

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
MINUTES – JANUARY 6, 2014

The Organizational Meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on January 6, 2014. Mr. Stainthorpe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Those present:

Board of Supervisors: Dobby Dobson, Chairman
 Dan McLaughlin, Vice Chairman
 Pete Stainthorpe, Secretary
 Kristin Tyler, Treasurer
 Jeff Benedetto, Supervisor

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

SWEARING IN

The Honorable Michael J. Burns was present and swore in the following:

Pete Stainthorpe, Supervisor
Kristin Tyler, Supervisor
Rebecca Cecchini, Tax Collector
Lorraine Marchand, Auditor

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Sue Herman, 1977 Boxwood Drive, asked if the Board had any additional information on why the Patterson Farm Application was pulled by the Ag Board, and Mr. Stainthorpe stated they did not. He stated he and Mr. Fedorchak have a meeting scheduled on January 14 with Commissioner Loughery, and they will discuss this with the public at the next Board of Supervisors meeting.

Mr. Josh Waldorf stated he is on the Pennsbury School Board and will be the liaison with the Supervisors over the next four years.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN PRO TEM

Mr. Dobson moved, Mr. McLaughlin seconded and it was unanimously carried to elect John Koopman as Chairman Pro Tem for the purpose of conducting Election of Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR 2014

Mr. Koopman asked for nominations for Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for 2014.

Mr. Stainthorpe nominated Dobby Dobson as Chairman and Mr. McLaughlin seconded.

Mr. Benedetto nominated Kristin Tyler as Chair. Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion to elect Dobby Dobson carried with Mr. Benedetto opposed.

REMARKS BY THE NEW CHAIRMAN

The meeting was turned over to Mr. Dobson who called for a moment of silence in memory of Greg Caiola, former Supervisor, who passed away last week.

Mr. Dobson acknowledged the work done by Mr. Stainthorpe who served as Chairman for two consecutive years and demonstrated humility and patience.

Mr. Dobson stated this year he hopes that the ball fields being constructed will be able to be used possibly this fall. He stated one of the challenges is to help the Veterans Committee get the Monument built which he feels is long overdue. He stated he also wants to see the Community/Senior Center designed and built in 2014 as it is also long overdue. Mr. Dobson stated he feels the Township needs to find ways to increase revenues. He stated the Township has some revenue-producing areas one of which is the Golf Course where they have invested money to attract weddings, parties, etc. He stated he also feels they need to find ways to increase membership at the Pool, and he challenged the Park & Rec Department, the Board of Supervisors, and members of the community to provide ideas on ways to increase membership at the Pool. Mr. Dobson stated they also need to do infrastructure improvements to the sewer system, and find ways to pay for these improvements. He discussed sewer projects that can be done that will save transmission fees. Mr. Dobson stated he is committed to finding ways for the Township to live within its means

Mr. Dobson stated there are vacancies on various Township Boards and Commissions, and he particularly noted Farmland Preservation, the Historic Commission, and HARB. He asked the Township residents to come forward and be part of one of the Township Boards, and asked that those interested send their resume to Mr. Fedorchak.

Mr. Dobson stated the Township has been in a strong financial condition, and Mr. McLaughlin in particular has been finding ways to save money; and the Board is committed to this as the residents expect this of the Board.

ELECTION OF OTHER OFFICERS

Mr. Dobson called for nominations for Vice Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for 2014.

Mr. Stainthorpe moved and Ms. Tyler seconded the nomination of Dan McLaughlin as Vice Chairman.

Mr. Benedetto nominated Kristin Tyler. Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion to elect Dan McLaughlin carried unanimously.

Mr. Dobson called for nominations for Secretary of the Board of Supervisors for 2014.

Mr. McLaughlin moved and Ms. Tyler seconded the nomination of Pete Stainthorpe as Secretary. Motion to elect Pete Stainthorpe carried unanimously.

Mr. Dobson called for nominations for Treasurer of the Board of Supervisors for 2014.

Mr. Benedetto moved and Mr. McLaughlin seconded the nomination of Kristin Tyler as Treasurer. Motion to elect Kristin Tyler carried unanimously.

Mr. Stainthorpe moved and Ms. Tyler seconded the nomination of Terry Fedorchak as Assistant Secretary/Treasurer for 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

APPOINT CHAIRMAN OF THE VACANCY BOARD

Mr. McLaughlin moved and Mr. Stainthorpe seconded the appointment of Brian McNamara as Chairman of the Vacancy Board.

Mr. Benedetto moved the appointment of Adrienne Costello. Motion died for lack of a second.

Mr. Benedetto stated the issue he has with Mr. McNamara is the same issue he had with the prior Chairman of the Vacancy Board in that he is an Executive in the Republican Party, and he would like to see someone who is a little less partisan.

