

**NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING
OCTOBER 15, 2008**

Chairman Ronald E. Stahley called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and roll call. In attendance were Supervisors Ronald E. Stahley, Terry P. Stoudt, Ronald J. Heintzelman, Attorney Lisa Young and Secretary/Treasurer Brenda Norder.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Upon motion by Terry P. Stoudt, seconded by Ronald J. Heintzelman, the minutes of the following meeting were approved as presented: 1. October 1st Board of Supervisors Minutes
Roll call: Terry P. Stoudt - yes; Ronald E. Stahley - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Township trick or treat night will be held on Friday, October 31st from 6-8 PM, with a rain date of Saturday, November 1 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.
2. The Township will be hosting an Open Space Workshop presented by the Heritage Conservancy and the Wildlands Conservancy on October 22, 2008, at 7 PM.
3. The Township received \$55,642.00 from DEP for Recycling Performance Grants from the years 2001 through 2004.
4. Supervisor Stoudt announced that leaf collection would begin on October 27th. It is unlikely that leaves will be collected before that date because very few trees have lost their leaves.
5. Supervisor Stahley announced that the Fire Academy that was advertised in the newsletter has been cancelled.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

- Ron Roth, 5353 Route 309, Schnecksville, questioned the Route 309 Project design of the section between Orefield Cold Storage and Shankweiler Road. He felt it was too narrow. He also commented about the backup of traffic at the Sand Spring and Route 309 intersection due to left turns.
- Michael Kondravy, 3615 Levans Rd., Allentown, inquired about PADOT's rejection to reduce the speed limit on Levans Road. He also inquired about the use of Levans Park at night and stated that neighbors had called him concerned about seeing people with flashlights in the park.
- Charles Knauss, 3525 Apple Road, Orefield, noted that the site distance traveling west on Levans Road, in the vicinity of Apple Road is reduced by the bushes along the road and that it is a dangerous situation.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Upon motion by Terry P. Stoudt, seconded by Ronald E. Stahley, the Treasurer's September report was approved as presented and the Treasurer was authorized to disburse General Fund checks # 1467-1556. Roll call: Terry P. Stoudt - yes; Ronald E. Stahley - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

PUBLIC HEARING Chairman Stahley recessed the regular meeting in order to conduct a Public Hearing on the following Ordinances:

ORDINANCE 2008-1 COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE

Ordinance 2008-1 established the regulation and control of solid waste disposal.

Attorney Lisa Young gave a brief synopsis of Ordinance 2008-1. Atty. Young noted that the Ordinance was duly advertised and would become effective on November 1, 2008.

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Supervisor Stahley then opened the floor to comments from the audience.

- Joe Budinas, 4474 Valley Green Dr., Schnecksville, stated he was not in favor of centralized collection and the Board should limit free enterprise.
- Brian Neas, 4410 Route 309 Schnecksville, asked how the Ordinance would be enforced.
- Doug Wetzel, 4337 Sand Spring Road, Schnecksville, commented that the Township should focus on enforcing the program currently in place instead of mandating residents to pay more for services. Restructuring the current system would save money instead of overburdening the system with more regulations.
- Samantha Neas, 4410 Route 309 Schnecksville, asked if the DEP grants were matching grants.
- Richard Getz, 3333 Mauch Chunk Road, Coplay, The Township should be more restrictive with the recycling area because many non-residents are using the facility.
- Ron Roth, 5353 Route 309, Schnecksville, suggested using a system similar to Whitehall Township, which requires residents to have an ID card and regulated hours for drop off.
- Ed Zeigler, Slatington, stated that the grant money is not from taxpayers, it is generated from the tipping fees haulers pay at the landfills.

Upon motion by Terry P. Stoudt, seconded by Ronald J. Heintzelman, the Board adopted Ordinance 2008-1. Roll call: Terry P. Stoudt - yes; Ronald E. Stahley - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes.

ORDINANCE 2008-2 AIR POLLUTION CONTROL / OPEN BURNING

Ordinance 2008-2 established the prevention and control of air pollution and banned open burning.

Attorney Lisa Young gave a brief synopsis of Ordinance 2008-2. Atty. Young noted that the Ordinance was duly advertised and would become effective on November 1, 2008.

