



# SHOHOLA TOWNSHIP

## Board of Supervisors

George C. Fluhr, Gregory P. Hoepfer, Keith W. Raser  
Municipal Building  
159 Twin Lakes Road  
Shohola PA 18458

October 8, 2015

### ATTENDANCE:

- Supervisors; Chairman George C. Fluhr, Vice-Chair Gregory Hoepfer, Supervisor, Keith Raser, Secretary, Diana Blume and Solicitor, Jason Ohliger, as well as all others on the attached list.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 7:30pm

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Motion to approve minutes of the regular meeting of the Board on September 10, 2015, made by, Supervisor Raser, second by Vice-Chair Hoepfer motion carried.

### APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES:

- Motion to approve expenditures as listed for September 2015, made by, Vice-Chair Hoepfer, second by Chairman Fluhr, motion carried.

### APPROVAL OF TREASURERS REPORT:

- Motion to approve Treasurer's Report for August 2015, made by Supervisor Raser, second by Vice-Chair Hoepfer, motion carried.

### PLANNING COMMISSION:

- Gary Hoepfer reported that the Planning Committee had two meetings, the regular meeting and a Special Workshop meeting to go over the draft Zoning Ordinance. Mike Mrzonski from Pike County Planning attended both meetings to go over his recommendations for revisions. Travis O'Dell of the UDC also attended the Special Meeting to address his recommendation to the revisions of the Ordinance. All recommendations were addressed and the Ordinance has been revised to reflect the recommendations of both parties.

### SOLICITORS REPORT

- None

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Pumpkins in the Park will be held on October 17, 2015 along with the Shohola/Barryville 5K Run. The race starts at 9:30 and the Pumpkins event will begin at 11:30. Come join us for pumpkin picking, face painting, a costume contest and more. If you would like to volunteer for this event, please contact the Township Building at 570-559-7394.

### OLD BUSINESS:

- Road Crew Employee: Tabled until the November meeting.

### NEW BUSINESS:

- 2016 Budget Advertisement: Motion to advertise the Budget, made by Chairman Fluhr, second by Vice-Chairman Hoepfer, motion carried.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Pike County Humane Society sent a letter of Thanks for the Townships donation.
- Boy Scouts Troop #76 sent a letter of Thanks for allowing them to use the Park for their Kick Off BBQ.

## **REPORTS TO THE BOARD**

- Sewage/Zoning – 15 Zoning, 7 Sewage, and 3 Well Permits,

**Bob DiLorenzo** explained why there are so many open permits. He advised the public that back in 2010 the Governor signed an Act to extend all permits for construction to 2016. Normally zoning permits will expire after one year, and it will come on the computer as expired and if no work has been done, we send out a letter saying the permit has been expired and it has to be renewed. He further explained that the permits that are still open he has inspected them several times and they are either, not started or incomplete. Every time he inspects the property writes down whether they are not started or incomplete. He keeps the records of his inspections in Permit Manager. What he is trying to do is stay to an area that he travels to the office in order to keep costs of hours and mileage low.

**Carrie Thomas:** commented that Mr. DiLorenzo's time sheets do not show his inspections. His response was that it does not because he usually does the inspections as he travels on his way thru town. Carrie Thomas also stated about the open Sewage permits. Mr. DiLorenzo stated that the Sewage Permits are also allowed to stay open until 2016.

Carrie Thomas stated that he could close out permits that are already done and they do not have to be left open. Mr. DiLorenzo stated, yes, if they are finished. Ms. Thomas asked out of the 138 open zoning permits, how many of those are not active. Mr. DiLorenzo responded about 30 or 40 permits.

Ms. Thomas' further commented that she does not see from Mr. DiLorenzo's time sheets that he visits the sites to close out these permits. He reiterated that they would not since he does not write it down while traveling through town.

- Building Permits - 7 Residential permits
- Police – Report - No Report
- Road Department - Salt shed is almost filled. They are getting the spreaders ready for snow and they are doing some pothole patching.
- Park Committee – Diana reported that the Committee is preparing for Pumpkins in the Park.
- Fire Department – None

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- **Carrie Thomas** - Relative to the things written by the Chairman in the newspaper, Ms. Thomas asked the Chairman if he stands behind what he put in the media. Chairman Fluhr stated he stands by his comments. Ms. Thomas further states that the Chairman has accused his opponent, several times of wanting to have high taxes. Chairman Fluhr stated that this is a political debate and asks if Ms. Thomas had another question. Ms. Thomas asked why the Chairman would not retract some of the statements he has made in the media and expressed what a disservice he has done to his constituents when he tries to separate people by calling some of them wealthy elite.
- **Dave Farrington** - commented that Treasurer Blume did a fabulous job during the Budget Workshop.
- **Alice Jane Loewigkeit** - commented that the article in last week's paper stated, "It could become a nasty campaign" and the "Masuo supporters and Fluhr supporters don't like each other". Mrs. Loewigkeit stressed how she felt that those statements were not true. She further stated that she has been coming to Township meetings for 20 years and she feels that people in Shohola have to work together and if the Chairman considers her questions to him during a meeting as criticism, than he "has thin skin." She expressed that she feels his comments make it sound like Ms. Masuos supporters are all negative people.

- **Shirley Masuo:** asked the Chairman why he keeps stating that she wants to raise taxes. She asked that he explain why he keeps saying that. Chairman Fluhr response was that, if she wants walking paths and many other things, you have to raise taxes for that. Chairman Fluhr stated he is not going to get into a debate with her.
- **Cheri Graber** - stated that the Chairman makes claims about people and they are all asking him to back it up with facts. Mrs. Graber stated that the Chairman has claimed that he does so much for the park and asked how many Park meetings the Chairman had attended. Chairman Fluhr stated that he has never attended a meeting, but he communicates with his Secretary all the time to stay posted on the events.
- **Carrie Thomas** - made the comment "is that your way of governing, talking to the secretary/treasurer?" Chairman Fluhr responded by saying, "it's a style of management".
- **Cheri Graber** - further commented on the occasions that the Chairman has snubbed her. She expressed how coming to the meetings makes her very uneasy. She requested that Carrie Thomas be given her time to address the Board.
- **John Knapp** - commented that the Chairman always tells the Park Committee that they do a good job.
- **Carrie Thomas** - quoted the Chairman's letter in the newspaper "Shirley and her backers advocate a return to the discredited policies of the past", and asked would those be your fathers' policies? Chairman Fluhr stated that it was the administration after his father and before him. She further asked which policies are being discredited. Chairman Fluhr stated that he was not going to discuss it. Ms. Thomas asked when the Chairman was going to take responsibility of the things that come out of his mouth. Chairman Fluhr stated that he takes responsibility of everything he says and does. Ms. Thomas stated that he stands by it, but he will not discuss it.

**SUPERVISORS COMMENTS:**

- **Supervisor Raser** - Advised the public know that if they want a copy of the flyer for the Tick Born Disease Seminar, the secretary will make copies for them after the meeting.

**Motion** to adjourn at 8:03 pm made by Vice-Chair Hoper, second by Supervisor Raser, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Diana Blume  
Township Secretary