

MT. PLEASANT TWP. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING OF APRIL 23, 2014

The meeting of April 23, 2014, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Smith with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Those present were: Bryan Smith, Chairman (BS), Gary Farner, Vice-Chairman (GF), Dencil Backus, Supervisor (DB), Neva Stanger, Solicitor (NS), Larry Chome, Zoning Officer (LC), Mary Ann Stevenson, Manager/Secretary (MS), and those citizens listed on the attached sheet.

Executive Session: BS announced that an executive session was held 4/23/14 at 6:30 pm to discuss 2 Range Resources land use appeals relative to the Toward and McMaster decisions and to discuss a personnel issue.

Public Comments and Comments Regarding the Agenda:

Rebecca Price (RP), Director of the Heritage Public Library with a funding request. RP gave a general overview of what is taking place at the library and what funding they currently receive. She stated the library needs roughly \$5.00 per capita to operate and that MPT is currently funding \$0.43 per capita. She added that any additional funding above this amount would be greatly appreciated. RP asked if she could be notified when we would be accepting requests for ACT 13 distributions as they have many issues it could be used for such as new air conditioning.

Don Reed, 25 Main St., commented on John Trant and whether or not there were any other proposals and is there a cap on the cost or is it open ended. BS stated there were other proposals and this will be discussed later on.

Chief McQuillan made the following announcements: Sat. 4/26/14 will be another drug take back for prescriptions and OTC medicine; the drug summit planned for 5/5/14 at the school has been canceled and will take place at the beginning of the next school year; it was not the MPT Police making vehicle stops and they are investigating the reports of an impersonator. He added that there are no unmarked police vehicles for the Township and that all cars have light bars and sirens and when in doubt call 911.

Reports

The following reports, if any, were submitted for the Board's review and are on file at the Municipal Office:

- Zoning Officer's Report – April, 2014
- Public Safety Report – 3/25/14 – 4/22/14
- Public Works Report – 3/26/14 – 4/22/14
- Planning Commission Minutes – 3/3/14
- Parks & Recreation Minutes – None
- Municipal Authority Minutes – None
- Midway Sewage Minutes – 3/4/14
- Cross Creek Valley Region Minutes – None
- Washington County Sewage Council Minutes – 11/7/13
- MPT Volunteer Fire Dept. Report - None
- Treasurer's Report - March, 2014
- Correspondence for the period of - 3/26/14 – 4/22/14

► GF motioned to accept the reports as given and DB seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Items:

1. **Bills:** DB motioned to authorize the payment of the invoices for the period of 3/26/14 – 4/22/14 as presented and GF seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
2. **Minutes:** DB motioned to adopt the minutes of the March 26, 2014 regular board meeting and GF seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
3. **Snedeker Subdivision Plan #1:** DB motioned to approve the Clifford & Kimberly Snedeker Subdivision Plan #1 and sewage planning module at 10 Snedeker Lane, subdividing 2 acres from one parcel and adding it to an abutting property and GF seconded the motion. LC presented the subdivision and stated the

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changes recommended by the engineer were done and the planning commission recommended approval. The motion carried unanimously.

4. **Toward Subdivision #1:** BS motioned to approve the Mary Toward Subdivision #1 and sewage planning module at 84 Cherry Valley Rd., subdividing a 10 acre parcel that has a home off of a 131 acre parcel and DB seconded the motion. LC presented the subdivision and stated the changes recommended by the engineer were done and the planning commission recommended approval. The motion carried unanimously.
5. **Pleasant Valley Farm Subdivision #1:** BS motioned to approve the Pleasant Valley Farm Subdivision #1 and sewage planning module at 114 Cherry Valley Rd., subdividing a parcel into 3 separate parcels. GF recused himself from voting since he is the owner of this property. DB seconded the motion. LC presented the subdivision and stated the changes recommended by the engineer were done and the planning commission recommended approval. The motion carried.
6. **Resolution 2014-G:** DB motioned to adopt Resolution 2014-G; a resolution amending the fee schedule to include commercial & residential zoning certificate fees and fire / safety commercial inspection fees and BS seconded the motion. GF asked if this was a change to the fees and MS responded that this was 2 additional fees that needed added per the new engineer. The motion carried unanimously.
7. **Resolution 2014-H:** GF motioned to adopt Resolution 2014-H; a resolution entering into a holding tank agreement with C.S. Coen Land Co. (Washington Financial) at 220 Main St., Hickory and BS seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
8. **Resolution 2014-I:** DB motioned to adopt Resolution 2014-I; a resolution entering into a holding tank agreement with RQI, Inc., 521 Westland Rd., Hickory and GF seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
9. **Consent Order & Agreement:** GF motioned to authorize the execution of a Consent Order & Agreement between Range Resources-Appalachia LLC and the Township of Mount Pleasant to resolve the land use appeal no. 2013-7268 (Toward) and BS seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
10. **Consent Order & Agreement:** GF motioned to authorize the execution of a Consent Order & Agreement between Range Resources-Appalachia LLC and the Township of Mount Pleasant to resolve the land use appeal no. 2013-7269 (McMaster) and DB seconded the motion. BS stated he felt this process went as well as it could between all of the parties with the conditions imposed and that drilling is back in the Township. The motion carried unanimously.
11. **Grievance Settlement:** DB motioned to approve the agreement to resolve the grievance between Teamsters Local 205 and Mount Pleasant Township and GF seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
12. **John Trant Agreement:** DB motioned to approve the proposal of John Trant, Certified Planner, according to the board approved public process outlined on February 27th as agreed to by Mr. Trant, at a rate of \$110/hr. for approximately 11 hours per month, billed as worked, to prepare an ordinance and conduct the public process, amending the zoning regulations related to oil and gas uses and BS seconded the motion. GF stated he felt it was open-ended and not sure of the total cost to the Township. He added that the timeline needs cut down and without a dollar limit, it could cost the Township a ton of money. DB stated he disagreed and that John Trant agreed to a maximum amount of hours and cost and he laid out the process and the rate. GF added that the time-line is too long at 9 months and stated he has a proposal from Range Resources already and it can be done in 3 months. BS stated that he appreciates the proposal prepared by Mr. Gallagher for Range and we will take it into consideration but we have our own ordinance to work from. GF agreed but before agreeing to this he would like to see more restrictions on timing and dollars. BS stated that from prior discussion in the planning commission meeting with Range that it was agreed to, to have a more open public process with town hall meetings but it can be shortened by limiting those meetings. GF said it is too long. DB added that with our ordinance and the Range proposal it should move along but it needs to get started ASAP. GF opposed the motion. The motion carried 2-1.
13. **County Summer Bids:** DB motioned to approve the County summer bid awards as follows: C-1 (crushed stone) and D-3 (rip rap) through Laurel Aggregates and ADS-Drainage Pipe through Chemung Supply and BS seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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Board Discussion Items:

