HANOVER TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

June 17, 2015 7:30 P.M.

<u>Present</u>: Councilmen Heimbecker, Martucci, Paulus, Woolley; J. Jackson Eaton,

III, Esquire; Ryan Christman; Sandra A. Pudliner; Vicky Roth

Absent: Councilman Wegfahrt

Attendance: 10

Courtesy of the Floor: None.

Approval of Minutes: June 3, 2015 Regular Council Meeting

Motion: I move we waive the reading of the Minutes of the June 3, 2015 Regular

Council Meeting and accept same as presented.

Paulus, Heimbecker: Moved and Seconded

Heimbecker, Martucci, Woolley, Paulus: Aye Unan.

Reports:

- 1. Sandra A. Pudliner Township Manager
 - 1. With respect to the Community Block Grant Program, the Township Manager advised that the Township received correspondence from Lehigh County advising that our application for funding has been rejected. Their theory is that since the first phase of construction will occur in the summer of 2015 and despite the construction being separated into two phases, an environmental review must be completed on the entire project and they are of the opinion that since the first phase will occur before the environmental review is completed, the entire project becomes ineligible. Council should be aware that the Township has taken the position that the "second phase" is really a stand-alone project by itself but the consultant for the Grant Program feels differently. The Township Manager noted that the Township does have the ability to offer comments at a public hearing which will be held on July 15, 2015 at 3:30 P.M. at the Lehigh County Public Hearing Room should the Township wish to do so. Council indicated that they would consider their options in this matter and advise the Manager accordingly.
 - 2. The Township Manager advised the Board that she has provided them with a copy of correspondence sent to a property on Schoenersville Rd. regarding a code violation involving excessive animals on the property. If the matter is not resolved to the Township's satisfaction, appropriate legal action can be taken.

- 3. Council should be advised that the District Magistrate will hold hearings on June 30, 2015 at 10:45 P.M. with respect to citations issued against a property at the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and Ulster Street as well as a property off Weaversville Rd. Upon questioning by Vice Chairman Heimbecker, the Township Manager noted that the District Magistrate Michael D'Amore's offices are located on Union Blvd.
- 4. The Township Manager advised that Council has been provided with a copy of correspondence forwarded along with the Township's check to the Bethlehem State Police in support of the State Police's Camp Cadet program. The Township has been advised that the Commonwealth has no problem with a municipality supporting this type of program; and, accordingly, the Township has provided the State Police with the monies set aside in the Budget for a contribution to them.

2. Ryan Christman Township Engineer

1. The Township Engineer advised the Board that the Township has again repaired sinkholes at Catasauqua Lake. The new sinkholes were located at the other end of the lake from where the previous sinkholes were found. He noted that it's actually in the area where the springs are located. He estimated the cost at \$11,600. Vice Chairman Heimbecker questioned whether or not any type of study has been done on the lake regarding the sinkhole issues and the Township Engineer indicated that he knew of no such study.

Councilman Martucci questioned the Engineer with respect to the status of the work at Clarence and Pennsylvania Avenue. In particular, he questioned whether or not they would repair the patch and the Township Engineer noted that yes they will need to do that and he will find out the status of that matter.

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

1. With respect to the Rockefeller/FedEx/LNAA Project, the Township Attorney noted that at the last meeting he had reported on the status of progress regarding his work with Attorney Fitzpatrick representing the Rockefeller Group to bring this matter to a resolution. In that regard, draft agreements have been prepared. As Council may be aware, Rockefeller had proposed two substantive changes to the language set forth as a basis of negotiating an agreement for consideration by Council. The one major change involved the original language which I proposed that the Airport would be the PennDOT permittee and responsible for maintenance of traffic signals related to the project, Rockefeller had requested that Hanover contract to do the maintenance for the Airport on a cost-plus basis. After discussion with members of Council, my recommendation was that the Township would retain greater control over the traffic lights if it were the permittee and Rockefeller and the Airport agreed to all costs. The second change involves the takeover of Willowbrook Road as a state highway by PennDOT following completion of its reconstruction. Attorney Eaton noted that he has been advised that the change was to assure that Hanover was alleviated from all future

costs for maintenance of Willowbrook Road. Apparently, Allen Township refused to take that responsibility as Hanover had previously been advised. As the Board may recall, I had previously reported that a meeting was held with Chairman Paulus, Senator Boscola's attorney, Joe Kelly, Clark Machemer and Attorney Fitzpatrick as well as myself and it was clear from Attorney Kelly that the legislation is in its final state of preparation and has significant support and that the Senator's office believes it will be approved. At that time, the timing was not clear since it is anticipated to be part of legislation covering a number of related topics. Attorney Eaton did note that he had a conversation with the General Counsel for PennDOT who has been handling the preparation of the legislation and putting it in final form. Said legislation is being finalized at the present time.