Supervisor Stahley then opened the floor to comments from the audience.

- Brian Neas, 4410 Route 309 Schnecksville, stated he was concerned that was no means of enforcement after 4 PM or on weekends.
- Trish Burkhardt, 3227 Shankweiler Road, Allentown, also expressed concerns about enforcement.
- Ron Roth, 5353 Route 309, Schnecksville, stated that the Board needed to educate the residents about the proper procedures regarding burning.
- Dave Parsons, 4772 York Drive, Orefield, stated he was opposed to the Ordinance if it prohibits him from burning brush and fallen trees.
- Joe Budinas, 4474 Valley Green Dr., Schnecksville, asked the Board for a definition of Agricultural burning and how the Ordinance affected events like a large outdoor bar-b-que. He also suggested listing the new ordinances in the newsletter.

Upon motion by Terry P. Stoudt, seconded by Ronald E. Stahley, the Board adopted Ordinance 2008-2. Roll call: Terry P. Stoudt - yes; Ronald E. Stahley - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes.

Chairman Stahley resumed the regular meeting.

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NEW BUSINESS:

TIMM & NANCY STOUDT EXTENSION OF TIME

Upon motion by Ronald J. Heintzelman, seconded by Ronald E. Stahley, the Board accepted an extension of time, until December 17, 2008, in order for the Board to review the Minor Subdivision Plan of Timm & Nancy Stoudt and so that the Developer can resolve outstanding issues with Lehigh County Authority. Roll call: Terry P. Stoudt - abstained; Ronald E. Stahley - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

PENSION REQUIREMENT ESTIMATE FOR 2009

Treasurer Brenda Norder presented an estimate of the municipal obligation for the North Whitehall Township Retirement Plan for the year 2009 to be \$ 51,358.00. Income from State Pension Aid is projected to be \$ 58,724.00. A total estimate of \$ 110,082.00 is projected in pension expenses for budgetary figures.

APPOINTED CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

Upon motion by Terry P. Stoudt, seconded by Ronald J. Heintzelman, the Board engaged the services of Buckno-Lisicky & Company as appointed Certified Public Accountant for the Township audit. Roll call: Terry P. Stoudt - yes; Ronald E. Stahley - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes.

- Joe Budinas, 4474 Valley Green Dr., Schnecksville, inquired if the Township currently uses a CPA for audits.

PARKLAND POINTE REDUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS ESCROW

Developer Anthony Sorrentino submitted a request for a reduction in his Improvements Escrow Account for Parkland Pointe. Upon motion by Ronald E. Stahley, seconded by Terry P. Stoudt, the Board tabled the request in order for further review of the request. Roll call: Terry P. Stoudt - yes; Ronald E. Stahley - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE BUDGET MEETINGS

Upon motion by Ronald E. Stahley, seconded by Terry P. Stoudt, the Board authorized the Secretary to advertise for 3 budget meetings. Roll call: Terry P. Stoudt - yes; Ronald E. Stahley - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

APPROVAL TO HIRE FULL TIME PUBLIC WORKS LABORER

Upon motion by Terry P. Stoudt, seconded by Ronald J. Heintzelman, the Board approved the hiring of Brian Neas as a full time public works laborer. Mr. Neas' official hire date will become effective on his start date and certain benefits will also become effective on his start date with the exception of pension benefits, which will be effective January 1, 2009. Supervisor Stahley thanked all the applicants for their interest in the Township. Roll call: Terry P. Stoudt - yes; Ronald E. Stahley - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes.

- Ron Roth, 5353 Route 309, Schnecksville, inquired if the Township would consider hiring for part-time employment and the use of retirees.

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Supervisor Stahley announced that he would be attending a Workers' Comp. meeting on October 28th.

- Dave Parsons, 4772 York Drive, Orefield, inquired about information posted on the website and suggested the Township should have a backup person to do the website so that there is no break in the flow of information.
- Harold Smith, 5526 Park Valley Road, Schnecksville, commented on the trucks using Park Valley Road to haul material to the farm.

COMMUNICATIONS

Thank you card from the Schnecksville Seniors Club for their allocation

ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Norder, Secretary