

Regular Meeting
June 26, 2017

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 - Commissioners Lilly, Poston, Bergstrom, Heasley and Dizard responded to roll.

The Solicitor and Engineer were present.

Chairman Poston advised the minutes of the May meeting were not complete.

There were no Remarks from Visitors.

Mrs. Bergstrom reporting for Fire and Property and Grants, advised that Hilltop had 14 calls and training during the month. She said they had training for three junior firefighters. She said they thanked the Township for making a no parking area around a hydrant on Melrose avenue.

Mrs. Bergstrom said Harrison Hills had 25 calls and 4 hours of training. She said that Village Green now has the Knox boxes for when there are alarms so the fire companies can get into the buildings.

She said that Citizens Hose had 26 calls and 259 EMS calls during the month.

Mrs. Bergstrom said we will be bidding out the Chestnut Street Sewer Project soon.

Mr. Antonelli, Township Engineer, said we can do that in August. He said we have about \$350,000 in grants for this work. He said we are working on grant applications for handicapped ramps and demolitions and that work.

Mrs. Bergstrom said she is waiting to hear about another grant for the detailed portion of the biking and walking trail and should know if we got it in September.

She said there was an open house for residents and businesses to come in to see the proposed biking and walking trail design and there was a good turnout.

Mrs. Bergstrom said we have looked at the Savvy Citizen app that can be used on the phone or computer where announcements about Township events can be made.

Chairman Poston thanked Mrs. Bergstrom for her work on getting grants for the Township.

Reporting for Finance, Mr. Lilly said we have Bills Payable in the amount of \$61,173.71 and Mr. Heasley moved to pay these bills. Motion seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom and carried.

Mr. Lilly said the Bills Payable from the Bond Account total \$192,030.21 which includes a bill from State Pipe Services for sewer work they did. Mr. Heasley moved to approve these bills. Motion seconded by Mr. Dizard and carried.

Mr. Heasley said he reviewed the bills and there were some things he did not agree with. Chairman Poston said to check with Faith on the costs of those invoices.

Mr. Lilly said the Paid Bills to be Ratified total \$82,763.56. Mr. Heasley moved to ratify same. Motion seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom and carried.

Chairman Poston asked Gary to get any issues like that resolved before the meeting so all bills are okayed for payment.

Mr. Lilly said some of the prices are too high.

Chairman Poston, reporting for Public Safety, read the monthly report as follows:

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| 270 | Accounted Phone Calls to Records Office |
| 454 | Reported Police Support and Service Calls |
| 18 | Traffic Accidents |
| 2 | Prisoners Detained in Lockup |
| 0 | Juvenile Misdemeanor/Felony Arrests |
| 11 | Adult Misdemeanor/Felony Arrests |
| 71 | Traffic Citations |
| 24 | Non-Traffic Citations |
| 4 | Ordinance Citations by Police |
| 59 | Parking Tickets |

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| Fines collected from Allegheny County Court | 641.99 |
| Fines collected from District Court | 3,573.54 |
| Fines collected from Parking Tickets | 280.00 |
| Copies of Accident Reports | 155.00 |

Total Receipts \$ 4,660.33

Disbursements to Police for District Court hearings \$ 901.96

Chairman Poston read a letter from the Director of the Allegheny County Police Academy thanking the Chief for attending their recent graduation ceremony.

Chairman Poston asked for a motion to offer Matthew Ellinger a conditional offer of employment as a police officer. He said he will still have to pass medical and psychological testing and could start to work in August if he passes these.

Mr. Heasley moved to make the conditional offer of employment to Matthew Ellinger. Motion seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom, motion carried with Mr. Lilly voting no. He said we acted to dismiss an officer and no one would tell him what he did and he does not remember this guy from previous interviews.

Chairman Poston said they were in in the 1-2-3 order after the testing.

Mr. Lilly said he felt the Commissioners should know the reason for the dismissal of the other officer.

Mr. Heasley, reporting for Public Works, advised the men repaired a broken sanitary sewer and manhole at Jefferson and Lincoln Streets; replaced a collapsed catch basin on Broadview Boulevard, and cleaned up all the honor rolls and the islands for the summer holidays.

Mr. Heasley said several more catch basins were repaired or replaced all over the Township. He added that they installed a new storm drain on Allegheny Drive.

Mr. Dizard, Zoning and Ordinance said they performed 21 inspections and ten failed. He said they are using a higher standard for the inspections and 37% more have failed than before. He said there were 36 complaints of high grass and other property issues. Mr. Dizard said construction is continuing at Maronda and zoning certificate fees have increased. Total for this month is \$2,400, and permit fees for plan reviews and building permits amount to about \$10,000. Mr. Dizard read from a prepared report concerning less hours being used for administrative help in the zoning office and various details concerning permits and fees.

Mr. Dizard said the fire alarm issues at Village Green have been worked out and we are discussing with the Housing Authority to be able to share their inspections so there is not a duplication of work.

He said the banner program has been approved by West Penn Power and there will be 125 new ones, with 110 on Freeport Road and 15 in Natrona in addition to the welcome and Christmas ones we already have which total 35. He said the amounts the people and businesses are paying is more than enough to cover the costs of the banners and installation and asked for a Resolution to approve the airborne agreement pending Emily Mueller's final approve of same. He said the banner are expected to last three to five years.

Secretary advised that would be Resolution No. 1762. Mr. Dizard so moved. Motions seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom and carried.

