

HANOVER TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

February 1, 2017
7:30 P.M.

Present: Councilmen Heimbecker, Lawlor, Paulus, Wegfahrt, Woolley; J. Jackson Eaton, III, Esquire; Al Kortze, P.E.; Sandra A. Pudliner; Vicky Roth

Absent: 0

Attendance: 5

Courtesy of the Floor: Derrick Kichline, UGI Representative

The Township's Maintenance Supervisor, Jeff Mouer, was in attendance at the meeting and proceeded at this time to advise Council that per the request of Vice Chairman Heimbecker, he has invited a UGI representative to come to this meeting. Mr. Mouer noted that Mr. Kichline had to leave but would be back shortly and in the interim he proceeded to review certain matters with the Board. Mr. Mouer advised the Board that the Township has purchased the street sweeper as of last Friday. He indicated he had been offered the opportunity to take either a new vehicle or demo vehicle with 2,000 miles on it. He noted that he chose the 2,000 mile demo vehicle due to the fact that the Township received \$20,000 off the price for doing so. He noted the vehicle is currently white, but he would have it painted blue and also have warning lights installed. The original cost of the vehicle was \$167,000, but the revised cost to the Township is \$153,000 which takes into account the necessary painting of the vehicle and the installation of warning lights. Mr. Mouer advised the Board that the vehicle will definitely be in full force by spring, 2017. He noted that the vehicle will be housed where the old sewer truck was in the Maintenance garage adjacent to the Municipal Building. He noted that the new sewer truck would be going down to Postal Rd. Mr. Mouer also noted that he is looking at various street cleaning ordinances from different Townships, hopefully, to develop the right one for the Township providing for the best method to clean the streets.

Vice Chairman Heimbecker initiated a discussion regarding the issues on Troxell Street involving the depression in the area of one of the property owners. Mr. Mouer noted that he had Keystone's inspector, Ed Chromzak come in. Mr. Chromzak feels there is an issue with the paving which took place when the City of Bethlehem repaired a depression in that area. He felt that the moving of the ground is causing a problem at this point. The area currently isn't going down but the Keystone inspector is making a habit of checking the area once a week. Mr. Mouer advised that upon inspection they did notice that it appears the property owner's driveway looks as if there is a problem with respect to the depression. Vice Chairman Heimbecker indicated to the Township Manager he felt a letter should be sent to Mr. Boscola at the City of Bethlehem indicating that the Township is unhappy with the paving of the sinkhole area on Troxell Street and question that they readdress the matter.

At this point in the meeting, Derrick Kichline of UGI, appeared before the Board. Mr. Kichline advised the Board that he had been made aware that the Township is looking into the extension of gas service in the Sherwood Street area. He noted the gas service is not directly in front of those properties. He indicated a typical charge for the gas installation is \$100 per foot and that this would be 1,500 to 2,000 feet. UGI would look at the total cost of the job and distribute that cost with the number of customers. Based on each house carrying a predetermined revenue amount, that would generate the upfront cost to consumer. It could be an issue with this scenario if there were 50 parcels and only 10 agree to installation. If the work is done and after completion someone else wants to get on line, they could get a lower cost. Mr. Kichline advised the Board that UGI has another program which they developed called Get Gas. He noted that this program makes natural gas more available and affordable. He indicated it would reduce monthly energy costs, improve the comfort of your home and avoid the upfront cost of conversion. Under this program, UGI would install the gas main. For a period of 12 years, the customer would pay a yearly cost of \$3,888.21 or there would be a surcharge to the customer of \$54.95 for a 10 year period. Mr. Kichline noted this does not include the cost to the customer to bring the service into the house including the HVAC or plumbing contractor's cost. The minimum number of households to be considered for this program is basically one house. He noted that he had been advised that the Township is considering repaving the roads in that area and that the timing for the restoration of the road could be the only hurdle. He indicated if the Township wants to proceed to look into this matter, he would go to the residents and explain the program and if there is an interest, then UGI would look into the design. If the initial design is passed, then a full blown design would occur. At that point, UGI would take the proposal to the Township. He noted that UGI could look into the installation in the grass area rather than the road. He also indicated that the final step would be to submit for permits. When questioned regarding the time frame for this whole process, Mr. Kichline noted that the project itself would probably take one to one and one-half months. However, right now UGI is working on projects from 2012 and 2013. He felt that you are looking six to eight months down the line. Vice Chairman Heimbecker questioned Mr. Kichline as to how many property owners agreeing to the conversion would make it attractive to UGI. Mr. Kichline indicated their position would be one but that it would be better if there were at least three or four. The Township Engineer commented that sometimes with the water and sewer projects stubs would be put in place behind the curb in the grass area and then the individuals if they every chose to come on line could hook into same. Mr. Kichline indicated that UGI does not participate in such a process. Chairman Paulus noted that he thought the first thing to do would be to take a survey to determine what the interest is from the residents in the area. Mr. Kichline questioned that if the installation had to occur in the street, what would the Township do with respect to restoration. Chairman Paulus noted that if Mr. Kichline determined there is a large amount of interest in such a gas installation, the Township could wait two, three years for the street work. He also noted that UGI should look into Ulster Road and Taft Street in addition to Sherwood Street.

Approval of Minutes: January 18, 2017 Regular Council Meeting

Motion: I move we waive the reading of the Minutes of the January 18, 2017 Regular Council Meeting and accept same as presented.

Paulus, Wegfahrt: Moved and Seconded
Heimbecker, Lawlor, Wegfahrt, Woolley, Paulus:

Aye Unan.

Reports:

1. Sandra A. Pudliner
Township Manager

1. The Township Manager advised the Board that she has provided them with correspondence from the Pennsylvania State Police relative to their Camp Cadet Program. Mrs. Pudliner noted as the Board is aware the Township has a budgeted item for a contribution to this worthwhile program and indicated that said contribution can be presented to them at any time. The Township Manager also noted that the State Police Appreciation Day has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. and that the Township has been invited to those proceedings.
2. The Township Manager advised the Board that the Township will open bids as same relates to the rebidding process for the garbage/recycling collection in the Township for the year 2017 and thereafter on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.
3. The Township Manager advised that the owner/developer of the property on Airport Road previously a portion of Cedar Hill Memorial Park has approached the Township with respect to putting on a power point presentation before the Board at the Township's Wednesday, February 15, 2017, meeting. Chairman Paulus commented to other members of the Board that the Township Manager has advised that the developer is now seeking a development of apartments in Hanover Township and all retail associated with this project in the City of Allentown since the parcel is in both municipalities. Chairman Paulus felt that in his opinion the Township should not favor an apartment complex in the Township. He also noted that the property is not zoned for such a use and in lieu of attempting to secure a variance the developer will most likely ask the Board to amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow their use on that tract. In any event, the Board indicated that they would listen to the developer at the February 15 meeting.

2. Al Kortze, P.E.
Township Engineer

The Township Engineer offered no oral report at this time.

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

The Township Attorney offered no oral report at this time.

Vice Chairman Heimbecker engaged in a conversation with the Township Attorney with respect to Mechanics Liens. The Township Attorney noted that a Mechanics

Lien allows for a contractor to put a lien on property. He also noted that the Township would file a stipulation against liens to protect the Township.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: None.

Courtesy of the Floor:

Diane Szabo, 1925 Troxell Street, appeared before the Board questioning Council as to what action she would need to take in order to run for a seat as an elected official for Hanover Township, Lehigh County's Council. Chairman Paulus indicated that she should visit the Lehigh County Board of Elections to receive information on learning how to be placed on the ballot for primary and general elections.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra A. Pudliner
Township Manager