

Union Township Board of Supervisors  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
August 10, 2009

The Board of Supervisors Meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Parish at 7:05 p.m. The meeting was held at the Union Township Municipal Building, 3904 Finley-Elrama Road, Finleyville, PA. The pledge of allegiance was recited. Board Members in attendance by roll call were Steve Parish, George Cheplic, Scott Tkach, Larry Spahr and Linda Evans. Also in attendance: Harold Ivery-Building Code Official, Donald Bucich-Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer, Dennis Makel-Solicitor, Judith Taylor-Secretary/Treasurer.

Public Comment

Mr. Jeff Cadman commented that his property had been vandalized three times by riders of all-terrain vehicles and dirt bikes cutting fences and breaking windshields on his equipment stored there. He stated that the state police could not catch the individuals responsible. He inquired about re-establishing a local police force. The Board recommended he attend the next Neighbor-to-Neighbor meeting to talk to State Trooper Burden.

**Motion** to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2009 regular Board meeting amended as follows: Page 1, paragraph 4, add "for the Kendra Country Patio LLP liquor license transfer hearing"

Motion by Scott Tkach, Second by Larry Spahr

Roll call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-abstain, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

**Motion** to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2009 workshop as amended by the Secretary/Treasurer prior to the meeting

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Linda Evans

Roll call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

The Code Enforcement Officer reported on property maintenance issues for the former Buell property located on Route 88. He has notified the property owners by certified and regular mail and will follow up as necessary.

Mr. Ivery reported that he has requested the engineer to review the site plan again for an addition to the chemical building at 60 Elrama Avenue, Elrama PA for Pennsylvania American Water Co before he issues a building permit.

Mr. Parish reported that the contractor has completed the drainage portion of the 2009 Paving Project bid. While performing the work on Hobbitt Lane, the contractor found that the existing catch basins had been installed incorrectly by the developer, and were repaired by El Grande. Also the roadway pavement had not been applied to the proper depths.

The road foreman reported that he needed to purchase more pipe and would get faxed quotes from suppliers. He also supplied quotes for new and recapped tires, which was put on hold for further information. Mr. Banahasky reported that the roads proposed to be seal coated this season will be ready. Orders for 1,000 tons of winter salt will be placed for delivery in late September, and the road foreman will purchase protective plastic sheeting to cover the salt stockpile.

Jonathan Madaras, Lieutenant/Information Specialist, Elrama Fire Company, presented the monthly activity report for July, 2009.

**Motion** to approve payroll #15 dated July 27, 2009 in the amount of \$8,569.03, as presented by the Secretary/Treasurer, subject to being true and correct

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Scott Tkach

Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

**Motion** to approve payroll #16 dated August 7, 2009 in the amount of \$8,301.81, as presented by the Secretary/Treasurer, subject to being true and correct

Motion by George Cheplic, Second by Scott Tkach

Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

The Board discussed correspondence from Washington County Redevelopment Authority asking the Township to cover the \$48,317.24 shortfall in CDBG funding for the Elrama Drainage and Street Paving Project, and also to guarantee payment for any overruns due to change orders during construction.

**Motion** to approve payment to the Redevelopment Authority of Washington County in the amount of \$48,317.24 from the township Operating Reserve funds in order to complete the Elrama Drainage and Street Paving Project, and to guarantee payment for any overage due to properly approved construction change orders

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Scott Tkach

Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

**Motion** to approve payment of general fund invoices in the amount of \$76,976.88 as of August 10, 2009, which includes the \$48,317.24 check to RAWC, as presented by the Secretary/Treasurer, subject to being true and correct

Motion by Scott Tkach, Second by Linda Evans

Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Parish abstained from voting on those items pertaining to the Finleyville airport.

**Motion** to approve payment of Invoice #16 for KAG Engineering Inc. in the amount of \$25,312.35 for the Elrama Sewage Project

Motion by Scott Tkach, Second by Larry Spahr

Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

**Motion** to approve payment to M B & R Piping Contractors, Inc, in the amount of \$25,974.00 for the Elrama Sewage Project

Motion by Linda Evans, Second by Larry Spahr

Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

KAG Engineering, Inc submitted a draft of the rules and regulations governing the operations of the Elrama Sewage Project, which were held for review by the Board and the solicitor.

**Motion** to approve a gate and fence to be installed at the Elrama Sewage Project pump station  
Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by George Cheplic

Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

**Motion** to have the sewage regulations contain provisions that each separate unit within a multi-dwelling unit will be assessed a separate tap in fee and separate monthly user rate  
Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Scott Tkach  
Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

**Motion** to require anyone requesting a demolition permit for structures in the Township to post appropriate bond as according to the Engineer and/or Building Code Official; and complete the demolition within sixty (60) days  
Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by George Cheplic  
Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

The Board agreed to include in the regulations that any structure within the parameters of the Elrama Sewage Project for which a demolition permit is issued during construction may request waiver of the tap-in fee and will not be included in the monthly billing. If a structure is subsequently erected on the subject vacant lot, the tap in fee will be that in effect at the time of construction.

