

HANOVER TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

March 21, 2012
7:30 P.M.

Present: Councilmen Atkinson, Dreisbach, Kovacs, Paulus, Woolley; J. Jackson Eaton, III, Esquire; Frederick W. Hay, P.E.; Sandra A. Pudliner; Vicky Roth

Absent: 0

Attendance: 2

Courtesy of the Floor:

Kay Thompson, a resident in the Chestnut Grove Towne Garden Development, appeared before the Board questioning the increase in the sewer rates. Ms. Thompson advised the Board that it is her understanding that the minimum charge has been increased. Councilman Kovacs commented that minimum usage had been decreased from 11,000 gallons to 7,000 gallons. Councilman Atkinson noted that a minimum is charged to absorb administrative costs for billing, postage and other base cost. The Township Engineer noted that the City of Bethlehem charges for usage and also charges an administrative fee. Mr. Hay also indicated that Bethlehem is raising their rates and Allentown is also raising their rates. The Township charges need to reflect those increases to cover the costs charged to the Township by the Municipalities for sewer treatment, etc.

Approval of Minutes: March 7, 2012 Regular Council Meeting

Motion: I move we waive the reading of the Minutes of the March 7, 2012 Regular Council Meeting and accept same as presented.

Paulus, Kovacs: Moved and Seconded

Atkinson, Dreisbach, Kovacs, Woolley, Paulus: Aye Unan.

Reports:

1. Sandra A. Pudliner
Township Manager

The Township Manager advised the Board that she has provided them with a written Manager's report.

1. The Township Manager indicated to the Board that with respect to the upcoming Zoning Appeal for Diehl Paving, she has provided the Board with correspondence from Mr. Diehl's attorney indicating that they will accept the conditions Council had set forth for

approval of the automobile repair use on the property. Council discussed the matter and determined they would not send their attorney to the Zoning Hearing and that the Zoning Officer would advise the Zoning Board of the situation.

2. The Township Manager advised the Board that she has provided them with a copy of correspondence relative to the resignation of Pamela Walsh from the Hanover Township Zoning Board. In that regard, to fill that vacancy, the Township Manager noted that an item has been placed under New Business regarding that matter.
2. Frederick W. Hay, P.E.
Township Engineer
 1. The Township Engineer advised that with respect to the issue brought up at the last meeting regarding why there is no left turning lane from Race Street onto Willowbrook Road, the Township Engineer advised that the reason simply relates to the fact that it was not warranted by traffic counts that were taken at the time.
 2. With respect to turtle docks at Catasauqua Lake, the Township Engineer noted that one had been put in but is now in the water and will need to be resituated.
 3. The Township Engineer advised that today he and the Township Manager had met with representatives from Lanta and LVIP regarding a bus stop up on Race Street which had become a matter of concern for the State Police. Apparently, the State Police had witnessed individuals crossing the roadway and indicated to Lanta that they felt this was a dangerous situation. The Township Engineer noted that as a result of the meeting, Lanta indicated that they desire to put pedestrian crossing signs up and are willing to pay for same and that all they want from the Township is a letter indicating that the Township has no objection to that occurring. The Board agreed to this proposal. Councilman Atkinson did question the Township Attorney as to whether or not the Township accepts any liability by doing this and it was the opinion of the Township Solicitor that there would be no liability involved.
 4. With respect to the relocation of Meter Station No. 4, the Township Engineer noted that the electrical system will be finished tomorrow. PPL will be hooking it up. The Township's consultant, John Laidley, will come and put the electrical system in. The Township Engineer noted that there will be a meeting with the Airport to put an antenna on the approach tower.
 5. With respect to the new Municipal Building construction, the Township Engineer advised that the framing sub of Bracy Contracting is required by spec to have a structural engineer detail the framing. Bracy's sub has indicated that there is a problem with the structural design. When the sub relayed this information to the architect's structural engineer that structural engineer indicated that the sub should design something and they would then look at it. With respect to the Township's position in this matter, the Township Engineer noted that the Township had brought in a third party structural engineer. It was the Township Engineer's recommendation that whatever the third party

engineer advises is the way he would go. The Township Engineer noted that the issues involve beefing up the structure for wind loads. Bracing of the windows on the structure is an issue. It appears that the issue is whether or not the work done per spec is working.