Attorney Eaton noted that Attorney Fitzpatrick and he had been continuing their discussions and have put together an Infrastructure Agreement which is part of a packet I have provided each member of the Board and attachments to same are separate agreements to include a Sewage Transmission Agreement and a Traffic Obligations Agreement. With respect to these agreements, Attorney Eaton advised that Council could consider authorizing us to move forward under the terms of the agreements. Attorney Eaton noted that Council needs to review the package he has provided them and that he would like a workshop session to go through everything the developer has requested. Attorney Eaton noted that since Rockefeller's counsel will be leaving for vacation shortly it had been hoped that Council would have an opportunity to review the package at a non-public meeting and hopefully have a public meeting before Counsel for Rockefeller leaves on vacation to take action. At this point in the meeting, there was a lengthy discussion regarding the scheduling of meetings. However, it was noted that several Council members were unavailable in the upcoming week and it would be very difficult to hold a nonpublic meeting as well as a public meeting in the time frame prior to vacations coming into play. Finally, it was noted that Council could meet on Wednesday, July 1 at 6:00 P.M. for a nonpublic meeting and take any necessary action at the regularly scheduled 7:30 P.M. meeting on the same date. All parties would be available for attendance at such meetings. Accordingly, it was noted that the Board would proceed in this fashion.

- 4. Maintenance Report (Written)
- 5. Fire Company Reports (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 Reports, written Code Enforcement Officers' Reports, and written Building Inspector's Report and same were noted for the record.

Mr. Jeff Mouer, Township Maintenance Supervisor, was present at the meeting and advised Council the new leaf collector machine has been delivered and is available

should the Board wish to see same. It is currently in the parking lot area of the Public Works building. With respect to the old leaf collector, Mr. Mouer indicated that same will go on an online auction along with the old Code Enforcement Officer vehicle. Mr. Mouer further advised the Board that as they will recall there were discussions held regarding the rehabbing of the parks in the Township. Chestnut Grove Park work has been completed and it is now our intent to move onto Sherwood Park. In that regard, as the Board will recall, there was discussion regarding work to be done in Sherwood Park to include total rehabilitation of the tennis courts including fencing and striping, reconstruction of the ball field, replacement of the large unit of playground equipment currently situated in the area of the tennis courts. Mr. Mouer noted that the tennis court project would most likely be in excess of \$100,000. With respect to the ball field being rebuilt, the estimate was in the area of \$25,000. With respect to replacement of the playground equipment with a more safety conscious plastic material as opposed to the metal equipment, the cost would probably be in the area of \$50,000. Mr. Mouer noted that the Township's crew would take care of the demolition and excavation and then the equipment supplier can simply bring the equipment in and install same. Mr. Mouer also noted that we are currently putting electric in the pavilion area of Sherwood Park. He also noted that the Township is striving to make the park ADA compliant. In any event, Mr. Mouer advised Council that after having discussions with the Township Manager, the Township would prefer to handle in 2015 the purchase of the new playground equipment as well as rebuilding the ball field area. In 2016, it would be the Township's intent to redo the tennis courts in the fall of 2016. Mr. Mouer noted that project would need to be bid and that the Township Engineer will provide the Township with specifications for same.

Council did not offer any objection to the proposal by the Township's Maintenance Supervisor.

8. Treasurer's Report (Written)

Motion: I move we accept the computer printouts dated June 17, 2015, for the

General Fund Account, Capital Reserve Account, Escrow Account, Liquid

Fuels Account, Sewer Account and Water Account subject to audit.

Paulus, Martucci: Moved and Seconded Heimbecker, Martucci, Woolley, Paulus:

Ave Unan.

Unfinished Business:

1. Bill No. 2015-04, An Ordinance Amending the Statutory Code of Hanover Township to Establish Procedures for Disposition of Fire Insurance Proceeds Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Insurance Company Law of 1921 and Penalties for Violations Thereof (Public Hearing)

Chairman Paulus opened the Public Hearing relative to Bill No. 2015-04. The Township Attorney noted that state law permits the Township to establish procedures for disposition of fire insurance proceeds pursuant to the Pennsylvania Insurance Company Law of 1921 as well as establish penalties for violations of

same. The Public Hearing on Bill No. 2015-04 was closed at this time and the Board made the following Motion:

Motion: I move that Bill No. 2015-04, An Ordinance Amending the Statutory

Code of Hanover Township to Establish Procedures for Disposition of Fire Insurance Proceeds Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Insurance Company Law of 1921 and Penalties for Violations Thereof be

adopted as Ordinance No. 575.

Heimbecker, Woolley: Moved and Seconded

Heimbecker, Martucci, Woolley, Paulus: Aye Unan.

New Business:

There was some discussion regarding the status of the home in the Troxell Street area which sustained the excessive water damage and the Township Manager was directed to determine the current status of that matter.

Payment of Bills:

Motion: I move Council authorize payment of Payroll (05/22/15), Payroll

(06/05/15), Voucher Nos. 21151-21173 (Prepaids), Voucher Nos. 21174-21230, from the General Fund Account in the amount of \$443,753.69; Voucher Nos. 4184 (Prepaid), Voucher Nos. 4185-4193 from Capital Reserve in the amount of \$41,272.07; Voucher Nos 650-

651 (Prepaids) from Distribution Account in the amount of

\$24,507.27; Voucher No. 123 from Liquid Fuels in the amount of \$5,817.13; Voucher Nos. 4224-4245 (Prepaids), Voucher Nos. 4246-4248 from the Escrow Account in the amount of \$33,672.38; Voucher No. 3986-3991 from Water Account in the amount of \$40,179.64; Voucher Nos. 5265-5266 (Prepaids), Voucher Nos. 5267-5275 from the Sewer Account in the amount of \$50,110.12 for a Grand Total

Expenditure of \$669,312.30.

Paulus, Heimbecker: Moved and Seconded

Heimbecker, Martucci, Woolley, Paulus: Aye Unan.

Courtesy of the Floor: None.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra A. Pudliner Township Manager