

**Regular Meeting
July 25, 2016**

The Regular Public Meeting of the Harrison Township Board of Commissioners was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Chairman Poston.

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

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

The Solicitor and Engineer were present.

The minutes of the last Regular Meeting are not yet completed.

Remarks from Visitors:

Bill Godfrey, 20 Walnut Street, gave the Natrona Comes Together report. He advised that they have a wonderful children's summer program and thanked Pat Walters for the great job. He said the Science Center will provide a program.

Mr. Godfrey said they did not get funding for the bank building or the playground but that Habitat for Humanity is going to do work on a building at Center and Garfield Streets. He said that Ford City was interested in the NCT programs.

Nicole Keys, 1315 8th Avenue, said she moved here in April and complained about the accumulation of garbage and broken glass in the alley and a black snake at the neighbor's property. She said she is concerned about letting her kids play in the yard with rodents and broken glass around.

Ms. Keys advised this is at 1306 to 1310 8th Avenue.

Mr. Lilly said Bucky will look into this.

Mr. Dizard said the one 8th Avenue property has been at the Magistrate's for a hearing and is under her ruling to clean up.

Chairman Poston referred the matter to Mr. Dizard and Norb to follow up on.

Mr. Dizard said the owner, Todd ones was there.

Mrs. Berlinsky of 1317 8th Avenue said he advised he did not know he owned the property. Mr. Dizard said he will contact Ms. Keys for further information in this matter.

Mrs. Berlinskiy said that water from that other house is coming onto her property because the wall is tilting towards her. She said she talked to Joe Marino about this. Mr. Cieslinski is handling the matter.

Josh Nulph, Recreation Board member, gave an update on the activities of the Board. He advised there will be a Family Movie Night August 17, 2016 at the Highlands baseball field. It is free and they plan to show Zootopia and this is a family event.

Mr. Nulph said the Trick or Treat Night all over Harrison Township will be October 29 from 5 to 7 P.M. He said there have been a number of areas where trick or treating is done but this one day event will let the Police have better control for safety.

Mr. Nulph said they are also planning a Christmas Celebration and Light U Night on December 3rd and a Parade. He said they are seeking permission for the festivities to be at St. Joe's parking lot at the end of the parade.

He said the Highlands Choir and two bands have been invited.

Mr. Heasley asked if there was an age limit to be accompanied by an adult. Mr. Nulph said he felt under 14 should be with adults.

Mr. Godfrey asked if Natrona was also included and Mr. Nulph said they were, as part of the Township. Mr. Godfrey said he will get the information to let people know about the events.

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Bergstrom, Fire & Property and Grants, read the Hilltop report regarding drills and that they got the new fire engine. She said Harrison Hills answered 9 alarms and Citizens Hose had 11 calls and 229 EMS calls.

James Erb, Citizens Hose Ambulance, thanked the community for its support over the past 80 years. Jim said they have 27 employees.

Mrs. Bergstrom advised we have received a \$50,000 grant from the Allegheny County Redevelopment Authority and the Health Department for the design of a walking and biking trail through the main part of the Township. She said it is in phases along Freeport Road.

Mrs. Bergstrom said the area from Mt. Airy Cemetery to the Walmart is not safe for walkers.

She said we are excited to accept this grant and will ask the Recreation Board and citizens to give input to make the road safer and more accessible.

Finance – Mr. Lilly, read the list of Bills Payable in the amount of \$63,092.46 and the Bond Account in amount of \$219,407.83, with \$194,039 of that being work done by State Piper Services. Mr. Heasley moved to approve these bills. Motion seconded by Mr. Dizard and carried/

Mr. Lilly advised the Paid Bills to be Ratified total \$160,509.58. Mr. Heasley moved to approve same. Motion seconded by Mr. Dizard and carried.

Mr. Dizard, Zoning and Ordinance, said there was a lot of activity this month. He advised that we had a Local Government Academy grant for an internship to catalog via digital means all the properties in the Township and that has been completed. There were about 4,500 properties.

He said they are working to get the data into our data base now.

He advised the data will help the Township with property concerns and to form a strategy.

Mr. Dizard said Skylar Roth was the intern helped by Mark Loya, a recent Highlands graduate and they did a grand job.

Mr. Dizard said the Sheetz demolition should start in two to three weeks. It was delayed by asbestos removal from the building. Mr. Poston said they found asbestos under the floor tiles. Mr. Dizard said it took 7 weeks to remove.

Mr. Dizard said in July there were 8 occupancy inspections that all passed, \$3.5 million in construction costs bringing in over \$21,000, mostly for Cochran and O'Reilly new construction. He said the employees were busy with 84 complaints and 28 vehicles were tagged for removal.

Mr. Dizard said there were a number of the usual property maintenance problems like high grass and garbage. He said the part-time employees focused on property maintenance and issued green cards which allow the person to clean up without getting a citation. He said 19 were put out and most have responded. He added that 22 certified letters were sent as they must go through this process to get a citation to the Magistrate level.

