



SHOHOLA TOWNSHIP

Board of Supervisors

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

January 14, 2016

ATTENDANCE:

- **Supervisors; Chairman George C. Fluhr, Vice-Chair Gregory Hoeper, Supervisor, Keith Raser, Secretary, Diana Blume and Solicitor, Jason Ohliger and all other on the attached list.**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 7:30pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

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

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES:

- **Motion** to approve expenditures as listed for December 2015, made by, **Supervisor Raser, second by Chairman Fluhr, motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF TREASURERS REPORT:

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

PLANNING COMMISSION:

- Public Hearing for Zoning Ordinance. Hearing called to order at 7:31pm. Court reported recorded proceedings. Transcript is held in the office for future review.
- **Motion** to postpone adoption until February meeting to provide for more time for public comment, made by **Chairman Fluhr, second by Supervisor Raser, motion carried.**

SOLICITORS REPORT

- None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- PENN DOT is having a public meeting regarding the Pond Eddy Bridge Replacement Project on January 21, 2016 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at the Township Building.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Custodian:** Township Secretary has received three phone calls regarding cleaning the Township Building and Township Secretary made the recommendation to the Board to hire Kari Murante for \$25.00 per hour, which was the lowest price, received. **Motion** to accept the recommendation of the Secretary and hire Kari Murante at the rate of \$25.00 per hour, made by **Chairman Fluhr, second by Vice-Chair Hoeper, motion carried.**
- **RESOLUTION 2016-01**

RESOLVED: that the Shohola Township Board of Supervisors, hereby grants authorization, to the Shohola Township Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department Inc, to respond to alarms for fire, for motor vehicles accidents, and to emergency medical calls and emergency calls both

inside and outside the Township of Shohola, where authorized by the law. Authorization is also granted for these organizations to participate in meetings, fire, rescue, emergency medical, and related training, in parades, in celebrations, and in related activities in Pike & Wayne counties in Pennsylvania, and in counties of New York and New Jersey bordering Pike County, Pennsylvania. Upon written request from a nearby municipality the Supervisors may authorize non-emergency public service assistance to that municipality. Authorization is also granted to engage in fundraising activities, including but not limited to fairs, carnivals, banquets, barbecues, bingo, small games of chance, and similar activities conducted in Shohola Township. It is the responsibility of the Fire Department to provide (to the Township and its workers' compensation insurance carrier) a list of all active members who are authorized to participate in any of the above-listed activities. Such list shall be provided on or before February 1, 2016, and shall be updated by the Fire Department from time-to-time as necessary to ensure that all information remains accurate and up-to-date.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2016-01 made by Vice-Chair Hoyer, second by Supervisor Raser, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Alternate Zoning Officer- **Motion** to advertise for Alternate Zoning Officer made by **Chairman Fluhr, second by Supervisor Raser, motion carried.**
- Sell ENRADD (Speed Timer) for \$1500.00 to Courtdale Police Department - Luzerne County. **Motion** to sell made by **Supervisor Raser, second by Vice-Chair Hoyer, motion carried.**
- Police Vehicle - **Motion** to order a 2016 Ford Utility Police Interceptor for \$36,306.44 from Hondru Ford, made by **Supervisor Raser, second by Chairman Fluhr, motion carried.**
- **Motion** to advertise Dodge Charger for closed bids by February 11, 2016, **made by Supervisor Raser, second by Chairman Fluhr, motion carried.**

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

- Sewage/Zoning – 3 sewage, 1 Logging, 1 Well and 2 zoning permits were issued in December.
- Building Permits - 4 Residential permits were issued in December.
- Police Report - Report Attached
- Road Department- No report.
- Park Committee – The Committee is currently working on their annual flyer. Anyone interested in putting an Ad in the flyer, please see the Township Secretary.
- Fire Department – Chief Malzhan reported that the month of December was quiet. They have begun their annual training regimen, as well as HASMAT training. They are continuing with the CPR training. The Department will be holding CPR classes to the public, so be sure to check the FD website.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Joe Zenes letter and email. Mr. Zenes approached the Board to discuss the water problem in his house, due to the earth disturbance from the neighboring property owned by Dan McKean. Mr. Zenes brought in a sample of what his water looks like. He advised the Board that there have been 13 violations of earth disturbance from the property across the street. Vice-Chairman Hoyer asked what the depth of the well is. Secretary Blume asked for copies of the violations since the Township has never received a violation from Conservation in the past. Mr. Zenes said he would provide us with copies. **Solicitor Ohliger** stated that this is the very first time we are hearing about a water problem since 1999 when development of the golf course began, and we have not heard about his problem before this. Previous complaints were incidents such as exposed wires,

which were inspected by the Township and there was no evidence of exposed wires. Mr. Zenes has also made complaints about the existence of the golf course and activity at the golf course. The Zoning Officer had recently gone out to the property and reported that there is no commercial activity going on there, it is simply a course constructed for personal use. It is important to state the history of past complaints. Mr. Zenes asked the Solicitor for a definition of a "golf course". Solicitor Ohliger stated that the golf course by definition is something that is open for commercial use. Solicitor Ohliger also stated that he looked up the property on Google Maps and the images appear to be a yard that has some areas that very loosely resemble a golf course. He also instructed the Zoning Officer to go out and inspect the property to confirm what is shown on the Satellite images and to look for entrance or egress for customer traffic or anything like that and none were found.

Motion to have Township Secretary contact Pike County Conservation District regarding Mr. Zenes complaint and have them investigate it and report back to the Township with their findings, made by **Supervisor Raser, second by Chairman Fluhr, motion carried.**

Solicitor Ohliger noted for the record that the Township is doing this as a courtesy and not because we have any jurisdiction or responsibility over this issue.

Peter Wulfhorst stated in his opinion that earth disturbance would not cause his problem with the water. The well casings may cause this problem.

Mr. Zenes asked if the other issues regarding the violations in the Zoning Ordinance concerning the golf course on Mr. McKean's property would be addressed. Solicitor Ohliger advised Mr. Zenes that he would discuss that issue with Mr. DiLorenzo. Mr. DiLorenzo will take whatever action appropriate as he sees fit.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- **Joe Zenes:** Expressed he was not happy about Mr. Hoeper's comment about him complaining about the neighbor for 30 years. He also asked the Board if he could get a written report from about the findings of his letter regarding the Zoning Ordinance violation by his neighbor. Solicitor Ohliger reiterated his earlier statement that he will discuss the zoning issue with Mr. DiLorenzo and that Mr. DiLorenzo will act in his discretion. Mr. Zenes again requested the response of his complaint in writing.
- **Carrie Thomas:** Expressed her disappointment with the behavior of the Board regarding Mr. Zenes. Ms. Thomas also asked the Board to explain to her about the fact that the Board votes themselves as employees in order to receive Worker's Compensation. Solicitor Ohliger explained to her that the Board is permitted to vote themselves employees. Second Class Township Code under section 606 permits the Board of Supervisors to declare themselves as Road Crew Members and the Board of Auditors will set the salary in accordance with that code.
- **Marianne Yeaw:** Made the comment that past years did not specify the Board as "Road Employees."

Motion to adjourn made by at 8:50pm

Respectfully Submitted

Diana Blume
Township Secretary