

**Regular Meeting
March 27, 2017**

V. Chairman Heasley called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was repeated.

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

The Solicitor and Engineer were present.

V. Ch. Heasley advised we would dispense with the reading of the minutes.

Remarks from Visitors:

Donna Frederick, Sycamore Street, said there used to be two garbage cans on Sycamore Street that Allegheny Ludlum emptied for them and they were for the use of the public.

Now that Jim passed away the other people no longer want to empty the cans and complained about the materials in the garbage cans.

She said your ordinance says you are not allowed to go through garbage at the curb and she wondered how they did that. Mrs. Frederick asked if she can put the cans back. She advised the mill left one further up the street.

V. Ch. Heasley asked who would maintain the cans and Mrs. Frederick said she and her husband would.

Solicitor Mueller asked if Mrs. Frederick put the cans there.

Mr. Lilly said they just appeared on the sidewalk at some time and there was no issue until AL took them way.

Mrs. Frederick said they were attached to the power poles on the sidewalk.

Attorney Mueller asked if they were obstructing the passage of pedestrians because you are not allowed to do so.

Norb Cieslinski, zoning and ordinance, said that AL complained about the cans because they found adult diapers in the cans and said they were not going to deal with that type of stuff.

Someone told them the cans were put there by Natrona Comes Together and Bucky asked Bill Godfrey, who told him they had nothing to do with these cans.

Mr. Cieslinski said he then told ATI to remove the cans and they advised they were not their cans, that they were only doing a service by emptying them.

Mr. Godfrey, who was in the audience, said that Natrona Comes Together didn't even know that ATI thought they put the cans there.

Attorney Mueller said the sidewalk is the owner's responsibility and ATI has an interest in what is on the sidewalk. She asked if the can could be put elsewhere.

Mrs. Frederick said there is a parking lot made of gravel and the sidewalk and said there was no problem with these cans for 5 years. She asked if ATI would be fined for looking through the garbage.

Mr. Cieslinski said he saw what they had to deal with.

Mr. Frederick said another person complained about dog crap and asked if that ordinance was enforced.

V. Ch. Heasley said that the cans should not be on their property.

Solicitor Mueller said it is on the public access but it would be your responsibility to maintain it. She suggested they put the cans in another location.

Mrs. Frederick said they are willing to empty them if they can be placed along the street.

Mr. Dizard asked who uses these cans.

Mrs. Frederick said people throw their garbage in them which is better than being on the street.

Mr. Dizard said if they were for the use of people on Sycamore Street only maybe they could locate them off AL's property.

Mrs. Frederick said she checked for an ordinance about noise pollution because there is a loud noise that comes out of a pump at the Allegheny Ludlum property and it can go on for an hour.

Solicitor Mueller said we can look at the ordinance.

Mr. Lilly said you can hear the noise at his house.

Ed Naughton, Harrison Hills Company fire chief, said there are safety problems at the Village Green Apartments with alarms. He said the fire alarms go off in the buildings but nothing goes to the call center and the residents say they have been told not to call 911 when the alarms go off.

Chief Naughton said the fire company doesn't have access to the panel if it is a false alarm and the person who does comes from miles away.

He said this is a safety issue and no one even comes outside to tell them there is no fire. He said there should be a system of Knox boxes where the fire department could get in to check the buildings before a maintenance person gets there. V. Ch. Heasley asked Norbert to check on this matter.

Mr. Cieslinski said he believes the apartment complex is up for sale.

Solicitor Mueller said to get the information to her and she can talk with Bruce Graff and see what we can do.

Frank Morrow, Painter Avenue, complained about his neighbor raising birds and the problems with the bird crap. He said the man put up a fence and he cannot see out around it/. He also has a pond. He said the neighbor doesn't care about all the bird crap he is getting on his asphalt and car. The fence is a safety issue to him because you cannot see around it.

Mrs. Bergstrom said the owner agreed to cutting the number of pairs of martens that were coming there. Further discussion ensued about the problems with them raising the birds and it was discussed that he does not raise them, they just naturally come to the area.

Mr. Morrow said a house next to him is being foreclosed because the man couldn't take it anymore and left it.

Mrs. Bergstrom said we had not heard complaints last summer after the number of bird houses was reduced.

Mr. Morrow said birds are everywhere causing crap on his property.

Mrs. Bergstrom said she will check the situation later when the birds are here and begin to hatch.

Bill Godfrey, Walnut Street, gave a report about the activities of Natrona Comes Together. He said there are some

young investors coming to Natrona and they want to open a bakery for one thing.

Mr. Godfrey said that a number of youths will be coming in the spring to help elderly people with the outside maintenance of their properties. He said they will be providing their summer program through the grant money they received, and will have concerts and a tour by a national group of the Natrona area.

He said they're working with ATI to get a fence around the community garden.

