

**TOWNSHIP OF SALISBURY
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DECEMBER 13, 2012
REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 PM**

The Public Meeting of the Salisbury Township Board of Commissioners was held on the above date in the Township Municipal Building located at 2900 South Pike Avenue, Allentown, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Brown asked everyone to rise and recite the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a short period of silence and reflection.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Brown turned over the proceedings to the Township Manager, Randy Soriano.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

James Brown, President
Robert Martucci, Jr., Vice President
James Seagreaves, President Pro-Tempore
Joanne Ackerman
Debra Brinton

Staff Present:

Randy Soriano, Township Manager
Cathy Bonaskiewich, Assistant Township Manager/Finance Director
John Andreas, Director of Public Works
Allen Stiles, Chief of Police
Cynthia Sopka, Director of Planning & Zoning-EXCUSED
John Ashley, Esquire, Township Solicitor
David Tettermer, representative of Township Engineer, Keystone Consulting Engineers

NOTIFICATION

Mr. Soriano informed the attendees that all sessions of the Salisbury Township Board of Commissioners regular meetings are electronically recorded for the purpose of taking the Minutes. All public comments on agenda items would be taken prior to the vote. All public comments related to non-agenda items will be taken after the agenda has been satisfied.

Mr. Soriano announced that the Township records the meetings and archives its tapes and are available pursuant the Right-to-Know Law, if requested.

Mr. Soriano reminded everyone of the three minute rule and asked that everyone who wishes to speak come to the podium, sign in, announce themselves, and speak clearly into the microphone. Mr. Soriano added that the speaker has a choice not to list his/her address; however, it is preferred that the speaker announce if he or she is a Township resident. He noted that if a resident does not divulge his or her address, it will impair the Township with administrative follow ups on a particular issue.

APPROVAL OF BILLS PAYABLE

Commissioner Martucci inquired about the rental period for the chipper. Mr. Andreas replied that the chipper was rented for one month.

Motion by Commissioner Ackerman, seconded by Commissioner Martucci, to approve the list of Bills Payable for the period 11/24/2012 - 12/7/2012, broken down as follows: General Fund - \$210,034.14; Fire Fund - \$2,753.35; Library Fund - \$0; Water Fund - \$25,725.02; Sewer Fund - \$388,699.19; Refuse & Recycling Fund - \$460.00; Highway Fund -17,693.75; Total of all Funds - \$645,365.45

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER ACKERMAN - YES
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES -YES
COMMISSIONER MARTUCCI - YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON - YES
COMMISSIONER BROWN - YES

The Motion passed by 5-0.

MINUTES

November 29, 2012

Commissioner Brown declared the November 15, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of Commissioners approved as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES

None

RESOLUTIONS

None

MOTIONS

Consideration of a request by the Lehigh Valley Road Runners to conduct a Superbowl 10K 2013 race (through portions of Greenwood Road, Robin Hood Drive, Overhill Drive, Yorkshire Road, Bishop Road, Barnsdale Road, Nottingham Road and Lehigh Parkway North).

Mr. Soriano introduced Mr. Chris Garges of the Lehigh Valley Road Runners. The request was made in an email that read as follows:

Dear Commissioners:

I would like to request your approval to hold a running event which will pass through your municipality on February 3, 2013. The 12th annual event will begin in the Lehigh Parkway at the Lehigh Valley Road Runners clubhouse. The event will enter your municipality at approximately the two mile mark (10:15am) on Lehigh Parkway North. The runners will travel Greenwood Road, Robin Hood Drive, Overhill Drive, Yorkshire Road, Bishop Road, Barnsdale Road, Nottingham Road and will then follow the same route back to Lehigh Parkway North and exit your municipality approximately 2.5 mile later (11:00 – 11:15am). The event is directed by the Lehigh Valley Road Runners who direct at least six road races every year, including the St. Luke's Half Marathon which boasts a combined 4,000 entries. The February 3, 2013 event will be limited to 550 participants. The Road Runners have liability insurance and we would name the Township as an additional insured, and the club will staff the event with volunteers at every turn to direct runners and ensure the safety of both the runners and the traveling public.

Should there be inclement weather that is simply dangerous, the race will be postponed or cancelled, but should some form of precipitation event occur within a day or so of the event, the Road Runners would be interested in working with the Public Works crew to ensure the safety of the runners. Should this issue present itself we are willing to cover the cost of any additional manpower and material that would result from the preparation of the roadways for our event. Communication of such could be done through myself and the Township Manager and/or the Public Works Director.

*Christopher Garges
Board Member, Lehigh Valley Road Runners*

Mr. Garges stated that the event is in its 12th year, and the race begins in the Lehigh Valley Parkway, runs through the City of Allentown, and then enters the Township at about the two mile marker. He explained that the runners will be in the Township for a total of two and a half miles, and each intersection will have volunteers directing both the runners and vehicular traffic.

Mr. Garges stated that the Road Runners Club of America will provide the Township with liability insurance and will also sign a hold harmless agreement.

