

HANOVER TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

July 5, 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: 3

Courtesy of the Floor: None.

Approval of Minutes: June 7, 2017 Regular Council Meeting
June 21, 2017 Regular Council Meeting

Motion: I move we waive the reading of the Minutes of the June 7, 2017 Regular Council Meeting and accept same as presented.

It should be noted that there was no second to this Motion at this time. At this point in the meeting, Vice Chairman Heimbecker made a statement for the record and indicated to all present that he objected to the June 7, 2017 Regular Council Meeting Minutes in their present form. He felt they were incorrect. He took issue with the statement in the Minutes by Mr. Todd Brosky of Brosky Insurance that per the Township's current insurance, the Township has \$60,000 in the "bank" for worker's compensation and \$35,000 for the property liability, auto and excess liability insurance. Vice Chairman Heimbecker also noted that the Minutes reflect that the Township received a \$27,000 dividend for the years 2015-2016 and that even though the Township had a 78% loss ratio on the liability portion of the insurance, the Township was still given a substantial dividend of \$35,000. Vice Chairman Heimbecker expressed his opinion that he felt this issue is inconsistent with the prime directive of the Board and not in the best interest of the Township. He noted that the remainder of the Board opened a discussion after he left the June 7th meeting and then supposedly made a determination to keep the current broker, Brosky Insurance Agency, and not to accept requests for proposals. He took issue with the fact that the Township has been using the same insurance broker for the past 25 years and does not know if the Township is paying too much for insurance coverage. He felt such conduct was not being objective. He noted that he felt that major budget items should be periodically put out there for a request for proposals. In this instance, the Township has only heard from one side; namely, the current insurance broker. Vice Chairman Heimbecker felt that this situation was a display of favoritism at its worst. He also noted that no Motion was made at the June 7th meeting. Vice Chairman Heimbecker also presented to the Board information he secured from Brown and Brown Insurance Agency which listed municipalities which over the last 18 months had received significant savings on their worker's compensation or package policies. Brown and Brown also noted that most of the municipalities are also now enrolled in a dividend program which would yield

more savings. Vice Chairman Heimbecker advised all that he personally does not utilize Brown and Brown as his insurance carrier. He advised that he is of the opinion that the Administration is automation resistant. Additionally, he felt that Township meetings should be electronically recorded. He advised that under the circumstances and his feelings regarding matters in the Township, he no longer wished to be the Vice Chairman of the Board and indicated that a new Vice Chairman would need to be appointed.

The Township Attorney commented that Mr. Heimbecker's statement is exactly that and would be incorporated into the Minutes. There was also a discussion regarding the fact that the Minutes do not state that if the Township left MRM Insurance, the Township would sustain a loss of \$60,000 and \$35,000 when another insurance carrier was brought in.

Motion: I move we amend the Minutes of the June 7, 2017 Regular Council Meeting to reflect that by switching carriers from the current MRM Insurance Co., the Township would lose \$60,000 for worker's compensation and \$35,000 for the property liability, auto and excess liability policies.

Wegfahrt, Heimbecker: Moved and Seconded
Heimbecker, Lawlor, Wegfahrt, Woolley, Paulus: Aye Unan.

Councilman Wegfahrt noted that he had sent an email to the Township Clerk dated June 16, 2017 advising of issues he thought needed to be corrected in the Minutes. He asked that the contents of that email be added to the June 7, 2017 meeting. In that regard, the following Motion was made:

Motion: I move that we amend the Minutes of the June 7, 2017 Council Meeting to include my comments as forwarded to the Township via email dated June 16, 2017 to the Township Clerk.

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

At this point in the meeting, a Motion was made regarding the June 7, 2017 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as amended as follows:

Motion: I move we waive the reading of the Minutes of the June 7, 2017 Regular Council Meeting and accept them with the amendments made thereto.

Heimbecker: Nay
Lawlor, Wegfahrt, Woolley, Paulus: Aye

Motion: I move we waive the reading of the Minutes of the June 21, 2017 Regular Council Meeting and accept them as presented.

