

# **August 28, 2012 - Antrim Township Board of Supervisors**

## **Minutes of the Antrim Township Supervisors**

### **Regular Meeting**

**August 28, 2012 7:00 PM**

The Antrim Township Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, August 28, 2012 in the Antrim Township Municipal Building, located at 10655 Antrim Church Road, with the following present: Chairman Fred Young, Vice Chairman Rick Baer, John Alleman, James Byers and Pat Heraty, Brad Graham (Administrator), John Lisko (Solicitor), Sylvia House (Zoning Officer/Code Enforcement Officer), Carl Rundquist (Public Works Director, Lorraine Armstrong (Student Representative) arriving late, and Jennifer Becknell (Secretary).

Visitors: See attached sign-in sheet.

Young called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and reminded the audience that our meetings are audio recorded and posted to our website.

Young opened the meeting with prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The prayer recited by Young was one given by a clergyman Jacob Duche on September 7, 1774 at the request of the Continental Congress to open the first session of Congress.

Young announced that the Board of Supervisors had an Executive Session on August 20, 2012 to discuss a personnel issue and that they held another Executive Session this evening prior to the start of the Regular Session to discuss possible litigation.

Young opened the floor to Public Comment.

Carl Silverman (Treasurer and Capillary Director of PA Non-Believers) came forward to state his displeasure of prayer being said during public meetings. Silverman stated that it was unconstitutional for a governing body to have sectarian prayer, mentioning a certain deity by name.

Ernest Perce, V (PA State Director for American Atheists) stated that he believes in absolute separation of church and state. Perce called for our Board of Supervisors to obey the Constitution by not praying to any inclusive religion, or better yet, not pray at all, thus honoring our citizens that are agnostic, atheist, or non Christian.

Diane Martin (resident) requested someone from the township to come out and look at the vacant house at the corner of Stull Road and Melody, as it has become an unpleasant lot due to deterioration and overgrown grass/weeds. Young asked Martin to call our zoning officer to make a formal complaint and that the township would look into the matter.

Duane Kinzer (resident) spoke to Silverman and Perce, stating he believes our community to be God fearing and asked the Board of Supervisors that if need be, they would have prayer from the audience. There was applause.

John Helfrick (resident) recounted a Biblical character, Daniel, who prayed and was punished for doing so. But the God Daniel served is the same God we serve, and that God will shut the mouths of Lions, as he did for Daniel. There was applause.

Carloyn Snyder (resident) stated that she believes in only one true God and that she feels sorry for those who do not believe.

Ray Martin (resident) stated that he and his wife are behind the Board of Supervisors and support

keeping prayer in our meetings. Martin further stated that we need God's guidance during our decision making. There was applause.

Young announced based on his interpretation, courts have ruled that we can pray at meetings. Young said that as long as he is Chairman, he has no intention of stopping prayer at the meetings. There was applause.

A Heraty / Baer motion passed 5-0 to approve the minutes from August 14, 2012, with the addition of the LERTA Resolution number (#244).

A Baer / Heraty motion passed 5-0 to pay the bills as reported on the Treasurer's Reports dated August 28, 2012.

Robert Johnson (resident) stated he has a problem with his neighbor, with whom they share a property line. The neighbor is hauling in trash and burning it right at the shared property line. The burning is leaving ash all over his vehicles, restricting Johnson from opening his windows, sitting on his front porch, etc. Johnson has made a formal complaint through the township office and DEP is looking into the situation. Johnson would like to see the township take the step to enact a Burn Ban to protect the citizens from this type of situation he is going through. Young stated that DEP will handle this case.

Chuck Frame (Boyer & Ritter, our CPA firm) and Bill Needy (our elected auditor) came forward to review our annual audit report/financial statements with the Board of Supervisors. Frame went over the various balance sheets throughout the prepared report, giving the Supervisors time to ask their questions. Frame stated that we had an extremely healthy bottom line. Frame gave 32 adjustments to make for Year End 2011. Frame said this is not unusual considering all that took place in 2011 with the bonds. Needy added that he thought our financial statements were outstanding. James Byers asked if we have our investments diversified enough, and Frame stated that the Act 72 (PA Law) lists what the townships can and cannot invest, thus limited. Young directed our staff to post the financial statements to our website.