Motion carried to appoint Mr. McNamara with Mr. Benedetto opposed.

APPOINTMENT OF BEGLEY, CARLIN & MANDIO AS TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR FOR 2014

Mr. Stainthorpe moved and Ms. Tyler seconded the appointment of Begley, Carlin & Mandio as Township Solicitor for 2014.

Mr. Benedetto asked if there is a raise in rates from 2013, and Mr. Koopman stated there is not.

Mr. Zachary Rubin, 1661 Covington Road, stated he is opposed to the appointment of Begley, Carlin & Mandio as solicitor for the Township. He stated his issue is not with Mr. Koopman or Mr. Garton who are fine solicitors, rather his issue is that there is another principal in the firm who has been hired to defend the Register of Wills in Bucks County in a lawsuit. He stated the Register of Wills has used at least \$10,000 of taxpayer money to retain Begley Carlin & Mandio, and in the papers filed by that law firm they have made remarks which Mr. Rubin objects to as they are advocating a position which he feels is offensive; and he feels there should be financial consequences for these actions.

Mr. Benedetto stated Mr. Garton and Mr. Koopman do an excellent job; however, there has never been an open, competitive bidding process for Begley Carlin to be appointed. He stated he feels there should have been two years ago, and he is opposed to them being unilaterally appointed without looking at any other firms.

Motion carried with Mr. Benedetto opposed.

APPOINTMENT OF ENGINEERS

Mr. Stainthorpe moved and Mr. McLaughlin seconded to appoint Boucher & James as Township engineer.

Mr. Benedetto asked if there is an increase in their rates, and Mr. Fedorchak stated there is not.

Motion carried with Mr. Benedetto opposed.

Mr. McLaughlin moved and Mr. Stainthorpe seconded to appoint Tri-State Engineers and Land Surveyors as Sewer engineer.

Mr. Benedetto stated he has heard nothing but good things about Tri-State, but he asked Mr. Dobson's opinion as he is the Sewer Authority liaison. Mr. Dobson stated in dealing with them the past year, he feels that they were extremely valuable to the Township; and they came up with a plan for Derbyshire to re-direct the flows from the Neshaminy Interceptor to Morrisville which will save the Township between \$300,000 and \$400,000 a year in transmission fees which is a tremendous benefit to the Township.

Mr. Benedetto stated he agrees that with regard to Begley Carlin and the engineers it is important to having continuity; however, his opposition to the engineers is that there are three engineering firms which he feels could be handled by one full-service engineering firm. He stated he has had a lengthy discussion with an individual on the Sewer Authority who had good things to say about Tri-State. He reiterated that there is a benefit to continuity, but he is opposed to having three engineers for a job that could be done by one full-service engineering firm.

Motion carried with Mr. Benedetto opposed.

Mr. Stainthorpe moved and Ms. Tyler seconded to appoint Gilmore Associates as Traffic engineer. Motion carried with Mr. Benedetto opposed.

APPOINTMENT OF VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

Mr. Fedorchak stated Glenmede Investment Management is recommended to be the Pension Investment Advisors, and they have served in this capacity for the last several years.

Mr. Benedetto stated he recalled that last year they discussed a change; and Mr. Stainthorpe stated one of the later appointments will take their place, but until the transition actually happens, which takes several months, the money will be with Glenmede.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, Mr. Stainthorpe seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint Glenmede Investment Management as Pension Investment Advisors.

Mr. Fedorchak stated the next appointment is for Pension Actuaries, and the recommended firm, Beyer-Barber Company, has served as the Actuaries for the last eight to nine years. He stated they are highly responsive to the Township's needs.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, Mr. Stainthorpe seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint Beyer-Barber as Pension Actuaries.

With regard to Pension Consultants, Mr. Fedorchak stated this is what was discussed during the Motion regarding Glenmede, and the recommendation is RBC Wealth Management Courtney Investment Consulting. He stated they will help look at alternatives to investments. Mr. Fedorchak stated this was the recommendation of the Committee. Mr. Benedetto asked if there was any open bidding.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated he and Mr. McLaughlin sat on the Committee. Mr. Fedorchak stated there were eleven proposals. Mr. Stainthorpe stated Mr. Fedorchak winnowed this down to five, and the Committee interviewed those five; and this was their recommendation.

Mr. Stainthorpe moved, Mr. McLaughlin seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint RBC Wealth Management Courtney Investment Company as Pension Consultants.

Mr. Fedorchak stated with regard to the Appointment for Banking, less than two years ago the Township went out for proposals, and First Federal Bank gave by far the best proposal; and he would recommend that the Township continue with them as the service has been excellent.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, Ms. Tyler seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint First Federal Bank for Banking.