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

Aye
Abstained

Reports:

1. Sandra A. Pudliner
Township Manager

1. The Township Manager advised the Board that she recently had a conversation with the Executive Director of the Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority regarding the development of certain airport parcels located off of Airport Road. In that regard, a meeting has been scheduled with the Township Engineer and me for July 27, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. to review the Authority's plans regarding the potential of a hotel and some type of convenience store on their property.
2. The Township Manager advised the Board that she has provided them with a copy of correspondence sent to Senator Lisa Boscola with respect to House Bill 1469 setting forth the Township's position to the passage of such legislation by the Senate. The Township Manager noted that the House has already passed this legislation which is objected to by PSATS as well as numerous municipalities. Briefly, such legislation would put the Township in a position where we would have to allow any third party agency to do inspections in the Township. Our objections and the reasoning behind same are set forth in the correspondence sent to Senator Boscola.
3. The Township Council has received a proposed Five Year Capital Program and in that regard a hearing should be scheduled regarding same. The Board determined that a hearing on the Five Year Capital Program would be held on Wednesday, July 19th, at 6:00 p.m.
4. The Township Manager advised the Board that the Summer Convention of the Lehigh County Association of Township Officials will be held on August 11, 2017 and attendance at same needs to be registered on or before July 17, 2017. The Township Manager indicated that if any of the Board Members wish to attend they should advise her so and she would make the necessary reservation.
5. The Township Manager advised the Board that at the request of Councilman Heimbecker and Councilman Wegfahrt, she has been looking into data management programs which could be utilized in the Township. Mrs. Pudliner indicated that she is gathering all the information and will provide the Board with a recommendation after all the costs have been determined. The Township Manager did note that she felt the application could be helpful with respect to issues such as Building Permits, Zoning Hearings for variances and special exceptions, GIS and such issues that could be all handled under the property location. The Board could also opt to consider all the Subdivision and Land Development records and the software programs currently utilized by the Township staff.

2. Al Kortze, P.E.
Township Engineer

1. The Cascade Drive Sanitary Sewer Project is well underway and could possibly be completed between the next two to three weeks.
2. With respect to an update on the Roble Road chemical spill in the swale in that area, the Township is receiving daily reports from the company that is monitoring the cleanup situation. As of right now, there is no definitive plan of action or remediation.

There was a discussion initiated at this point in time by Councilman Heimbecker regarding whether or not UGI has been canvassing in the Sherwood Street area. Mr. Heimbecker noted that there are issues with the roadway that have been brought to his attention and he felt that the area needed to be looked at. The Township Engineer advised that he would look at the situation. The Township would also determine the status of the UGI canvassing issue.

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

1. The Township Attorney advised the Board that he has provided them with a draft of the Cell Tower Ordinance with a number of changes which have been outlined in yellow. He advised the Board that he would appreciate if they would go through it and changes can be made when we introduce it.

There was a discussion with respect to Bonds and it was determined that the only Bond which would be required would be the one as noted on Page 14.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

Councilman Heimbecker advised that he would like to address the issue of request for quotation for Township insurance and made the following Motion:

Motion: I move we accept requests for proposals or bid the Township's insurance package. The Motion was not seconded at this time.

A discussion ensued and Councilman Woolley advised all that he had the opportunity to see what the Township Clerk had provided to Brown and Brown Insurance Co. with respect to making a proposal for insurance coverage to the Township. Councilman Woolley felt there was no reason why any insurance agent could not quote an insurance package based on the information provided. Attorney Eaton advised that in his opinion rather than bidding insurance coverage, the request for proposals might be a better alternative because that provides the Township with the opportunity to consider its options. Chairman Paulus commented that he made notes from the June 7 meeting and his notes stated that after open discussion with staff, Council was unanimous in staying

with its current insurance provider. There was some discussion of issues which could arise in that there is a risk of insurance companies lowballing the premiums.

In resolution of this matter, the Board made the following Motion:

Motion: I move we accept requests for proposals for the Township's insurance packages.

Heimbecker, Wegfahrt: Moved and Seconded

Heimbecker, Wegfahrt:

Aye

Lawlor, Woolley, Paulus:

Nay

Chairman Paulus noted for the record that the Motion had failed. There was some discussion at this point in the meeting with respect to the election of the new Vice Chairman, but it was decided that the matter would be taken under consideration at the present time. \

Courtesy of the Floor: None.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra A. Pudliner
Township Manager