Drainage Issue: Barbara Andrews, 16 Main St., Southview. There was a brief discussion on correcting this problem based off of the Engineer's report that called for a 15" pipe to be installed along the right-of-way. BS had concerns that diverting the water from one area could cause problems downstream as stated in the engineer's report. There was a brief discussion on this issue.

► GF motioned to approve the cost of the pipe so long as it is properly diverted to a culvert as to not cause additional problems downstream and DB seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

DB stated that he feels the Police issue is still unresolved with respect to improving the coverage and there have been a few proposals (1 in-house and 1 to contract) to consider but wanted to discuss if regionalization was still a possibility worth exploring as a 3rd option. DB added that no one has opposed a regional police force. GF recalls that Chief McQuillan was to work with Chief Dorsey on putting together a regional department. BS stated that it is the responsibility of the BOS to provide the best coverage that is the most cost effective. Chief McQuillan stated that regionalizing is handled by the State and they do studies free of charge but there has to be a request from municipalities elected officials to get started. DB stated he is interested in getting more information on this because the more options that are looked at for improving the coverage and quality of the police force the better and BS agreed. GF stated he agreed somewhat but would like to have his own police department first and it might cost more but you have your own control over them. DB stated he would like to investigate the possibility of a regional. BS stated it is the board's obligation to explore all options, just like getting 3 proposals for services, it is owed to the community and the employees and DB agreed. NS stated that the State does have a much defined process so as to not reinvent the wheel.

► BS motioned to have DB research what is involved with forming a regional department, gather information and work with Chief McQuillan on this 3rd option and DB seconded the motion. GF asked if this need to be done by motion and NS responded that it could be either way just depends on how official you want it. GF did not vote. The motion carried.

GF stated he has been talking with the Police and Fire Chiefs about our ordinance for house numbers and that it needs amended. GF added that their concerns are when responding to an emergency and trying to find the house when the numbers are too small or not visible from the street and the Township's ordinance is not specific on those issues. GF added that it should be on the house and on both sides of the mailbox. *Additional discussion below.*

Unfinished Business: None.

Additional Public Comments (as agreed to by the board to take):

Don Reed, 25 Main St., asked the BOS what is wrong with the Police Department. BS responded that the department is super, the best the Township has ever had but there is a gap in the coverage where we still depend on the State Police and pretty soon they will be responding from Route 40 which will be a longer response time. BS added that his goal is not to improve what we have but to improve on what we have. Mr. Reed said to just keep the public informed along the way. DB said he is very proud of the Police Department but he agreed that there are gaps in the coverage and there has been a lot going on in the Township based off of the Chief's monthly reports and he wants to research the best way to get 24/7 coverage for the residents of this community.

Brian Temple, 22 Dire Dr. asked if the Township adopted a property maintenance code and LC stated "no". Mr. Temple said you can adopt a section of the international property maintenance code just for house numbering and they follow federal regulations for house numbering. Mr. Temple said he could e-mail that section over as a guideline to Chief McQuillan. BS asked Chief McQuillan to take that information and work with Kevin Dry to amending the ordinance and Chief McQuillan acknowledged affirmatively.

Lee Robinson questioned staffing at the fire department and being short-handed and asked the BOS to consider Impact Fee money to hire 1 or 2 additional paid firemen as fire service is public safety too just like the police.

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Some unidentified woman said May is mailbox improvement month and there are federal regulations about boxes and numbering and suggested sending a letter to all residents via their mailbox to communicate this information.

Brian Temple asked the Board what supervisor Backus is going to research regarding regionalizing – contact other departments? Mr. Temple stated if you keep it the Fort Cherry District like the fire department was exploring than it would be Mount Pleasant, Robinson, Midway and McDonald and he suggested that Mount Pleasant should be the lead department on it because we are the largest area and most per capita. BS responded that DB should find out if other departments are interested. DB added that he will also gather all of the guidelines and will work with Chief McQuillan on this and will report back to the governing body.

Adjournment: DB motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm and BS seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Stevenson
Township Secretary
Mount Pleasant Township
Board of Supervisors