There was a discussion involving the Township Attorney as to the process. The Township Attorney noted that if the parties involved reach an impasse the Township could go ahead and pay the subcontractor and litigate the architect. The Township Attorney noted that after the report from the third party structural engineer was received he felt that the Township Engineer and the Township Manager and himself should sit down and review this matter. There was also discussion initiated by Councilman Dreisbach with respect to the cost for a change order for the electrical room. It was noted that the excessive cost would most likely be greatly reduced and that matter is currently being readdressed.

6. J. Jackson Eaton, III, Esquire
Township Attorney

1. The Township Attorney advised that he would request that the Township approve a tax assessment appeal. The offer has already been made to the other side. This involves the Brosis, L.P. property at 100 Cascade Drive. Current assessment is \$4,727,000. The new county appraisal is \$4,123,000. The Township Attorney advised that he would recommend that the Board accept the new assessment value. In that regard, the Board made the following motion:

Motion: I move that that the Township approve the settlement of the tax assessment appeal of Brosis, L.P., 100 Cascade Drive, to reduce the assessment from \$4,727,000 to \$4,123,000.

Kovacs, Atkinson: Moved and Seconded

Atkinson, Dreisbach, Kovacs, Woolley, Paulus:

Aye

Unan.

4. Maintenance Report (Written)
5. Fire Company's Report (Written)
6. Code Enforcement Officers' Reports (Written)
7. Building Inspector's Report (Written)

Chairman Paulus acknowledged receipt of a written Maintenance Report, written Fire Company Report, written Code Enforcement Officers' Reports and written Building Inspector's Report and same were noted for the record.

It was noted by the Board that they thought the refurbishing of the baseball field in Sherwood Park represented a good job by the Maintenance personnel. There was some discussion with respect to St. Andrew's Church facility being in compliance after the recent inspection. The

Township Manager was also directed to determine if the facility is still being used as a shelter.

8. Treasurer's Report (Written)

Motion: I move we accept the computer printouts dated March 21, 2012, for the General Fund Account, Capital Reserve Account, Escrow Account, Liquid Fuels Account, Sewer Account and Water Account subject to audit.

Paulus, Kovacs: Moved and Seconded
Atkinson, Dreisbach, Kovacs, Woolley, Paulus: Aye Unan.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

1. Resolution No. 2012-34, A Resolution Providing for the Appointment of Dean Hausman to the Hanover Township Zoning Hearing Board, filling the Vacancy Created by the Resignation of Pamela Walsh (Vote)

Motion: I move that Resolution No. 2012-34, A Resolution Providing for the Appointment of Dean Hausman to the Hanover Township Zoning Hearing Board, filling the Vacancy Created by the Resignation of Pamela Walsh, be adopted as presented.

Kovacs, Dreisbach: Moved and Seconded
Atkinson, Dreisbach, Kovacs, Woolley, Paulus: Aye Unan.

Payment of Bills:

Motion: I move Council authorize payment of Payroll (2/17/2012), Payroll (3/2/12), Payroll (3/16/12); Voucher Nos. 18578-18593 (Prepays), Voucher Nos. 18594-18648, from the General Fund Account in the amount of \$150,510.94; Voucher Nos. 88 from the Liquid Fuels Account in the amount of \$5,737.11; Voucher Nos. 3806-3808 (Prepays), Voucher Nos. 3809-3815 from Capital Reserve in the amount of \$456,373.82; Voucher Nos. 3840-3844 from the Escrow Account in the amount of \$50,741.25; Voucher Nos. 3759-3760 (Prepays), Voucher Nos. 3761-3767 from the Water Account in the amount of \$7,945.58; Voucher Nos. 4824-4836 from the Sewer Account in the amount of \$27,949.40 for a Grand Total Expenditure of \$699,258.10.

Paulus, Kovacs: Moved and Seconded
Atkinson, Dreisbach, Kovacs, Woolley, Paulus: Aye Unan.

Courtesy of the Floor: None.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sandra A. Pudliner".

Sandra A. Pudliner
Township Manager