

Regular Meeting
October 24, 2016

Chairman Poston called the Meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

Roll Call – Commissioners Lilly, Poston, Bergstrom, Heasley and Dizard responded to roll call.

The Solicitor and Engineer were present.

Chairman Poston dispensed with the reading of the minutes.

There were no remarks from visitors.

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Bergstrom, reporting for Fire and Property and Grants, read the Citizens Hose report for the month which included almost 300 EMT calls. She advised that the fire department has purchased MSA breathing apparatus so that each vehicle will have same, at a cost of \$84,000.

Mrs. Bergstrom said Harrison Hills and Hilltop both had training sessions and a number of fires, along with a fire drill at ATI.

Mike Krzeminski, Hilltop Chief and Township EMC, advised that all three companies and Brackenridge also participated in continuing the good relationship we have with ATI.

Mrs. Bergstrom said there were a number of false alarms at the new CVS and Mr. Krzeminski said they contacted the alarm company and CVS headquarters and there have been no false alarms since then.

Mrs. Bergstrom said we are making three CDBG applications which are due in early November, being one for ADA handicapped ramps, the partial separation of the Chestnut Street sewer and five demolitions. Mr. Antonelli is working on these.

Mrs. Bergstrom said she is also working on the scope of work for the proposals under the Active Allegheny grant and wants to get them out in November. The grant is for a study of the areas of the Township that are the main thoroughfares.

MR. Lilly, Finance, advised he had a list of Paid Bills to be Ratified for September in the amount of \$ 213,682.78. Mr. Heasley moved to ratify same. Motion seconded by Mr. Dizard and carried.

Mr. Lilly read the Bills Payable for October totaling \$47,756.25 and asked for a motion to approve. Motion by Mr. Heasley, seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom and carried.

Mr. Lilly said the Bond Account invoices total \$10,030.91. Mr. Heasley moved to approve for payment. Motion seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom and carried.

Zoning and Ordinance, Mr. Dizard, said the demolition of three structures are to start on Wednesday, at Monroe Street, Glenn Street and a small garage on Spruce Street.

Mr. Dizard said he proposes to include \$20,000 in the 2017 budget for demolition since the CD money would not cover all of it.

He advised there were 42 rental inspections this past month and all passed bringing in \$2,100. He said the building and zoning permits totaled about \$3,000.

Mr. Dizard said the incidents for the month were mostly property maintenance but the figure of 26 complaints is not complete. With Holly leaving at the beginning of the month, some information is not yet in the database. There were other violations such as rental violations and various matters.

Mr. Dizard said he has made a proposal for the Zoning and Ordinance Department for 2017 and would read from his memo rather than just talking about it.

****Secretary Note:** Rather than writing it all out, the original memo sent to the Board is attached hereto.

Mr. Dizard said that we will look carefully at the budget and maybe pave one less street.

Mr. Dizard advised the County parks Department has made a sign which will be erected in front of the Middle School. Members of the First Ward Committee have adopted Pleasantville Road for cleanup which had not been done in years; the Recreation Board has designated a Trick or Treat Night and are working on the Christmas activities. He said that Allegheny Health Network has donated \$1,000 as the corporate sponsor of the activities.

Mr. Dizard said the tree committee will be planting 32 trees, this Wednesday and November 9th with 40 volunteers.

He said that the League of Municipalities may have designated Harrison Township as a Banner Community, but I propose that we place banners all along Freeport Road and River Avenue. He showed a banner that he and Marilyn Pesci bought, which would be available for sale to residents at \$150 and businesses at \$200 with your name on it. He said they will last 4 to 5 years and there will be no cost to the Township.

Chairman Poston asked if there will be enough to cover the area.

Mr. Dizard said they counted the poles they would be placed on. He said they would need new hardware and need to sell 100 to do it.

Chairman Poston, Public Safety, read the Police Report for the month of September as follows:

206	Accounted Phones Calls to Office
347	Reported Police Support and Service CALLS
7	Traffic Accidents
1	Prisoners Detained
2	Juvenile Arrests
37	Traffic Citations
10	Non-Traffic Citations
4	Ordinance Citations

40 Parking Ticket's
 15 Misdemeanor/ Felony Warrants

Fines collected from Allegheny County Court	1,239.99
Fines collected from Magistrate's Office	5,508.91
Parking Fines	270.00
Sale of Reports for Insurance Companies	180.00

Total Receipts \$ 7,198.90

Disbursements to Police for District Court 587.20

Chairman Poston read the detailed report of all incidents occurring during the reporting period.

