

HANOVER TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

November 7, 2012
7:30 P.M.

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

Absent: Frederick W. Hay, P.E.

Attendance: 2

Courtesy of the Floor: None.

Approval of Minutes: October 17, 2012 Regular Council Meeting

Motion: I move we waive the reading of the Minutes of the October 17, 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

1. The Township Manager offered no oral report at this time. However, upon questioning by Councilman Atkinson, the Township Manager noted that she has brokered the Township's energy supply for the new Municipal Building with Liberty Power. She indicated to the Board that some of the rates discussed at a prior meeting related to residential properties and other low rates related to a variable rate situation. She noted that this package through Liberty Power is a very good rate.

2. Frederick W. Hay, P.E.
Township Engineer

1. Chairman Paulus noted that the Township Engineer was not present at the meeting but he had indicated to him via a telephone conversation that the Board should be advised that they are working on the traffic study for the Race Street/Cascade Drive intersection to determine if a traffic light at that location would be justified.

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

1. The Township Attorney advised that as Council is aware the Board had authorized a settlement with Chess and Checkers with respect to their sewer bill situation. They will be paying over a six-month period with a payment plan that has been established and executed by all parties. The first payment of said plan has already been made.
2. The Township Attorney advised that as Council is aware the referendum on the ballot to increase the competitive bidding amount has been approved by the electorate. The Township Attorney noted that the rate is permitted to increase annually by the CPI. In that regard, the Township could either go through the process or adopt the state system. Attorney Eaton indicated his suggestion would be to adopt the state system. There was a discussion with respect to the Township's information regarding CPI which the Board utilizes in their wage increase calculation. Information on same would be provided to the Township Attorney. Initially, the Township Attorney advised that the new bidding rate increase would require that the municipality solicit bids for contracts between \$10,000 and \$18,500. These contracts can be solicited without advertisement. Councilman Kovacs commented that he was somewhat surprised at the number of voters that did not vote in favor of the referendum.

At this point in the meeting, Chairman Paulus questioned the Township Attorney as to whether or not he had checked into the information he had provided him regarding outside wood furnaces and asked him to determine if the Township is covered under the current burning laws. Chairman Paulus noted he had given the Attorney an article to review. The Township Attorney indicated he would go back and look for same. Chairman Paulus expressed his concern that these types of units create pollution and he noted that he wants to make sure that our codes would prohibit this since he is aware of someone who is considering putting one in at their property. There was discussion regarding the pollution issue. However, it was noted that possibly the best way to eliminate these units all together would be to require certain acreage for such an installation which would in effect eliminate such structures in the Township. Attorney Eaton noted that he has heard of this type of situation in other municipalities and will look to get something together for the Board to review.

Councilman Kovacs questioned the Township Attorney as to the status of the issue with the property owner with construction vehicles on Pennsylvania Avenue. Attorney Eaton noted that the Township gave notice when the vehicles were parked on a property in the Township. The Township monitored the situation and within the time frame provided for removal they were not removed. The Township then issued a citation. The magistrate sent out a notice to the property owners who plead not guilty. Accordingly, there will be a hearing scheduled. The Township Manager advised the Board that for their information they should know that these vehicles have now been parked on the other side of Pennsylvania Avenue which is in the City of Bethlehem. Accordingly, currently the Township has no jurisdiction over same.

There was a discussion initiated by Councilman Atkinson with respect to the Bartholomew property on Pennsylvania Avenue. It was noted that the tent on the property had blown away. The Township Manager advised that Mr. Bartholomew had provided the Township with written notice regarding the fact that this matter has been

turned into his insurance carrier. It was the consensus of the Board that the Township Manager correspond with the property owner and indicate that the Township would expect the situation rectified within 30 days of receipt of notification. There was also a discussion with respect to a property located on Irving Street where a vehicle is parked in the front yard which appears to be unregistered and disassembled. Councilman Woolley commented that he thought that matter had been resolved. The Township Manager advised that she would look into the matter.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: None.

Courtesy of the Floor: None.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra A. Pudliner
Township Manager