

Harrison Township Board of Commissioners  
Agenda Meeting  
December 13, 2018

The Harrison Township Board of Commissioners Agenda Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman William Heasley.

Commissioners William Heasley, William Poston, Robin Bergstrom and Chuck Dizard were present. Gary Lilly was absent.

Mr. Heasley announced that prior to the Agenda Meeting, the Board of Commissioners held an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

First on the agenda is Ordinance No. 2002 – The 2019 Budget, second, third and final readings.

Rich Hill, Township Manager said that we had a proposed Budget that was available for inspection for ten days. We have \$5 million in Revenue and \$4.9 million in expenditures.

Ordinance No. 2003 – The 2019 Tax Levy at 5.106 mills, second, third and final readings.

Mr. Hill said that's no tax increase.

Ordinance No. 2004 – Amending Chapter 1, Administration and Government of the Township Code of Ordinances, to add a new Part 10 Authorizing an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with Brackenridge Borough and Tarentum Borough for Retaining a Professional Services Company to prepare a Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Dizard said the County has supported our Comprehensive Plan along with Tarentum and Brackenridge. This will be about a year and a half process. Jim Paschek is working with us, it's about a \$90,000 project and the County has agreed to pay \$50,000 and the \$40,000.00 will be split between the three Municipalities, pro-rated on population. Our cost will be about \$24,000, \$12,000

in 2019 and \$12,000 in 2020. Each municipality has a sub committee to work on this project. It will go through the kind of things that Township's need to have for economic development for the next five to ten years. Our previous comprehensive plan was written by consultants that you have to have a dictionary to translate what it means. Most of those things are so general, you can't do anything with them. Pashek's approach is to have a list on each of the categories, transportation, land use, economic developments, zoning and ordinance kind of things. The three communities share a lot of the same things, like schools, landlords etc. It's also a legal requirement.

Mrs. Bergstrom said for us to get grants, we have to reference our comprehensive plan, and ours is from 2009.

Resolution No. 1821 – Authorizing a Three Year Contract with the Harrison Township Public Works Department – January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021.

Resolution No. 1822 – Authorizing/Appointing Kratzenberg & Associates, Inc., d/b/a/ Keystone Collections Group as the Local Service Tax Collector for Harrison Township beginning January 1, 2019.

Resolution No. 1823 – Authorizing Susan K. Motosicky, Township Secretary to conduct Online Banking transactions and Wire Transfers on all Harrison Township Checking and Savings Accounts with First Commonwealth Bank.

Mr. Dizard suggested adding Washington Financial as well, and to get the Resolution.

Resolution No. 1824 – Establishing Salaries and Wages of certain Township Employees not covered by Labor Contracts for the Year 2019.

Resolution No. 1825 – Approving the transfer of property located at 4 Linden Street, Natrona to Jeffrey J. Bowser through the Vacant Property Recovery Program known as Block and Lot No. 1368-R-00095.

Act to approve the Volunteer FireFighters names that appear on a notarized eligibility list prepared by the Fire Chiefs from Citizens Hose Fire Co., Harrison Hills Fire Co. and Hilltop Hose Fire Co., to apply for Act 172.

Act to accept the resignation of Kenneth Crisafio from the Harrison Township Planning Commission effective November 27, 2018. Mr. Poston moved to accept this resignation. Seconded by Mrs. Bergstrom. Motion carried.

Act on appointment to the Civil Service Commission for a six year term to begin January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2024.

Act on appointment to the Recreation Board for a five year term through October 19, 2023.

Act on appointment to the Harrison Township Planning Commission to fill an unexpired term through the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in May, 2022.

Announce that the Agenda Meetings and Regular Meetings for the year 2019 will begin at 7:00 p.m. rather than 7:30 p.m.

When we adjourn, we will continue the Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

Karen Wantland asked if there were copies of the agenda available.

Susan Motosicky advised her that Faith did not make copies for the Agenda Meeting, only the Regular Meeting, and that next month, I will be happy to have copies available.

Mrs. Wantland said yes there has been. The only reason I know this Susan, is because I've given examples of votes being taken at an Agenda Meeting. You mentioned the applicants for the openings. Were there any for the Planning Commission?

Mr. Heasley said yes, two. I said we'll discuss it on Monday because we just got that information. We'll possibly extend it to see if anyone else will apply.

Jim Erb from Citizens Hose Fire Co. expressed concern for the Act 172 Resolution. Only 13 members out of 30 are qualified to apply from Citizens Hose. We thought it would be up to \$300, some guys that work in the Township only make \$12 an hour which is \$24,000 for the year, so they're probably only going to get \$120. We went from 30 guys down to 13 guys, and we have a couple guys that are retired that do a lot for our Township and they're not eligible. Did you do it for real estate or earned income. Not sure going forward how the laws are, but the guys that do the most for our department aren't even eligible. They don't have the earned income. They've lived and worked 60 or 70 years, then some of the youngest guys are making enough to get the \$300, but some of the guys that are most active and only make \$12 an hour, they'll only get \$120. We're probably at \$6,000 for all the departments combined.

Mrs. Bergstrom said this is our first year through this, so.

Mr. Erb asked if there was an updated Budget since the one on display from December 1<sup>st</sup>?

Mr. Hill said we changed three categories. Income in the Planning Department, we're going to open Developer Agreement Accounts, with an escrow account. We took money out of the Planning Department and took expenses out of Engineering and Legal categories. Our revenues and exceeding our expenditures by about \$35,000.

Mr. Erb said there was \$51,000 that was earmarked for celebrations. I'm curious what that is.

Mr. Hill said \$30,000 of that was earmarked for the War Memorial Monument. It's now down to \$21,000.

Mr. Erb said that number there, compared to the volunteers.

Mrs. Bergstrom said we can't go back because someone makes a certain amount a year. We can't go back and give him another \$180. This is a legal situation with Act 172.

Mr. Hill said I know other municipalities have added real estate tax. A lot of members are retired and don't have earned income. You can choose between the two.

Mrs. Bergstrom said now that we've been through it once, we know where the holes are. We did take the allocation to the fire companies from \$1,250 to \$1,750 per quarter.

Mr. Dizard moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Poston. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON

  
Township Secretary

  
Chairman, Board of Commissioners