Brad Graham announced that the next visitor on our agenda, Tim Hogan with ATAPCO, was not present, but did send an email as an explanation. As the emails from both Pat Coggins and James Murray, state, there was a small discrepancy between surveys which is holding up accurately describing the parcels to be legally transferred. This is not an issue controlled by ATAPCO or MATRIX. James Byers made a motion to extend the condemnation of property two weeks, but a second was not made. Thus, Young directed Brad to send a letter to both parties giving them 10 days notice that we will be sending a surveyor of our own to begin the process of condemnation.

A Baer / Alleman motion passed 5-0 to grant a modification request from 125-45, to allow a single family home lot to be subdivided off from the Donald R. Cordell property at the end of Larry Drive, with the condition that the plan states that the township is not responsible for maintenance of the unpaved cul-de-sac. The Planning Commission voted favorable (3-2) on granting this modification.

A Baer / Byers motion passed 5-0 to proceed with a plan amendment to add phasing lines to the Towns on Hykes Road subdivision. Saddle Rock Homes is selling Towns on Hykes Road. The person interested (Mr. Valentine) in purchasing the development would like relief from holding a bond for a project he does not plan to proceed with for several years.

A Young / Alleman motion passed 5-0 to lower the bond amounts on the Towns on Hykes Road in accordance with the townships engineers recommendations, after we have made an inspection.

A Baer / Heraty motion passed 5-0 authorizing the Chairman to sign the Grinder Pump Agreement for 14023 Grant Shook Road. The agreement outlines that the grinder pump is the responsibility of the property owner, and not the Townships or that of the ATMA.

A Byers / Baer motion passed 5-0 granting a 365 day extension to Stonebridge Farm, 64-lot subdivision on Stonebridge Road, to allow time for the property owner to determine if they should proceed or withdraw the plan. The ATPC recommended granting the extension.

A Baer / Heraty motion passed 5-0 granting a 90 day extension to Sheetz, at Antrim Commons, Land Development Plan, to allow time to address comments. The ATPC recommended granting the extension.

The Augusta Properties bond request was tabled, as the Township has not received any information as of yet.

A Baer / Alleman motion passed 5-0 to release the full amount of Letter of Credit to Exit 3 Properties, as all improvements have been completed and passed inspection by our engineer.

A Heraty / Baer motion passed 5-0 to release a held Cashier's check to Martin's Farm Trucks, as they have completed all their required improvements.

A Baer / Alleman motion passed 5-0 to approve the proposal for Dewatering Study by CET/GHD (Scott Crosswell) at the price of \$17,500. It is required by November 15 and the ATMA recommended this study.

A Baer / Alleman motion passed 5-0 to approve the Resolution (#245) for the purchase of Nutrient Credits, as we are not going to meet our cap load on September 30, listing Carl Rundquist and Brad Graham as purchasers.

A Heraty / Baer motion passed 5-0 to approve our bank (Susquehanna) to draw up a new Bank Resolution for signatories, the process by which we clean off the names that should not be listed.

A Heraty / Alleman motion passed 4-1 (Byers opposed) to approve Centura to draw up architectural plans for the redesign/renovation of the Township Building, at the cost of \$17,500.

A Young / Baer motion passed 5-0 to approve the appointment of Jennifer Becknell as the Right-to-Know Officer.

Graham went over some banquet dates as a reminder for the Supervisors. Graham shared a Rescue Hose monthly report with the Supervisors, stating we may need to budget for them more as their volume of calls have increased and they are to purchase some major pieces of equipment soon.

A Heraty / Alleman motion passed 5-0 to appoint John Lisko our representative at the Township Zoning Hearing Board, concerning Sheetz, dated September 13, 2012.

Graham requested an Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue.

A Young / Heraty motion passed 5-0 to adjourn to the Executive Session at 9:15

A Heraty / Baer motion passed 5-0 to adjourn the Executive Session, back into the Regular meeting at 9:35 p.m.

A Heraty / Alleman motion passed 5-0 to adjourn the Regular meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Becknell

Board of Supervisors Secretary