

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
MINUTES - JANUARY 5, 2004

The Organizational Meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on January 5, 2004. Mrs. Godshalk called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. welcoming Steve Santarsiero, Supervisor, and Henry Harrison, Auditor who will be sworn in this evening. She stated that her wish for the new year is there be peace throughout the land starting in Lower Makefield. She offered her support to the troops and wishes for their return to protect our borders. She gave thanks for the opportunity to serve as Chairman in 2003.

Those present:

Board of Supervisors: Frank Fazzalore, Chairman  
Pete Stainthorpe, Vice Chairman  
Scott Fegley, Secretary/Treasurer  
Grace Godshalk, Supervisor  
Steve Santarsiero, Supervisor

Others: Terry Fedorchak, Township Manager  
John Koopman, Township Solicitor  
Kenneth Coluzzi, Chief of Police

SWEARING IN OF STEVE SANTARSIERO

The Honorable Judge John Rufe was present and swore in Steve Santarsiero as Supervisor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Pat Frain, 16 Delaware Rim, stated the residents in his area recently received a letter about the possibility of public sewers and asked who will make the final decision on this matter. Mrs. Godshalk stated generally the residents in the area involved meet with Mr. Hoffmeister and Mr. Coyne. She stated no plan has been approved for the project at the current time. She stated generally the project would go forward if a majority of the residents were in favor. She stated if a majority is not in favor it would most likely not proceed unless there were a public health problem. Mr. Frain stated there was nothing included in the information about the cost of the project. Mr. Fazzalore stated he is liaison to the Sewer Authority. He stated all property owners had to be notified about this matter and the Sewer Authority has authorized that the septic tanks be checked this spring. He stated he lives in the area and feels most of the septic tanks do not work. He stated this is one of the last areas in the Township, besides Edgewood Village, that does not have public sewers. Mr. Fegley stated what has been sent to the residents at this time is simply a public opinion survey. If it is found there is not a problem and most of the residents are against the project, he does not feel they would proceed unless there is a public health concern. Mrs. Godshalk stated she feels whoever does the inspection should be impartial and should not be anyone who could benefit from the project.

Ms. Virginia Torbert congratulated Mr. Santarsiero on his Election and Mrs. Godshalk on her year as Chairman. Ms. Torbert asked that the Board make televising their meetings happen this year so that the community can stay involved. Mrs. Godshalk stated they do intend to look into this.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The meeting was turned over to Mr. Koopman, Chairman pro-tem. Mr. Koopman called for nominations for the office of Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for the year 2004. Mr. Fegley moved and Mr. Stainthorpe seconded the nomination of Frank Fazzalore. There were no further nominations, and the Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Koopman called for nominations for the office of Vice Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for the year 2004. Mr. Fegley moved and Mrs. Godshalk seconded the nomination of Pete Stainthorpe. There were no further nominations, and the Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Koopman turned the meeting over to Mr. Fazzalore who thanked the Board for his Election and noted that while the Chairman does have some control over the Agenda and runs the meeting, he only has one vote. Mr. Fazzalore commented on how much he enjoys living in Lower Makefield noting that Money Magazine recently rated Lower Makefield as the 26th best place to live in the Northeast United States. He stated the prior Boards of Supervisors should be complimented on how they planned the Township and provided for the proper zoning. He hopes that they will be able to keep the Township this way and knows the current Supervisors will all cooperate.

Mr. Fazzalore called for nominations for the office of Secretary/Treasurer of the Board of Supervisors for the year 2004. Mr. Stainthorpe moved and Mr. Fazzalore seconded the nomination of Scott Fegley. There were no further nominations, and the Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Fazzalore noted the position of Assistant Secretary/Treasurer is typically held by the Township Manager. Mr. Stainthorpe moved, Mrs. Godshalk seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint Terry Fedorchak as Assistant Secretary/Treasurer for 2004.

#### APPOINT BEGLEY, CARLIN & MANDIO AS TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR FOR 2004

Mr. Stainthorpe moved, Mrs. Godshalk seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint Begley, Carlin & Mandio as Township Solicitor for 2004.

#### APPOINT PICKERING, CORTS & SUMMERSON AS TOWNSHIP ENGINEER FOR 2004

Mr. Stainthorpe moved, Mrs. Godshalk seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint Pickering, Corts & Summerston as Township Engineer for 2004. Rates attached to the Minutes.