**Motion** to authorize the Elrama Sewage Project engineers, Ferrero & Associates and KAG Engineering, Inc, to handle residents' lateral connection issues on an as needed basis  
Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Linda Evans  
Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

**Motion** to approve Dagostino Electronic Services, Inc quotation for enhanced-quality cameras, and to add a third camera, at the Township's Brownsville Road Park for a total cost of \$8,895.00, with monitoring to be tied into the computer system at the Township building  
Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Linda Evans  
Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.  
The Township will also need to place the required "under surveillance" signs.

The Board held the Jefferson Hills Tap-in Agreement in abeyance until the September meeting.

The Zoning Hearing Board continued hearing on the appeal of the Trax Rezoning will be held on Wednesday, September 2, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

George Schoedel, representing the Finleyville Area Soccer Association, addressed the Board concerning building a new storage building or an addition to the concession stand at the Brownsville Road park to store their soccer equipment. The Board requested they put a detailed request in writing to the Township.

Mr. Schoedel also requested an additional key to the upper gate for the company who services the rental sanitary facilities. The driver will be instructed to lock the gate behind him when he enters to prevent someone following him in and then refusing to leave. The key will be returned at the end of the season. He also asked if the fields could be mowed more often and the loose grass swept or bagged to prevent clumping. The road foreman will get prices on baggers or sweepers for the Kubota tractors and try to mow more often. The Soccer Association will supply game schedules as soon as possible to minimize conflicts with park rentals.

**Motion** to advertise the Nuisance Motor Vehicle Ordinance

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Linda Evans

Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

**Motion** to approve a resolution in support of revenue sharing as stated in the federal Local Fiscal Assistance Act of 2009, HR 3007, providing \$90 billion to local governments

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Linda Evans

Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the damages done to Airport Road from a gas well drilling operation performed by Mountain V Oil and Gas Co. They had bonded a half mile of Airport Road from the intersection with Rankintown Road to Finleyville Airpark, but the heavy equipment actually used a mile of Airport Road from the Route 88 intersection to the Airpark which was not bonded. The engineer will examine the road surface to determine the amount of the damages and pictures will be taken as soon as possible.

**Motion** to authorize the solicitor to submit a letter to Mountain V Oil and Gas Co notifying them of the damages to Airport Road, and to prepare a bonding agreement for use in the future

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Scott Tkach

Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

**Motion** to refund the unused portion of the Land Development escrow account of W. G.

Tomko in the amount of \$402.64

Motion by Scott Tkach, Second by Larry Spahr

Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

The Board discussed a letter from Keystone Collections Group regarding its plans for appointment as the earned income tax collector by the Washington County Tax Collection Committee. The Board is not satisfied with their performance as the collector for the township.

A public hearing will be held on August 17, 2009 at the Elrama Fire Hall at 6:00 p.m. by the PA Department of Environmental Protection on hazardous waste cleanup procedures for the Mon View Mining Co site in Union Township.

The annual convention of the Washington County Association of Township Officials will be held on September 24, 2009 at the Ramada Inn in Washington PA.

The Board discussed a letter received from Mary Jane Gieche, 7080 Beverly Road, Finleyville PA concerning an incident at the Brownsville Road Park where persons on dirt bikes drove through the playground area while it was occupied by a number of children. Ms. Gieche suggested a fence be installed behind the playground area.

**Motion** to enter into a 60-month Fair Market Value lease under the COSTARS program of a Konica Minolta copier with hard disc drive, extra memory, and faxing capability provided the company is responsible for working with the Board on available security features and with the Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer to maintain confidentiality regarding the fax function

Motion by Scott Tkach, Second by Larry Spahr

Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

**Motion** to purchase e-Copy Desktop Optical Character Recognition program to be used in conjunction with the scanning feature of the Konica Minolta copier as reviewed by Andy Tullai, the township's IT representative

Motion by Scott Tkach, Second by Larry Spahr

Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Ms. Gieche read a letter commenting that Mr. Paul Chasko has a conflict of interest regarding the Zoning Hearing Board, his articles in the Union-Finley Messenger appear to be influenced by the Board of Supervisors, and the website should be maintained by the township.

**Motion** to go into executive session for personnel reasons and possible litigation at 10:05 pm

Motion by Scott Tkach, Seconded by Linda Evans

Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

Returned from executive session at 10:30 p.m. Mr. Makel stated that the discussion concerned personnel issues pertaining to the road crew.

**Motion** to authorize the solicitor to send a letter to Teamsters Local 205 inquiring for any and all information dealing with the road crew's health insurance

Motion by Scott Tkach, Second by Larry Spahr

Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

**Motion** to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 p.m.

Motion by Larry Spahr, Second by Scott Tkach

Roll Call Vote: Parish-yes, Cheplic-yes, Tkach-yes, Spahr-yes, Evans-yes. Motion carried.

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Judith L. Taylor, Secretary