

The meeting of the Douglass Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:10 P.M. Attending were Chairman John Stasik, Vice-Chairman Tony Kuklinski, Supervisor Fred Ziegler, Solicitor Paul Bauer, Josh Hagadorn from Gilmore & Associates, Chief Templin, Mike Heydt, Cynthia O'Donnell, Andy Duncan, Pete Hiryak, and approximately 25 residents/developers.

Mr. Stasik led us in the pledge of allegiance. Mr. Stasik asked for the public to put all cell phones on silent mode and no texting during the meeting. Mr. Stasik asked for a moment of silence for the families suffering loss from the tragedy in France.

Mr. Stasik asked if there were any changes, corrections, or comments on the minutes of November 2nd, 2015 Board of Supervisors Meeting, no changes or comments were given. Mr. Stasik asked for a motion to approve the minutes of November 2nd, 2015 as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Stasik, seconded by Mr. Kuklinski to approve the minutes of the November 2nd, 2015 Board of Supervisors Meeting. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye, Ziegler-Aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Stasik asked for a motion to approve the agenda for November 16th, 2015 as presented. A motion was made by Mr. Stasik, seconded by Mr. Kuklinski to approve the agenda for November 16th, 2015 as presented. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye, Ziegler-Aye. Motion passed.

Fire & Rescue Report – Chief Rick Smith

For the month of October 2015: 1 fire, 1 brush/trash fire, 1 vehicle fire, 1 fire alarms/CO2 alarms, 1 vehicle accident, 5 fire police, 2 EMS assists, 3 assist to other departments, and 1 investigation for a total of 16 calls. 1 assist to New Hanover and 2 to Boyertown. The Fire Company has a day of Fire Prevention at Gilbertsville Elementary. Fire prevention at Little Faces, YMCA Growing Dreams, Goddard School, and Boyertown Children's Center. Fire Prevention display at Weiss Markets and gave fire extinguisher training to the staff at Little Faces. No questions were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Ziegler, seconded by Mr. Kuklinski to accept the Fire & Rescue Report as given. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye, Ziegler-Aye. Motion passed.

Gilbertsville Fire Company No. 1

No report given.

Engineer's Report – Josh Hagadorn, Gilmore & Associates

Quigley Bus Service Update– Plan review extension ends 11/16/15, P/A recommended a 90 day plan review extension by the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Hagadorn stated that he has completed a comment letter for the revised plan and addressed waiver requests in his letter which will be addressed through the P/A.

A motion was made by Mr. Stasik, seconded by Mr. Kuklinski to approve a 90 day plan review extension for the Quigley Bus Service Land Development Plan. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye, Ziegler-Aye. Motion passed.

Hallowell Cluster – Congo Road Improvements/Act 209 Fees. Mr. Hagadorn stated that he is in the process of cleaning up the cost estimates. Mr. Shaw stated that he wanted to know if the BOS was in agreement with proposed road improvements and dedications, Mr. Bauer stated that the agreements would be part of the language in the Resolution and we are not at that point yet.

Plan Review Extensions – The P/A recommended that the BOS approve 90 plan review extensions to the Zern Tract, Donnelly Tract, and Main Street Financial Plans.

A motion was made by Mr. Stasik, seconded by Mr. Ziegler to approve 90 day plan review extensions for the Zern Tract, Donnelly Tract, and Main Street Financial for further plan review. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye, Ziegler-Aye. Motion passed.

Gilbertsville Ambulance Report – Garry Schmoltze

For the month of October 2015: GACAS handled 106 calls for service. Bally 2, Boyertown 11, Colebrookdale 4, Douglass Township 46, Earl 1, Lower Pottsgrove 1, New Hanover 25, Pottstown 5, Red Hill 1, Upper Frederick 1, Upper Pottsgrove 9. Transported 68, Refusals 10, No patient found 8, no treatment required 1, cancelled 12, expired on scene 1, assist fire department 3, public assist 2, transported by law enforcement 1. ALS 68, BLS 38. Covering calls – 9 Goodwill, 2 Boyertown, 2 Bally, 1 Plymouth, 2 Upper Perk, 1 Trappe. Events: Fire Prevention Night, New Hanover Fire Company, Gilbertsville Fire & Rescue, and Limerick Drill 11/17/15. Mr. Kuklinski wanted a listing of the 5 mutual aid responses to be sure that the responding companies honored GACAS memberships, Mr. Schmoltze will look into it and get back to Mr. Kuklinski. Carl Hiryak stated that his brother got a bill from Goodwill Ambulance because they did not accept GACAS memberships, his brother paid the bill. Carl gave the information to Mr. Duncan and the manager, his brother recently received a letter from Goodwill Ambulance and inside was a check for reimbursement of the amount paid. Mr. Hiryak thanked everyone for helping his brother with this issue. Mr. Sell asked if this is something that will re-occur with other mutual aid transports, Mr. Kuklinski stated that Mr. Duncan will keep his eye on it. No other questions were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Ziegler, seconded by Mr. Kuklinski to accept the Gilbertsville Area Community Ambulance report as presented. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye, Ziegler-Aye. Motion passed.