Chairman Poston read Ordinance No. 1994 - Establishing regulations regarding connections to and responsibility for sanitary sewer laterals. He said some questions had come up recently and although we had processes in place we had nothing in writing about reusing existing laterals and to what extent the property owner is responsible for the sewer lateral coming from their property to the main line.

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

Chairman Poston read Resolution No. 1760 - Authorizing the developer's Agreement with Charter Foods for the new Taco Bell.

Mr. Antonelli said that we have performance bonds.

MR. Heasley so moved. Motion seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom and carried.

Chairman Poston advised Resolution No. 1761 is a request for handicapped parking at 8 Garfield Street from Cindy Klems.

Mr. Heasley asked Mr. Lilly if he had reviewed this.

Mr. Lilly said she is 100% handicapped and moved to approve the Resolution. Motion seconded by Mr. Heasley and carried.

Chairman Poston said the next item is to authorize the solicitor prepare the required Ordinance for the request from Maronda Homes to accept the dedication of public improvements in Oakridge Estates Phase 2.

Mr. Antonelli said there are still some improvements needed before we move forward with the acceptance of the streets and he would review the work and determine if we need an additional performance bond.

Mr. Heasley moved to make this authorization contingent on the Engineer's recommendations. Motion seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom and carried.

Mr. Antonelli advised they got bids from three companies for the asbestos inspections at the proposed demolitions. He said the cost was \$3,500 if all seven were awarded. He said two of the buildings were not currently slated for demolition but if we take this bid now we save money when we need the inspections. He recommended that the Board award all seven of the inspections to Allegheny Global.

Mr. Dizard said that some of the properties still need legal work to be done before we can demolish them. He said 76 and 78 Pine are both bad and unsafe and this would give us the option to move forward when we have the funds

Mr. Antonelli said if you approve all seven of them, you are getting two inspections for \$300.

Mr. Dizard moved to accept the proposal of Allegheny Global for the asbestos inspections. Motion seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom and carried.

Chairman Poston said the net item is to authorize the advertisement of bids for the Garbage and Recycling Contract expiring December 31, 2017.

Chairman Poston said we can authorize the bids but we will continue to discuss the contract before it is advertised.

Mr. Dizard said most days he gets a complaint about Morrow Refuse. He said we have no recourse really though we have tried to meet with them to discuss the issues at hand.

Chairman Poston said people know that Morrow won't go after them so they don't pay their bills.

He said it is hard to make them pay.

Mr. Dizard said another town used to have Morrow but now they have their choice of collectors.

Secretary advised that Elaine Morrow said they do collect in some towns where they offer options and we will have to work out what we want to ask for in the contract.

Mr. Dizard moved to authorize the bids. Motion seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom and carried.

Chairman Poston said next is to act to hire a contractor to cut the vacant lots throughout the Township. He said some are places where the houses have been demolished and it is too big of a problem for public works to carry alone. He said we will get the numbers and review them. He asked how often we would've them cut.

Mr. Heasley said this should be done once a month.

Chairman Poston said we were going to use millings to cover the this but you have to be concerned about the runoff then.

Solicitor Emily Mueller said the Board can lien the properties for the costs of the cutting.

Chairman Poston said the residents shouldn't have to pay for people who abandoned their properties. He said they should be cited. He said we only get five summer kids and they are working other jobs. We used to have ten summer kids.

Mr. Dizard moved to authorize getting bids for the grass and high weed cutting. Motion seconded by Mr. Heasley and carried.

Chairman Poston said next is to authorize Public Works to construct a parking area at the Natrona playground. HE said this will be just gravel and millings and not a paved lot.

Mr. Antonelli noted that during paving work is it cheaper to have the contractor take the millings though we have kept a lot of them in the past. Now they can take them as part of the contract.

Mr. Dizard said the lot will be in the back area of the playground and will be for events and hold 30 to 40 cars.

Mr. Dizard moved to direct Public Works to construct the parking area. Motions seconded by Mr. Heasley and carried.

Mr. Dizard said there have been issues in getting an easement along the river side of River Avenue from the property owner and he will contact the Corps of Engineers to see if it is possible for them to grant us an easement through there.

Chairman Poston said the last item is a request from Frances and David Brown of Chestnut Street for signs noting blind person uses these streets for her area. her husband is legally blind.

Mr. Lilly moved to erect these signs. Motion seconded by Mr. Dizard and carried.

Mr. Antonelli said they are working on the 2017 Road Program and it should be done shortly. He said the Public Works Department will oversee the chip seal project.

Mr. Antonelli presented an invoice for payment to the contractor in amount of \$43,231.44. Mr. Heasley moved to approve payment. Motions seconded by Mr. Dizard and carried.

Mr. Antonelli said there is a two-year maintenance bond on the project.

Mr. Antonelli said he is going to put the ADA ramp bids out in July through the CDBG program and the demolitions August. He said that he will get the Chestnut Street sewer bids out a bid later due to more work needed in the bid documents.

Mr. Dizard said since we have grant money how does the bidding process work?

Mr. Antonelli advised the CD work is done through the COG.

Mr. Dizard said here is also a \$10,000 grant for the concession stand in Natrona and Mr. Antonelli said he is not involved in that contract.

Chairman Poston noted that a bluegrass band will be playing a free concert at Harrison Hills Park July 8th.

Chairman Poston moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 P.M.

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON

Executive Secretary

BY _____
President, Board of Commissioners