Mr. Fedorchak stated the recommendation for Public Official Bonding is Vaughan Insurance Managers who are brokers for a number of Townships and Boroughs in the area. He stated this is the \$2 million bond that is required for himself and Ms. Tyler as the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, Mr. Stainthorpe seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint Vaughan Insurance Managers for Public Official Bonding.

Mr. Fedorchak stated the recommendation for Hospitalization Broker is WRG Consulting who have been with the Township for a number of years, and they have done an excellent job and were previously instrumental in negotiating a zero percent increase with Independence Blue Cross and going into this contract year it was a 6% increase which is also exceptionally low. He stated the Contract runs from July to July and with Obamacare, he is not sure what to expect.

Mr. McLaughlin moved and Mr. Stainthorpe seconded to appoint WRG Consulting as Hospitalization Broker. Motion carried with Mr. Benedetto opposed.

Mr. Fedorchak stated for Hospitalization Insurer the Township has been with Independence Blue Cross for several years, but every year they look at alternatives including Aetna and Cigna. He stated at this point in time it is the middle of a Contract year, and he would recommend continuing with Independence Blue Cross.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, Mr. Stainthorpe seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint Independence Blue Cross as Hospitalization Insurer.

Mr. Fedorchak stated the recommendation is Health Now (Benefits Concepts Inc.) for Health Care Claims Administrator. He stated for the dental and prescription piece, they completely self-insure so they need a third party administrator. He stated they have been with the company for a decade, and they provide excellent service.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, Ms. Tyler seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint Health Now as the Health Care Claims Administrator.

Mr. Fedorchak stated for General Property. Liability, and Workman's Comp the recommendation is Delaware Valley Insurance Trust which they have been with for twenty years. He stated the Trust specializes in public sector liability insurance, and there are forty to fifty Bucks County Townships and Boroughs that are part of this Trust.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, Mr. Stainthorpe seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint Delaware Valley Insurance trust for General Property, Liability, and Workman's Comp.

Mr. Fedorchak stated Public Financial Management Corp. is the recommendation for Bond Finance Consultants. He stated they have worked very well with Mr. Walker as they engage in re-financings.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, Ms. Tyler seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint Public Financial Management Corp. as the Bond Finance Consultants.

Mr. Fedorchak stated for Life/Disability Insurance Broker the recommendation is Model Consulting Group which has handled this for the last few years.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, Ms. Tyler seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint Model Consulting Group for Life/Disability Insurance Broker.

Mr. Fedorchak stated Standard Insurance is the recommendation for Life/Disability Insurer. He added they are in the process now of going through the review process, and he would recommend that they remain with Standard at least through March. He stated if they find that there is another company with a better rate, he will discuss this with the Board in March.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, Mr. Stainthorpe seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint Standard Insurance for Life/Disability Insurer.

GRANT EXTENSION OF TIME TO ST. IGNATIUS

Mr. Fedorchak stated this is a small Residential development. Mr. Stainthorpe moved, Ms. Tyler seconded and it was unanimously carried to grant an Extension of time to St. Ignatius until April 9, 2014.

APPOINT DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE DELEGATE TO THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF PENNSYLVANIA TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS TO BE HELD APRIL 13, 2014 AT THE HERSHEY LODGE

Mr. McLaughlin moved, Ms. Tyler seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint Pete Stainthorpe as Delegate to the Annual Convention.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, Mr. Benedetto seconded and it was unanimously carried to appoint Kristin Tyler as Alternate Delegate to the Annual Convention.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUPERVISOR LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2014

Mr. Dobson noted the following Liaison Assignments:

Mr. Dobson: Emergency Management, Golf, Historical Commission, Sewer
Mr. Stainthorpe: HARB, Park & Rec, Economic Development
Mr. McLaughlin: Planning, Disabled Persons, Farmland Preservation
Ms. Tyler: Zoning Hearing Board, Citizens Traffic, Seniors
Mr. Benedetto: EAC, Citizens Budget, Electronic Media, Veterans

Mr. Rubin commended the Township and the Township Manager for advertising yesterday in the Bucks County Courier Times that there are vacancies on a number of the Township Boards, which he feels was an excellent expenditure of Township money. Mr. Rubin added that this month EMAC will meet on the third Thursday of the month.

ESTABLISH AMOUNT OF TREASURER'S BOND AT \$2,000,000

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

ESTABLISH AMOUNT OF ASSISTANT TREASURER'S BOND AT \$2,000,000

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

There being no further business, Mr. Stainthorpe moved, Mr. McLaughlin seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pete Stainthorpe, Secretary