Police Department Report – Chief Templin

October 2015: 343 incidents reported, 11 reportable accidents, 15 non-reportable, 20 criminal investigations, 12 criminal arrests, 124 traffic citations, 19 non-traffic citations, monies received \$7,227.76. On Saturday October 17th, 2015 from 10am to 2pm our police department joined forces with the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office and the Montgomery County Chiefs of Police Association in their Abandon Scripts program. Our police department collected 69.86 lbs. of unwanted or expired medications. As always, our drop box continues to be in operation Monday through Friday 8am to 5pm. On October 31, 2015 our Officer distributed 95 trick-or-treat bags to children in the Township. All treats were donated by officers and secretaries of the Douglass Township Police Department. Mr. Brumwell asked how many crimes are actually solved, Chief Templin stated that at this time the clearance rate is 37%. No other questions or comments were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Stasik, seconded by Mr. Ziegler to accept the Police Report as presented. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye, Ziegler-Aye. Motion passed.

Solicitor's Report – Paul Bauer

Ordinance 2015-07 – Authorizes non-interest borrowing from the County for emergency personnel radios and issuance of a promissory note in the amount of \$141,935.04. Mr. Bauer stated that a final draft of the Radio Financing Ordinance was approved for advertisement by the Board of Supervisors at a meeting held on November 2, 2015. A legal notice was prepared and has been advertised in the Pottstown Mercury on 11/6/15 for a hearing to be held tonight for the adoption of the Ordinance. The Affidavit of Publication has been received by the Township on 11/16/15. Mr. Bauer recommended adoption of Radio Financing Ordinance #2015-07 by the Board of Supervisors.

A motion was made by Mr. Ziegler, seconded by Mr. Kuklinski for adoption, on the recommendation of Solicitor Bauer, of the Radio Financing Ordinance #2015-07 authorizing the non-interest borrowing from the County for emergency personnel radios and issuance of a promissory note in the amount of \$141,935.04. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye, Ziegler-Aye. Motion passed.

Police Contract – On Friday November 6th, I once again met with the police bargaining committee. Another meeting is currently scheduled for December 4, 2015. The negotiations continue to move forward and I believe they are going well. I will continue to update the Board as we move forward in this process. Mr. Bauer stated that the Health Insurance Broker will be back with insurance options. Mr. Sell asked if negotiations are going well, Mr. Bauer replied yes I feel they are going well. Mr. Brumwell asked when the residents get to know about the contract, Mr. Bauer replied that the public will know when we come to an agreement. Mr. Brumwell asked who attends these meetings, Mr. Bauer said that the manger, Mr. Kuklinski, myself, and members of the Police Bargaining Unit are at the meetings. He also asked on average how much do these officers make, Mr. Bauer replied on an average from \$100,000 to \$125,000 per year with benefits, Mr. Brumwell felt that there should be transparency in the law enforcement negotiations, outside sources should be involved not officers, Mr. Kuklinski replied, believe me I don't feel comfortable in that room with the bargaining unit because they don't like me. Mr. Brumwell stated that the last time the police contract was being negotiated everything was kept under wraps, we were told that we are going to arbitration and just like that it was a done deal, Mr. Kuklinski stated that either you have a retired police officer at the meetings, or me sitting at the bargaining table and the health insurance affects the retired officers so it is me at the bargaining table. Mr. Stasik stated that you can't have two Supervisors at the meetings at the same time, I sat in for the explanation of the proposed insurance option changes because the current health insurance is no longer available and I left right afterword. The crime rate is increasing, our officers are good people, and the salaries are not out of line in comparison to other Townships police salaries or benefits. Mr. Sell asked why would the new contract affect the Retired Police Chief, Mr. Kuklinski replied that the retired Chief has lifetime medical insurance and he recused himself so he would have no impact on the outcome of the contract. Mr. Sell stated that stated that he is retired and he is not getting any increase and is on a fixed income so he feels no one should get an increase in salary, Mr. Stasik stated that he is also on a fixed income so he understands Mr. Sell's reasoning. Mr. Stasik stated that every year healthcare is changing, last year's plan is no longer available we are trying to get something comparable to the current plan. No other questions were given.

