

HANOVER TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

September 4, 2013
7:30 P.M.

Present: Councilmen Dreisbach, Kovacs, Paulus, Woolley; Kimberly Spotts-Kimmel, Esquire; Sandra A. Pudliner; Vicky Roth

Absent: Councilman Atkinson; J. Jackson Eaton, III, Esquire; Frederick W. Hay, P.E.

Attendance: 6

Courtesy of the Floor:

Mr. Kevin Klase of Tall Timbers Nursery appeared before the Board. The Township Manager provided the Board with quotations for additional landscaping work to be done in the front of the current Municipal Building. By way of background, the Township Manager advised the Board that as they will recall, the original installer had been replaced by Tall Timbers through the contractor, Bracy Contracting and remediation work had been agreed upon with respect to the property with the exception of the entrance from the parking lot into the Municipal Building which is currently a meadow effect. In that regard, the Township Manager noted that the Board had asked her to secure proposals with respect to replacing the meadow with either sod or sod and plantings.

In that regard, Mr. Klase indicated to the Board that he provided two proposals. One for the replacement of the meadow with sod at a cost of \$2,650 and the second proposal related to replacing the current meadow with sod, plantings and mulch or with sod, plantings and red stone instead of the mulch. The cost for that work without the stone was \$4,850. With the red stone in place, the cost would be \$5,850. Council discussed the matter and determined that the best course of action would be the replacement of the wild flowers in the front of the building with sod, plantings and red stone and indicated same to Mr. Klase.

Mrs. Jane Burcaw of 2535 Hampshire Rd., Bethlehem, PA, appeared before the Board on behalf of her daughter who is getting married on October 10 in Canal Park. She requested that the Board consider allowing them additional time for cleanup after the wedding. It was noted that they would like from 8:00 – 9:00 P.M. for cleanup activity. Council indicated that no alcohol should be served after 8:00 P.M. Mrs. Burcaw agreed to same. The Township Manager noted that she would provide her with a letter from the Township indicating that the time has been extended past sunset until 9:00 P.M. for cleanup after the wedding reception.

Approval of Minutes: August 21, 2013 Regular Council Meeting

Motion: I move we waive the reading of the Minutes of the August 21, 2013 Regular Council Meeting and accept same as presented.

Dreisbach, Kovacs: Moved and Seconded
Kovacs, Paulus, Woolley, Dreisbach:

Aye Unan.

Reports:

1. Sandra A. Pudliner
Township Manager

1. The Township Manager advised the Board that with respect to the recent Zoning Hearing Board Appeals, the Board should be advised that the Hanover Township Zoning Hearing Board granted relief for the Begovich property on Schoenersville Rd., as well as for the request of Carmike Cinemas for a sign on the A. Duie Pyle property.
2. With respect to the property raised by fire on N. Dauphin St., the Township Manager noted that Council had expressed an interest in possibly purchasing the property. The Township Manager noted that she had met with the property owner who had indicated that they had not decided exactly what course of action they were taking. It was noted that they might rebuild the property and live in same. It was also noted that they might entertain an offer from the Township to purchase the property. The Township Manager advised that she had provided Council with information relative to the assessed value of this particular property. In that regard, the land assessment at \$18,800 and the building assessment at \$69,100 would make a taxable total of \$87,900. There was some discussion that if there was insurance money, the insurance would simply pay the property owner and the property owner need not necessarily rebuild. If that were the case, and the property would be looked at only as taxable land, then in that instance, the Hanover Township Council would entertain purchasing that property. The Township Manager advised that when she met with the owner she indicated that a rebuild could occur but that the dimensions of the new home would have to be identical as to the foot print of the prior building. However, Mrs. Pudliner did indicate to her that the home could be rebuilt further back off of the roadway, but the square footage could not exceed the square footage of the home that had been destroyed. In any event, the Township Manager advised she would keep the Board advised as to further developments in this matter.
3. The Township Manager advised that training with respect to managing the Township's new website took place today.

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

1. Chairman Dreisbach noted that the Township Engineer was not in attendance this evening. With respect to some of his items, Chairman Dreisbach noted that as Council has noticed, the poles have been removed

from Grove Rd. The Road Program has started and playground equipment has been installed in Chestnut Grove Park.

3. Kimberly Spotts-Kimmel, Esquire
For J. Jackson Eaton, III, Esquire
Township Attorney

1. In the absence of the Township Attorney, J. Jackson Eaton, III, Esquire, Kimberly Spotts-Kimmel, Esquire of Gross McGinley, was in attendance at the meeting. Attorney Kimmel advised the Board that she would request a brief Executive Session to discuss a tax assessment appeal matter. The Board determined that they would adjourn the meeting at this time for the Executive Session and then come back to the meeting with a decision regarding same. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 P.M. The Board came back at 8:00 P.M. and made the following motion:

Motion: I move that we accept the Tax Assessment Appeal settlement in the matter of AP Allentown Ltd. to reduce the assessment from \$9.3 million to \$6.75 million.

Woolley, Kovacs: Moved and Seconded
Kovacs, Paulus, Woolley, Dreisbach:

Aye Unan.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

1. Bill No. 2013-07, An Ordinance Amending Section 1-404 of the Statutory Code of Hanover Township to Establish Term Limits for Any Person Serving in the Position as the Chairman of the Township Council (Introduce)

Councilman Woolley introduced Bill No. 2013-07 at this time. It was noted a Public Hearing on same would be held on Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at 7:30 P.M.

Courtesy of the Floor: None.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra A. Pudliner
Township Manager