this matter. Chairman Polansky questioned who was responsible for requiring the Estates to install the bulkheads, if it would be the township please let us know. Mr. Raphaelson also asked what was going on with the docks at the Estates Marina. Ms. Compton said that the Estates had applied for permits to replace the dock but started work before the permits were issued and were told to cease work immediately. All proper permits including the DEP permit should be ready tomorrow.

Rich Smallenburg, President of the AVFC, asked if anyone knew when Route 534 would be closed again for repairs on the Swamp Creek Bridge. He said that the last time it was closed the fire company was notified a few hours before the closure while Penn Forest Township knew of the closure four days prior. Mr. Finnerty said he would look into the matter.

Jack Kalins asked if anyone knew the status of the Census. **Gene Getz** said that he saw a report on Channel 13 that the commissioners said that only 27% of the residents of Kidder Township had returned their forms. **Nancy Peterson**, who is one of the census workers, said that a problem with our Township is that many of the homes are vacation homes and the residents don't think that they have to return the forms or just haven't been to their homes yet this season. Mr. Kalins said that he never received a census form and was referred to Brad Grissinger who has been canvassing his area for the census.

Mr. Gahman, from Schaffer Lane, asked the Supervisors what to do about a problem neighbor who had been gone since January 6th and was rumored to be returning this week. His home is scheduled for Sheriff's sale on June 11th and currently has no running water. Chairman Polansky said that if he was breaking the law they should contact the police or if it was a matter of the home being unfit to live in they should contact the Township.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting April 22, 2010

MOTION - made by Mr. Lengle, seconded by Mr. Gluck **to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2010 meeting.** Motion carried 5-0.

There was an **Executive Session** held prior to this evenings meeting.

CURRENT BILLS:

MOTION – made by Ms. Farnschlader, seconded by Mr. Bradley **to pay the current bills in the amount of \$245,849.84.** Motion carried 5-0.

SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT:

1. Smith Partnership/Pine Point Plaza Coffee Shop - Final Land Development Plans

Ron Borger, from Keystone Consulting Engineering, said that they have not yet heard back from PennDOT concerning the letter that the Supervisors sent to PennDOT after last month's meeting in support of the project and requesting that a HOP review not be required at this time because of the scope of the project.

MOTION - made by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Mr. Lengle **to approve the Smith Partnership - Coffee Shop - Final Land Development Plan and waivers contingent upon receipt of a letter from PennDOT in reference to their current HOP before permits can be issued.** Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Albrightsville Volunteer Fire Company - request for a donation for the 7th Annual Horse Show to be held on Sunday, June 27, 2010 to benefit the fire company.

MOTION - made by Mr. Lengle, seconded by Mr. Bradley **to donate \$30.00 to the AVFC Annual Horse Show.** Motion carried 5-0.

2. Albrightsville Volunteer Fire Company - Waiver of all permit fees for Building Expansion Project

MOTION - made by Mr. Gluck, seconded by Ms. Farnschlader **to waive all permit fees for the AVFC Building Expansion Project.** Motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Polansky noted that it has been the practice of the Board in the past to waive fees for the Fire Companies and Ambulance.

REPORTS:

A. Police Chairman - Mr. Bradley just wanted to remind everyone about the police arbitration meeting tomorrow at 10:00 A.M.

B. Roadmaster - There was nothing additional to report.

C. Solicitor - There was nothing additional to report.

D. Manager - Mr. Finnerty had the following to report:

1. He said that he had reviewed the sand ordinance with the Ms. Compton last year and didn't realize people still had issues concerning the sand. If anyone has any problems he wants to let everyone know his door is always open.

2. He has received two requests from the Special Olympics of Carbon County for Special Fire Police Services. The first is for assistance at the 10K run to be held on Monday, May 31st in Jim Thorpe and the other is for the horse show to be held on Sunday, September 5th in Albrightsville. Chairman Polansky said that the Board can't direct the Fire Police to participate but can permit them in which case they would be covered by the Township. He asked if someone would make a motion.

MOTION - made by Ms. Farnschlader, seconded by Mr. Bradley **to permit the Fire Police to participate at the events if they so desire.** Motion carried 5-0.

3. The 2009 Annual Police Pension Plan has been provided to the Supervisors. A copy is available at the office.

4. He has received three insurance bids. One of the bids is \$20,000.00 less than last year. A decision would be made by the end of the month.

5. On Monday May 10th a meeting was held with the ambulance squad concerning coverage of Golden Oaks and the stationing of a vehicle in the Tannery.

E. Police - The report was in the Supervisors' file.

Chief Protasiewicz said that they will be having a PA Buckle Up Campaign from May 25th through June 13th. Please pay attention to the rules because they will be out there in full force.

F. Planning Commission - The report was in the Supervisors' file.

G. Zoning Officer - The report was in the Supervisors' file.

H. Zoning Hearing Board - There was no meeting in April.

I. Sewage Enforcement Officer - The report was in the Supervisors' file.

J. Code Enforcement Officer - The report was in the Supervisors' file.

K. Environmental Advisory Council - The report was in the Supervisors' file.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Reports were received from the Lake Harmony Volunteer Fire Company, Albrightsville Volunteer Fire Company, and the Lake Harmony Rescue Squad.

MOTION - made by Ms. Farnschlader, seconded by Mr. Lengle, **to put the reports on file.** Motion carried 5-0.

2. Zoning, Building and On-lot Sewage Fee Schedule Changes

Chairman Polansky said that the board needed more time to review the fees and would meet prior to the next meeting to discuss some fee increases. The goal would be to have all the Township fees on one schedule.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION - made by Mr. Bradley, seconded by Mr. Gluck **to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 P.M.**

John P. Finnerty, Township Secretary