Applications which are pending but inactive:

Danny Jake – Hallowell inactive 2 years

A motion was made by Mr. Stasik, seconded by Mr. Stasik to accept the Solicitor's Report. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye, Ziegler-Aye. Motion passed.

Highway Department Report – Mike Heydt

Mr. Heydt stated that the road crew fixed inlets, helped with leaf program, line painted Weller and Himmelwright Roads, got tractor ready for winter use, cleaned out ditches and inlets, did roadside mowing, cleaned road edges on Grosser Road, and helped Washington Township with some blacktopping. Mr. Stasik asked Mr. Heydt how he was doing with road salt, Mr. Heydt stated that he filled the salt bins at the end of last season so right now we are good. No other questions were asked.

A motion was made by Mr. Ziegler, seconded by Mr. Kuklinski to accept the Highway Department Report as given. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye, Ziegler-Aye. Motion passed.

Recycling Department Report – Andrew Duncan

November 2015: Leaf collection started on Monday, October 19, 2015 and will end on Friday, December 4, 2015. Leaves will not be collected on Thursday November 26 or Friday November 27, 2015. Current statistics 10/19 – 11/13/15: 324.64 gallons of fuel used at a cost of \$847.86, R-2 – 46 loads of leaves, LV-2 – 9 loads of leaves, Yarnall Road – 7, Miller Road – 13, Recycling Center – 34, Total loads 54. R-2 mileage – 794.8, LV1 Hours – 80.7, LV2 Hours – 20.1. Mr. Duncan thanked the highway department crew for running the second leaf vacuum this week and assisting with the large volume of leaves, even in the wind and rain to stay on schedule. Blacktopping has been scheduled with Reading Site Contractors, we keep getting pushed back by PennDot projects. That will complete the 902 recycling grant improvements. RLG has advised that they will no longer be able to provide electronics recycling collection for Douglass Township effective January 1, 2016. I have met with

two electronics recyclers, it is going to be very expensive to continue to provide electronics recycling to our residents. AERC charges per pound and includes transportation fees, and we would have to separate and palletize ourselves. Supreme Asset Management and Recovery is willing to drop a 50 yard covered dumpster in the amount of \$1,750.00 per pull. Mr. Stasik asked Mr. Duncan to put a proposal together for the Board to review. Mr. Brumwell suggested getting a press to crush the electronics, Mr. Duncan stated that EPA would frown on that because of the gases inside televisions. Ms. Wills suggested using something like the bulk waste stickers as a pay to throw option for electronics, Mr. Duncan replied that we could do something on that line for disposal of these items. Mr. Diccio asked if Mr. Duncan is going to schedule a shredding event at the recycling center, Mr. Duncan replied that he has done a shredding event in the past and only 6 people utilized the program and it cost \$700.00 for the shredder to come out. Mr. Duncan suggested that the residents inquire at their individual banks to see if they have a shredding event. Someone asked Mr. Duncan if he looked into going along with other Townships for disposal, Mr. Duncan stated that we end up paying more in those situations. Someone asked if we broke even with the Freon program, Mr. Duncan stated that the fee we charge is the cost for disposal of the Freon items. Mr. Brumwell asked what happens if someone drops these items off on your property, Mr. Duncan replied that it is the property owners' responsibility to get rid of it. No other questions were given.

Mr. Dries stated that he was in charge of designing the new highway maintenance building saving the Township approximately \$55.00 per hour. He has been in touch with the Limerick Station and it will cost approximately \$7,000.00 to relocate the siren in order to construct the new maintenance building and Mr. Dries is asking for the Boards authorization to do so.

A motion was made by Mr. Stasik, seconded by Mr. Ziegler to authorize the relocation of the Limerick Generating Station Siren at 108 Municipal Drive in the amount up to but not exceeding \$7,000.00. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye, Ziegler-Aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Ziegler, seconded by Mr. Kuklinski to accept the Recycling Report as given. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye, Ziegler-Aye. Motion passed.