Motion by Commissioner Martucci, seconded by Commissioner Brinton, to accept the request by the Lehigh Valley Road Runners to conduct a Superbowl 10K race on February 3, 2013 in portions of Salisbury Township – Greenwood Road, Robin Hood Drive, Overhill Drive, Yorkshire Road, Bishop Road, Barnsdale Road, Nottingham Road and Lehigh

Parkway North – contingent on the Lehigh Valley Road Runners signing a waiver of liability and furnishing a Certificate of Insurance.

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER ACKERMAN - YES
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES -YES
COMMISSIONER MARTUCCI - YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON - YES
COMMISSIONER BROWN - YES

The Motion passed by 5-0.

Application for Payment #2 – Final – to Grace Industries for work performed on the Lindberg Park Basketball Court reconstruction project.

Mr. Soriano commented that the project has been completed and the payment would be releasing the remaining \$19,196.31. Mr. Tettermer stated that the total cost of the project was \$64,835.80, which was under budget by approximately \$1,100. He noted that the project will now enter the maintenance phase.

Motion by Commissioner Ackerman, seconded by Commissioner Seagreaves, to approve Payment #2 – Final – in the amount of \$19,196.31 to Grace Industries for work performed on the Lindberg Park Basketball Court reconstruction project.

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER ACKERMAN - YES
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES -YES
COMMISSIONER MARTUCCI - YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON - YES
COMMISSIONER BROWN – YES

The Motion passed by 5-0.

Ratification of Police Contract.

Mr. Soriano reviewed the terms of the new Police Contract that was negotiated with the Salisbury Township Police Association and approved by their rank and file.

ECONOMIC

Terms- Four (4) years (2013-2016)

Wages-

2013-2.0% increase per year
2014-2.5% “
2015-3.0% “
2016-3.5% “

Health Insurance

Officer Contributions to Premium- NEW

2013- \$25 per paycheck (\$520 yr)
2014- \$30 per paycheck (\$650 yr)
2015- \$35 per paycheck (\$910 yr)
2016- \$40 per paycheck ((\$1,040 yr)

Holidays- REVISED

One Additional added-Total 11(Day before Christmas)

Pension

Employee Contributions-REVISED

2013- 1.54% of Compensation
2014+- Equal to the % of Compensation necessary to satisfy the estimated financial requirements w/o payment of contribution by the Township other than an amount equal to the state aid unit value for the preceding year multiply by 2 times the number of FT Officers at the end of preceding year, provided that the employee contribution % for a calendar year shall not be more than the lesser of: A.) the employee contributions percentage for the preceding year plus .5% or B.) 8%.

OTHER NON-ECONOMIC

Township and Association have agreed to a rewrite to “clean-up” contract language to reflect actual practice and revise other language to erase some ambiguity of prior written clauses in the Police Contract.

Motion by Commissioner Martucci, seconded by Commissioner Seagreaves, to ratify the Police Contract for the years 2013-2016 as negotiated by the Township Manager.

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER ACKERMAN - YES
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES -YES
COMMISSIONER MARTUCCI - YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON - YES
COMMISSIONER BROWN – YES

The Motion passed by 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Mr. Wendell Mukics of 706 Mortimer Street, Bethlehem, PA, expressed his support for the Budget to include hiring a new police officer in 2013, even if it requires raising taxes. Mr. Mukics also presented Chief Stiles with a **\$500 donation to the Police Department’s K-9 program.**

The Board thanked Mr. Mukics for his contribution and Commissioner Brown commented that the Board is trying to get the Police Department back to its full force.

Commissioner Martucci asked for an update on the **status of leaf pick-up**. Mr. Andreas replied that crews are still on the west side of the Township, but they will be moving back to the east side shortly for a final clean-up.

Commissioner Brinton stated that she received letters from several residents expressing their gratitude to the Police Department in the handling of a recent situation at St. Luke's Hospital.

Chief Stiles announced that the QRS Vehicle was recertified until 2016.

Mr. Andreas commented that despite some hardships experienced with Hurricane Sandy, he feels that the leaf collection has been very successful this year. He explained that collecting leaves is a cyclical process that is impacted and influenced by several factors, such as when the leaves fall off the trees, storm events, mechanical problems and labor issues. He noted that the Public Works Department has been working at a deficit of six people all year, which is the equivalent of a whole crew.

Mr. Soriano suggested developing a program that would allow residents to have a two-week notice of when the leaf crews will be in their neighborhood. He commented that it is difficult for residents to plan when to clean their yard if there is no schedule for when their leaves will be picked up. Mr. Andreas replied that he believes the fairest way to collect the leaves is beginning the process around the last week of October on the west side and working east, or on the east side and working west. He stated that their biggest struggle is getting people to understand the importance of proper placement of the leaves and to not have them contaminated or commingled with branches.

Commissioner Brinton asked Mr. Andreas if it would be possible to pin down where the crews are going to be to within a two-week time frame and advertising that information on the Township website and/or the newspaper. Mr. Andreas stated that there are a lot of factors that influence where the crews are, and sometimes there is not a definitive timeline other than to say they are collecting leaves and are working their way to a specific area. Mr. Soriano stated that next year, the Township can look into better planning about where the crews are going to be and getting that information to the residents.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Ackerman made a Motion to adjourn the Meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Brinton. The time was 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Soriano
Secretary

These constitute the official minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on December 13, 2012.

Approved and certified on this date:

Randy Soriano

Date

SEAL