APPOINT CKS ENGINEERS, INC. AS TOWNSHIP SEWER ENGINEER FOR 2004

Mr. Stainthorpe moved, Mrs. Godshalk seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint CKS Engineers, Inc. as Township Sewer Engineer for 2004. Rates attached to the Minutes.

SWEARING IN OF HENRY HARRISON

The Honorable Judge John Rufe swore in Henry Harrison as Auditor.

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF THE VACANCY BOARD FOR 2004

Mr. Fazzalore stated Marge O'Reilly-Allen is willing to serve again as Chairman of the Vacancy Board for 2004.

Mr. Stainthorpe moved to appoint Marge O'Reilly-Allen as Chairman of the Vacancy Board for 2004.

Mr. Santarsiero stated he understands this person is the deciding vote if a Supervisor should step down. Mr. Fazzalore stated there is a procedure which is followed if this occurs. Mr. Koopman stated the Vacancy Board Chairman only comes into play if the Board of Supervisors cannot agree to an appointment. The position could be compared to a tie-breaker.

Mr. Fegley seconded the Motion, and the Motion carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE DELEGATE TO THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF PENNSYLVANIA TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

Mr. Stainthorpe moved, Mr. Santarsiero seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint Frank Fazzalore as the Delegate to the Annual Convention of Pennsylvania Township Supervisors to be held April 18 to April 21 at the Hershey Lodge.

Mrs. Godshalk volunteered to serve as the Alternate Delegate and this was acceptable to the Board.

ESTABLISH COMPENSATION OF TREASURER

Mr. Stainthorpe moved and Mr. Fazzalore seconded to establish the compensation of the Treasurer at \$3,000 per year subject to approval of the Board of Auditors. Motion carried with Mr. Fegley abstained.

ESTABLISH TREASURER'S BOND AND ASSISTANT TREASURER'S BOND

Mrs. Godshalk moved, Mr. Stainthorpe seconded and it was unanimously carried to establish the amount of the Treasurer's Bond at \$2,000,000 and the Assistant Treasurer's Bond at \$2,000,000.

COMMENTS BY MR. SANTARSIERO AND MOTION TO APPROVE RE-SCHEDULING NEXT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

Mr. Santarsiero thanked all the residents in Lower Makefield who voted for him in the Election. He stated he will not let the voters down. He stated while it has been eighteen years since a Democrat was elected to the Board, he wants to assure those who did not vote for him that he represents all those living in the Township. He hopes, through cooperation and compromise, that they can proceed in the right direction. He stated this is already evident, and he feels one of the signs is the willingness of the Board to look into televising the meetings depending on the costs. He feels this will be a service to the taxpayers and the Township. He stated there are a number of items that will come before the Board including looming financial problems and feels they will be able to address these concerns in a way that keeps Lower Makefield moving forward. He stated he feels they should continue to strive to protect open space and address traffic concerns in the Township. He will call for a Commission of the Board of Supervisors, Police, and concerned residents to be involved in a comprehensive review of the roads so that they can analyze the problems, rank them, and deal with them. He is hopeful that one of the issues that has come up over and over again - a Senior Center - can be resolved and feels possibly they can work with a developer on this. He feels they will be able to create a Senior Center and a Community Center which will result in a civic space for people to come together in the Township. He stated he would also like to look into public space in Edgewood Village.

Mr. Santarsiero stated with respect to open Government, he would like the Board of Supervisors to consider opening up the process by which they consider appointments for the various Boards and Commissions in the Township. He stated up until now when applicants come to the Board requesting appointment, their applications are considered first on paper and then they are interviewed in Executive Session. He is suggesting that those interviews take place in public despite the fact that the current practice is lawful under the State Sunshine Act. He still feels this is wrong to do so behind closed doors. He feels an open Government will help more people become involved and prove the integrity of the Board. He asked that this be put on the Agenda for the next meeting.

Mr. Santarsiero stated in the last few years, the second meeting in January has fallen on Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, and he is requesting that the next meeting be re-scheduled in deference to Dr. King. Mr. Fazzalore stated it has been their practice not to re-schedule meetings and if they cancel a meeting, they put those items on the next Agenda. Mr. Fazzalore stated every time something is changed, it becomes a negotiating item in the next Contract. He is concerned with the financial impact this might involve.