Mr. Heasley, reporting of Public Works, advised that a number of catch basins were rebuilt or repaired the compost site materials were ground for the 6th time this year, a new rubber roof was installed on the Freeport Road Pump Station because the roof was leaking onto the generator, and the men started sealing the streets paved in 2013 with a rented sealing machine.

Chairman Poston said the first item of business is Ordinance No. 1989 – Establishing or removing traffic restrictions applicable to California Avenue, Warner Alley and Freeport Road.

Mr. Dizard moved to enact ordinance No. 1989. Motion seconded by Mr. Lilly and carried.

Chairman Poston said Resolution No. 1728 would approve the sale of property under the County Vacant Property Program at 1006 Lilac Street.

Mr. Heasley moved to adopt the Resolution. Motion seconded by Mr. Lilly and carried.

Chairman Poston advised next is Resolution No. 1729, authorizing the Winter Maintenance Agreement with Maronda for Phase II streets.

Mr. Heasley moved to adopt this Resolution. Motion seconded by Mr. Lilly and carried.

Chairman Poston said next is Resolution No. 1730 – Restricting parking along the 1300 block of Delaware Alley on garbage ick-up days.

Mr. Lilly said that should be to Carolina Avenue.

Solicitor Means said Faith can prepare the proper resolution so it is added to the Code.

Mr. Lilly moved to approve the Resolution. Motion seconded by Mr. Heasley and carried.

Secretary advised that another Resolution is needed, for the County Vacant Property Program, for land to be purchased at 1517 First Street.

Chairman Poston said we demolished that structure and the property owner next door wants to acquire it.

Mr. Dizard moved to adopt Resolution No. 1731. Motions seconded by Mr. Lilly and carried.

Chairman Poston said we discussed a land bank before. We spend thousands of dollars on demolition then the County comes in and can take these properties and sell them without any liens under the side yard program. We need to look further into this matter. Mrs. Bergstrom said it had been discussed at Seven Springs.

Chairman Poston said the next item is to authorize the Township Engineer to prepare the three full applications for CD Year 43 including the three resolutions that will be required.

Mrs. Bergstrom so moved. Motion seconded by Mr. Lilly and carried.

Chairman Poston said the next item is the real estate tax refund to RBG Heights LLC in the amount of \$10,495.64 for 2016.

Attorney Means said this was based on their tax appeal and it is pretty cut and dry.

Mr. Heasley moved to make the refund as stated. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom and carried. With MR. Lilly opposed.

Mr. Dizard said they were granted this refund by appeal, and Chairman Poston said this is an example of the gray areas we have with budgeting. We had no way of knowing last year that this appeal would happen, and Mr. Dizard added that we had to refund over \$45,000 to Heights Plaza this year too.

Chairman Poston said ATI did it too when they had all their properties re-assessed some time ago.

Chairman Poston said the last agenda item is to act on the appointment to a five year term on the Recreation Board, which is Cecelia Lilly's term that expired October 19, 2016.

Mr. Heasley moved to re-appoint Cecelia. Motion seconded by Mr. Dizard and carried. Mr. Lilly abstained on the vote.

Chairman Poston said she is doing a great job and Cecelia said she has a great Board and they are doing the work.

Chairman Poston advised that Solicitor Means would like to have an executive session with the Board following the meeting to discuss a litigation matter.

Attorney Means said it would not require any action of the Board so you could adjourn.

Mr. Dizard said we have received some correspondence about the 457(b) plan which is to set aside funds pre-tax. He would like to see it reviewed by the Solicitor or our Auditor.

Chairman Poston said Chief Klein first presented the information and he has discussed it with some people at the MRM Trust. It is not supposed to cost the Township anything, but we need to review because the DROP plan that police pensions has used cost the City of Philadelphia \$288 million.

Mr. Dizard said this allows you to put aside money for retirement pre-tax.

Mr. Crisafio in the audience said his wife has such a plan and the employer does not pay into.

Mrs. Bergstrom moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Heasley and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 P.M.

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON

Executive Secretary

By _____
President, Board of
Commissioners