Open Space/Recreation Committee – Randy Romig

Mr. Romig stated that Mr. Duncan explained to the open space committee that over the last couple of weeks his crew has been clearing underbrush all the way to the stream at the Smith Road property. A small amount of work (clearing) has yet to be done and a small amount of grading. Probably by spring the old existing pavilion will be torn down and will eventually be replaced with a new one. A grant for the improvements has been applied for. A discussion was started by Mr. Kuklinski to re-open certain open space properties to hunting on a very limited, closely controlled basis. The Board of Supervisors has asked the open space committee to talk about the details and come up with some proposals. Mr. Duncan also mentioned that the Boyertown Soccer Club is interested in using the Moyer Property for more soccer fields.

A motion was made by Mr. Stasik, seconded by Mr. Kuklinski to accept the Open Space/Recreation Report as presented. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye, Ziegler-Aye. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – Cynthia O'Donnell

Ms. O'Donnell stated that the amount of the unpaid bills for November 16th, 2015 is \$297,813.18 plus a Keystone health insurance bill that makes the total unpaid bills amount \$334,592.16. The unusual bills are Alpha Space Control for line painting, Bergeys Tire for recycling vehicle tires, Duane Moyer's Mechanical Services for recycling equipment repairs, Eagle Power & Equipment for coupler for wheel loader, PA UC Fund for the Township Solvency Fee, PA Municipal Retirement System for MMO, Sealmaster for line painting machine and supplies, T L Conrad Electric for electrical repairs to office lights and sign, Z-Weldco for welding on wheel loader. Due to the 2015 millage increase, revenues for the current year real estate taxes are \$55,297 ahead of 2014 collections. The General Fund 2015 budget includes increased contributions (\$29,000 each) to both the Gilbertsville F&R (\$37,000), and Gilbertsville Ambulance (\$44,000). Distribution to Gilbertsville Ambulance of

\$15,000 was paid October 2015. 2015 Recycling Fund Income is equal to 2014 Recycling Fund Income, disregarding the nonrecurring income items. There is a decrease in recyclable sales of \$5,209 between 2015 and 2014 due to the decrease in prices for materials. The 904 Recycling Performance grant has not been received to date in 2015. PA Auditor General's staff audited 2014 Liquid Fuels Fund. There were no findings at the exit conference with auditor. Report will be distributed to Supervisors as soon as received. General budget Line Item #454.372 Parks – repairs & Maintenance; YTD actual \$18,768.88. Of this amount, \$16,097.62 is for expenses related to repairs at the Virmay Open Space. \$2,671.26 is for regular park repairs. The line item has a budget of \$5,000. The \$16,097.62 expenses for Virmay Open Space can be moved to the Open Space fund. However, at this time, there is no income being generated for the Open Space Fund. The Fund balance at 11/16/15 is \$78,436. Of this amount, \$31,300 is committed for the second round Mini-Grant through the Pottstown Health and Wellness foundation and DCNR. And \$2,800 would be required if awarded the pending Mini-Grant application. The Open Space Fund Balance after Mini-Grant commitments and Virmay Open Space repairs would be \$28,237.94. Chief Rick Smith asked about the additional GACAS & Fire & Rescue contributions, Mr. Kuklinski stated that no money will be dispersed until all paperwork is turned in to the Treasurer. Mr. Brumwell questioned why are we giving the ambulance company & fire company money, Mr. Kuklinski replied that part of the reason is that the Second Class Township Code requires the Township to provide firefighter services, donations from the Township to GACAS and F&R are to help keep the service continuing to offset some of their costs. Ms. O'Donnell briefly went over the proposed 2016 budget summary stating that the proposed police budget comes to \$1,942,536.33, no new officers are budgeted for, however Chief Templin is requesting a new Chief's car to replace the current car. Ms. O'Donnell asked Chief Templin if he wanted to go over his proposed budget, Chief Templin replied that there is nothing to go over because the health insurance is still up in the air. Administration - \$619,658.67, Highways - \$445,406.29, Planning & Zoning - \$109,672.50, the proposed 2016 budget for Fire Ambulance is \$210,600.16 including the radio installments and updating truck radios, Insurance 2016 budget comes to \$116,889.00, Buildings & Plant - \$67,800.00, Parks & Rec - \$50,640.42, . The 2016 proposed budget for Health and Library contributions is \$11,100.00. 2016 proposed income budget comes to \$3,564,700.00 less transfers equals a deficit of \$9,603.37. This will be discussed further at the proposed budget meeting on November 30th. No questions were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Kuklinski, seconded by Mr. Stasik to authorize the payment of the unpaid bills for November 16th, 2015 in the amount of \$334,592.16. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye, Ziegler-Aye.