Glenn Baker, Pleasantville Road, asked if we knew why the State was surveying his property. He said they cut all those trees on the hillside for that development and he wanted to know if the State was going to take his house.

Mr. Antonelli said that we know about the development but that nothing had to do with properties on Pleasantville Road.

Brian Clark was in the audience with the developer and advised that PennDOT will be replacing a bridge but that has nothing to do with the proposed development. He said he would check as to why they were near Mr. Baker's house.

Scott Slezak, Dallas Avenue, asked why the Township was considering doing early \$200,000 worth of work on Pitt Alley without bidding the job.

Solicitor Mueller said the Township can do this type of sewer line replacement without bidding because it is maintenance of the line. It is not new construction which would require bidding.

V. Ch. Heasley said we have had very good luck working with State Pipe Services doing the kind of sewer line work they do. It does not entail digging up all the liens because they can burst through and install a new line in the old line. Mr. Slezak said it is still a lot of money to perform work without bidding on it. He said he felt the Board was to being responsible by doing it in this way without taking bids and to make sure the taxpayers' money is being spent in the right way.

Marl. Antonelli said there are only about 2-3 companies that do this kind of work and State has been an excellent contractor and said the Township has the option to bid or not.

Mr. Slezak asked if this was already decided and V. Ch. Heasley said it is on the agenda for action.

Mr. Slezak said the bidding process is meant to keep everyone honest.

V. Ch. Heasley noted his comments.

Committee Reports:

Mrs. Bergstrom reporting for Fire and Property and Grants, advised that Harrison Hills had 17 calls and Hilltop answered 5 alarms during the month. She said she is working with Randy regarding a sign at Melrose Avenue and Hawthorne Street because the fire truck had a hard time getting around that corner at a recent fire. It will be made No Parking Here to Corner for better access.

Mrs. Bergstrom said Mackin Engineering has the contract to perform the walking and biking trail design study. We had a grant of \$49,000 for the study and she is going to make another application through the Active Allegheny program for the next phase.

Mrs. Bergstrom said that we have been advised that the Township received a CITF grant of \$100,000 to complete the concession stand at the Natrona playground. She is going to apply for about \$80,000 for the next grant through Active Allegheny.

Mr. Lilly, reporting for Finance read the list of February Pad Bills to be Ratified totaling \$75,593.26 and asked for a motion to approve. Mr. Dizard so moved. Seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom and carried.

Mr. Lilly read the General Fund Bills Payable for March in amount of \$40,871.73 and asked for a motion.

Mr. Dizard moved to pay these invoices, motion seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom and carried.

Mr. Lilly advised the Bond Account bills amount to \$27,960.70 and asked for approval. Mr. Dizard moved to approve same with Mrs. Bergstrom seconding the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Lilly said the final bill is \$20,839.72 from the Liquid Fuel Fund for Cargill salt. Mr. Dizard said this completes our required purchases for the year and we will start next year with

extra salt on hand. Mrs. Bergstrom moved to approve the bill for payment. Motion seconded by Mr. Dizard and carried.

Mr. Dizard, Zoning and Ordinance, advised they did 11 occupancy inspections and 5 failed; they have done 51 this year with 8 failing to date. He said the staff is doing more detailed inspections than before. He said that only 25% of all rental units are being inspected.

Mr. Dizard said they had 29 complaints about garbage, dumpsters without permits, and other property issues. He said they are beginning to send letters regarding rentals to those that have not had inspections done. He said they issued three this month.

Mrs. Dionard said the zoning permits totaled \$3,200 and the building permits about \$4,000 this month. He said that you may have seen they erected the signs in the Heights Plaxo but the company had to be stopped because the owner did not pay for a permit.

Mr. Dizard said the office is reviewing 100 properties that are rentals but that have not had inspections done. He wants the staff to be able to do 1,400 inspections this year.

Mr.; Dizard said they were still working on the banners to be erected on West Penn poles along Freeport Road and River Avenue.

Mr. Poston was absent, so V. Ch. Heasley read the Police Report as follows:

212	Accounted Phone Calls to Police Office
347	Reported Police Support and Service Calls
20	Traffic Accidents
2	Prisoners Detained
2	Juvenile Misdemeanor/Felony Arrests
7	Adult Misdemeanor/Felony Arrests
49	Traffic Citations
16	Non Traffic Citations
1	Ordinance Citation by Police
9	Parking Tickets

Fines collected from Allegheny County Court

576.29

Fines collected from District Court	3,193.35
Parking Tickets Fines	50.00
Sale of Accident Report copies	135.00

Total Receipts	\$	3,954.64
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Disbursements to Police for District Court	\$	351.81
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V. Ch. Heasley read the detailed report of all incidents for the month and advised that all officers completed the First Responder training and recertification for CPR/AED and First Aid. He said one officer completed training relative to performance directed management and one other officer completed a week-long supervisor training course at the County Police Academy.