It is very labor intensive since they have to go back to see if anything has been done.

Mr. Dizard said there were four cases in the month before the magistrate and the one has a month to comply with the ruling. Another person had a \$1,000 assessed for property maintenance. The fines could be \$1,000 per day.

Chairman Poston, Public Safety, read the monthly Police Report as follows:

319	Accounted Phone calls
396	Reported Police and Service Calls
23	Traffic Accidents
4	Prisoners detained
3	Juvenile Arrests
50	Traffic Citations
9	Non-Traffic Citations
5	Ordinance Citations
9	Misdemeanor Felony Arrest Warrants

Fines collected form Magistrate's office	\$6,236.55
Fines collected from parking tickets	160.00
Copies of Reports for Insurance Companies	180.00

Total Receipts \$6,576.65

Disbursements to Police for District Court Hearings \$735.96

Chairman Poston said people can take a lot of actions that can protect them like taking their trash cans in and not living them out all day inviting burglars. He said we have to use common sense in order to protect ourselves. He said maybe we can get the Detective to come in to have a talk with residents about these kinds of things. He said people with drug problems are desperate for money.

Chairman Poston thanked Josh Nulph for his letter thanking the Police Department for the job they do.

He advised that the Chief applied for a grant and got \$1,000 from Walmart for police equipment like vests. He read the letter from a resident who thanked the police, fire and ambulance services for helping rescue their little dog from a hole he got into and could not get out. She was very appreciative of all their efforts.

Mr. Heasley, Public Works, read the monthly report including work done at the compost site and the last of the materials brought to the building for free dispensing to residents.

He said the department fixed a number of catch basins that had failed and the summer workers started clearing abandoned properties.

Mr. Heasley said that storm water culvert was cleaned to prevent flooding in the Natrona area and they finished poaching the roadways around the new catch basins.

He said when we did camera inspections they found several people with violations which have been corrected. The last one is underway where the previous owner connected his storm water into the neighbor's French drain system. He said another one was caused by a small break in the person's line, but they also found there was a water line break that cause water to always be flowing into it.

Chairman Poston read Resolution No. 18720, authorizing a Developer's Agreement with O'Reilly Auto Parts.

Mrs. Bergstrom moved to adopt the Resolution. Motion seconded by Mr. Heasley and carried. They are building in the Walmart plaza along Freeport Road.

Chairman Poston said the Engineer has recommended final payment to Russell Standard for the 2015 paving program. They came back and did some repairs this year, which were not that good, but we need to pay them.

Mr. Heasley so moved, to make the payment in amount of \$7,153.12 which also had a deduction for the extra costs involving our Engineer. Motion second by Mr. Dizard and carried.

Chairman Poston said the next item is to direct the Solicitor to review the results of the survey oat the River Avenue property.

He said the survey showed a right of way with a 15 foot discordancy and said there were no metes and bounds so if we have them set the pins we will have a better idea how to proceed. That action was tabled for further information form the surveyor.

Chairman Poston said the next item is to announce the receipt of the 2015 Marcellus Shale or Act 13 funds in amount of \$4,495.14. He said there are no wells ere but we get these funds since other wells are in close proximity to the Township. He said the funds will be used for road improvements.

Chairman Poston said the last item is to act on the proposal fr9om Mid-Atlantic Environmental for review of the Altermoor Drive property at a cost of \$3,000. Attorney Means said it is recommended that the study be done before we take over the property that a person wants to donate to the Township.

Chairman Poston said we own land adjacent to it and there should be no problems with contamination. Mr. Heasley moved to accept the proposal. Motion seconded by Mr. Dizard and carried.

Mr. Antonelli, Township Engineer, advised he has received a request form A. Folino for the 2016 paving work. He said the total payment is in the amount of \$368,568.12 but there will be funds retained and they will come back next month to do a portion of Karns Road. He said the approved payment is \$350,139.71.

Mr. Heasley moved to approve the payment. Motion seconded by Mr. Dizard and carried.

Mr. Antonelli said the matter arose that about 15 to 20 houses at the end of Carlisle Street and Oakwood Place do not have sanitary sewer service and are on septic systems.

Discussion ensued about whether they may have to have access at some time and if the Township had to build a system the owners would be assessed for a portion of the cost.

Mr. Dizard brought up Josh Nulph's three activities and asked that they be approved by the Board as written in the memo he presented to the Board.

Mr. Dizard so moved. Motion seconded by Mr. Heasley and carried.

Mr. Dizard said we received a resignation from the Recreation Board from Jeffrey Pakulski and Mrs. Bergstrom nominated John Babinsack to serve in his place. Motion seconded by Mr. Dizard and carried.

Chairman Poston advised the Board will hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters following adjournment.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

ATTEST:


Executive Secretary

TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON

By _____
President, Board
Of Commissioners