A motion was made by Mr. Stasik, seconded by Mr. Kuklinski to accept the Treasurer's Report as given. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye, Ziegler-Aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Ziegler excused himself from the meeting at 8:23pm.

Manager's Report - Pete Hiryak

1. The Manager reviewed the upcoming meetings as follows: Monday December 7th ESB Meeting @ 6pm, BOS Agenda @ 6:30pm, BOS Meeting @ 7pm. The P/A and Act 209 will not meet on December 10th it will be rescheduled for Thursday December 17th P/A/ Act 209 Workshop Meeting @ 6pm, P/A Meeting 7pm.

The manager was interrupted as Mr. Ziegler excused himself from the meeting. Mr. Stasik announced that Mr. Ziegler had to leave for an appointment. The manager continued with his report.

2. Authorization to advertise public meeting to finalize 2016 budget and adoption of tentative budget for public review. Monday November 30th, 2015 at 3pm.

A motion was made by Mr. Stasik, seconded by Mr. Kuklinski to authorize the advertisement of a public meeting to finalize the 2016 Budget and Adoption of Tentative Budget for public review on Monday November 30th, 2015 at 3pm. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye. Motion passed.

3. Spotted Lanternfly Update. Authorization for Public Meeting with PA Department of Agriculture's Outreach Program. Mr. Brumwell heard that Old State Road on Rt. 73 is loaded with the Spotted Lanternfly, a resident of Old State Road stated that it is was not true, she lives on Old State Road and they banded her trees and only found two on her property.

A motion was made by Mr. Stasik, seconded by Mr. Kuklinski for authorization to schedule a public information meeting with PA Department of Agriculture's Outreach Program to inform the public on the Spotted Lanternfly infestation in Douglass Township. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye. Motion passed.

4. Interest in serving on various Committees, Agencies, or Boards (Contact the manager if interested).
5. Emergency Response Exercise – Tuesday November 17th, 2015 @ 5pm. The Township's participation in this exercise will be graded at the State level.
6. Planning Agency Meeting Date Change in December 2015 – Requests a new date of December 17th, 2015 Workshop @ 6pm, P/A Meeting @ 7pm. (BOS Authorization to advertise meeting date change required).
The P/A was concerned that they would not have a quorum on the original date of 12/10/2015.

A motion was made by Mr. Stasik, seconded by Mr. Kuklinski to authorize the advertisement of the December 2015 P/A and Act 209 workshop meeting to be rescheduled for December 17th, 2015 (Workshop with Act 209 at 6 pm, P/A Meeting @ 7pm). Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye. Motion passed.

No questions or comments were given on the Manager's Report.

A motion was made by Mr. Stasik, seconded by Mr. Kuklinski to accept the Manager's Report as given. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye. Motion passed.

Public Comment

Mr. Sell commented that he received a phone call from a Law Firm involving Fred Theil – why now? Mr. Bauer stated that they are probably taking depositions regarding Mountain Mulch, Mr. Sell said how much did we spend on this thing, Mr. Bauer replied that the insurance company is defending the Township in this matter. Mr. Sell commented, how do you get blood out of a rock, at what point do you stop? Mr. Stouch replied that it will go away when he goes away. Mr. Sell asked how much money does the various lawsuits cost the taxpayers, Mr. Bauer replied that we get sued by the Retirees for not getting the same healthcare and we can't get the same insurance because it has been discontinued, this will be three times, these suits are generated, we are going after the former Supervisor for his sole actions regarding Mountain Mulch without input from the other Supervisors. Mr. Brumwell asked Mr. Bauer why we are making exceptions for lifetime contracts, the real world doesn't do that, Mr. Bauer replied that the current Board, himself, nor current staff were involved in those original meetings we never voted on those agreements. Mr. Kuklinski stated that the police bargaining unit gave up lifetime medical benefits so there are only a small group left on that specific contract. No other comments or questions were given.

Old Business/New Business

No old business or new business was discussed.

A motion was made by Mr. Kuklinski, seconded by Mr. Stasik adjourn the meeting at 8:40pm. Kuklinski-Aye, Stasik-Aye. Motion passed.

The next Board of Supervisor's meeting will be held on Monday, December 7th, 2015 @ 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Marcy Meitzler