V. Ch. Heasley read a letter of commendation to Officer Hanzlik from Chief Klein relating to an incident where he responded to a drug overdose and was able to save the person by administering Naloxone. He said this is the second time Ken has performed this live saving action.

V. CH. Heasley, Public Works, read the report for the month including the work State Pipe did bursting 160 feet of line on Argonne Drive and refurbished three manholes. He said the department cold patched throughout the Township, and replaced a collapsed catch basin n Jefferson Avenue. He said they have also been sweeping streets when the temperatures were high enough.

V. Ch. Heasley said that State Pipe will be starting the 1,800 feet of sewer line bursting in Pitt Alley upon the Board's approval.

V. Ch. Heasley said the first item of action tonight is to act on bids received for the 2017 Paving Program contingent upon the Engineer's finale review and recommendation.

Mr. Antonelli said 12 bids were received earlier today with the low bid being \$302,023.67 from Youngblood. Mr. Antonelli said this was lower than his bid estimate of \$364,000 and the bid seemed to be in order.

Mr. Antonelli said it would be in order for the Board to accept the apparent low bid contingent upon review and tabulation.

He said he has worked with Youngblood and they do very good work.

There as some discussion because one of the bids was very low in comparison to all the others and they felt there was a calculation error.

Mr. Dizard said it seemed that Youngblood has the apparent bid. He moved to accept their bid with Ray to check the other bids for accuracy.

Motion seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom and carried.

V. Ch. Heasley said the next item is to establish practices as tor responsibility for sewer laterals a whether they can be re-used during new development.

Mr. Antonelli said we discussed tis last month and have authorized someone to re-use a lateral but there is nothing in writing to guide us.

He added there is nothing in our ordinance as to who is responsible for wat portion of the sewer line although the Township's practice has always been that the property owner is responsible to the Township's main line.

Mr. Dizard moved to authorize the Solicitor to prepare and amendment tour ordinance to incorporate these matters.

Motion seconded by Mr. Lilly and carried.

Secretary advised of the activities scheduled for April 22, Earth Day, including a household hazardous waste collection ere, and that you have to register to patriciate. They will take electronics, batteries, etc.

Mr. Dizard said there will also be cleanups throughout the Township on Earth Day with volunteers cleaning up along roadways.

V. Ch. Heasley said the next item is a request from Joan Crowley for HP parking space at 21 Linden Street. He said the Chief made comments on the application and said that someone already painted a blue line at the location.

Mr. Dizard asked Mr. Lilly if he had any input and Mr. Lilly said he did not address it, so they decided to delay action until Gary can re]view the application.

Mr. Dizard said we changed the ordinance last year and now the spaces have to be evaluated each year to determine if they are still valid.

Mr. Lilly said we should hold this action for further review. Mrs. Bergstrom so moved. Motion seconded by Mr. Dizard and carried.

V. Ch. Heasley said next is to authorize State Pipe Services to proceed with the Pitt Alley sewer project.

Mr. Dizard asked Mr. Antonelli about bidding for this work and are there limits governing it.

Mr. Antonelli said that there are not many companies that perform the pipe bursting.

V. Ch. Heasley advised this include 1,800 feet of pipe bursting, fixing 9 manholes and replacing 54 laterals.

Mr. Dizard said there are new water and gas liens in that alley and this would be the final work to have it all done.

Mr. Antonelli said it would take months to prepare specs, advertise and get the job started if the Township bid on it and it makes the work more costly with all the engineering and advertising costs.

He said that the Township can legally do this type of work without taking bids.

Mrs. Bergstrom asked about costs and Mr. Antonelli said this is not an exorbitant amount for the work proposed.

Mr. Lilly said he felt it should be bid but he likes State Pipe's work. Mr. Antonelli said pipe bursting is a specialty and Jeff Gillette in the audience advised he felt the approximate \$400,000 cost was not out of line.

Mr. Lilly said again should get bids.

Mr. Dizard moved to accept the State Pipe proposal and added that the Engineer would provide information of alternatives in the future.

Mr. Gillette said he knows of only one other company doing this work. Motions seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom and carried.

V. Ch. Heasley said the last item is to authorize and Actuarial Study in the Police Pension plan for purchase of Military Service.

Mr. Lilly said they can buy their service time and it is no cost to the Township. Mr. Lilly moved to proceed with the study. Motion seconded by Mr. Dizard and carried.

V. Chairman Heasley said we had a request to proclaim the week of April 9th as National Library Week. Mrs. Bergstrom so moved. Motion seconded by Mr. Dizard and carried.

Mr. Lilly asked if a local swimmer could be honored with a proclamation like we do for the Eagle scouts.

V. Ch. Heasley said he can get us the information and we can put it together for the next meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 P.M.

Attest:

TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON

Executive Secretary

By _____
**President, Board of
Commissioners**