Mr. Santarsiero moved and Mr. Fegley seconded to re-schedule the next meeting to Wednesday, January 21, 2004 provided there are no other meetings taking place.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated there are no conflicting meetings that evening. Overall, he does not feel they should get in the habit of re-scheduling meetings. He stated if they do get into

negotiations with the Unions and this date becomes a holiday, there could be a problem if they have to call people in to plow roads, etc., as they would have to pay everyone overtime. He stated this should be considered as well. Mrs. Godshalk stated she has had extensive conversations with Mr. Santarsiero about this matter, noting that if the Township Police Officers and other workers do not have this as a holiday and the Board of Supervisors takes it as a holiday, it could create problems. She stated if they wish to respect Dr. King's memory, there are things they can do all year long. She stated she met Dr. King and respects him as an individual, but there are also other Americans whom she respects and they do not take their birthdays off.

Mr. Santarsiero stated Dr. King's birthday is a National Holiday and this was done for a reason. He stated they are honoring a man who made political progress through non-violence. While he understands the issues that have been raised with regard to the Contracts, there may be ways that they can work around this in the future. He stated many people use Dr. King's birthday as a day to commit to public service and perhaps one of the ways they can address this is to give the employees a choice whether they wish to serve the public as they do every day by doing their job or to do some other kind of public service that day.

Mr. Fegley stated the Board should recall that they did not hold a meeting last November in observance of Yom Kippur. He stated he feels the Board of Supervisors and the public should recognize that by virtue of the fact that the Board has always held their meetings on Monday nights, it does create some problems because many holidays occur on Monday. He stated possibly the Board should consider rescheduling all of their meetings to a different night or consider what the implications are of re-scheduling the meetings on a case-by-case basis.

Ms. Torbert stated the Board of Supervisors only meets twice a month and many times if there is a holiday or the Supervisors go to the Convention, they do not hold the meeting. She stated she does not understand why meetings cannot be re-scheduled. Mrs. Godshalk stated at the beginning of the year they advertise that their meetings will be on the first and third Monday; and if the holiday falls on that day, the items are considered at the next meeting. Ms. Torbert stated they could simply do another advertisement for the change. Mr. Fazzalore stated there may be complaints from residents that they did not see the advertisement, and Ms. Torbert stated this should not be a concern of the Board since that would be up to the individual resident to make themselves aware of the change. Mr. Fazzalore noted the Board members also have other obligations. Ms. Torbert stated when they agreed to be a Supervisor, this brings with it certain responsibilities. Mr. Fazzalore stated his duties as a Supervisor are a priority and he sets his calendar for the year around the scheduled Supervisor meetings. If they start changing individual meetings, it will create scheduling difficulties.

Mr. Santarsiero stated possibly the best way to address this issue is to consider it further in the future; and if they decide they want to change the regular meeting date, they can do so next year.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated he does not have a problem with re-scheduling meetings once in a while, particularly this month when they do not normally conduct regular business at the first meeting. If they were to cancel the next meeting, he is concerned that the first meeting in February would be very heavy.

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Motion to approve re-scheduling meeting carried with Mr. Fegley, Mr. Santarsiero, and Mr. Stainthorpe in favor and Mr. Fazzalore and Mrs. Godshalk opposed.

#### LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS

Mr. Fazzalore announced the following Liaison Assignments for the year 2004:

- Mr. Fazzalore - Sewer Authority, Park & Recreation, Newsletter, Pension Committee
- Mr. Stainthorpe - Zoning Hearing Board, Golf Committee, Rescue Squad, Pension Committee
- Mr. Fegley - Environmental Advisory Council, Cable TV, Board of Auditors, Disabled Persons Advisory Council
- Mrs. Godshalk - Golf Committee, Historical Commission, H.A.R.B., Elm Lowne, 9-11 Memorial
- Mr. Santarsiero - Planning Commission, Farmland Corp., Emergency Management

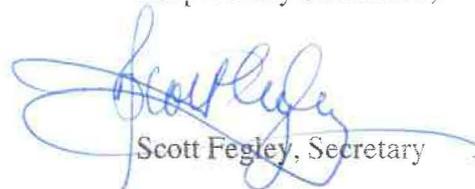
#### OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Judy Gordon noted the difficulty of hearing the proceedings due to problems with the sound system.

Mr. Mitch Goldberg congratulated Mr. Santarsiero on behalf of his family and the Court of Common Pleas.

There being no further business, Mr. Stainthorpe moved, Mr. Fegley seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Scott Fegley, Secretary