

**NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
CLOSEOUT MEETING DECEMBER 30, 2009**

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 and Ronald J. Heintzelman, Attorney Lisa Young and Secretary/Treasurer Brenda Norder. Supervisor Terry P. Stoudt was absent.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Upon motion by Ronald J. Heintzelman, seconded by Ronald E. Stahley, the minutes of the following meeting were approved with the following correction:

1. The December 16<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting - the Nuisance Ordinance number should have been Ordinance 2009-4.

Roll call: Terry P. Stoudt - absent; Ronald E. Stahley - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Township offices will be closed Friday January 1<sup>st</sup> for New Years Day.
2. The Township Supervisors' Organization Meeting is scheduled for January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 7:00 PM. This organization meeting will replace the regular meeting night of January 6<sup>th</sup>.
3. The Township Auditors' Organization Meeting is scheduled for January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010, 6 PM.

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**

- Ernie Atiyeh presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Supervisor Stoudt, in absentia, for his work with the North Whitehall Neighborhood Watch Program.
- Susan Gelinas, Tax Collector, expressed her disappointment with the current newsletter. She commented that new residents depend on the tax information and it should be given equal importance as other articles and information should not be arbitrarily deleted. It was also noted that there is a difficulty in differentiating articles from advertisements.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Upon motion by Ronald J. Heintzelman, seconded by Ronald E. Stahley, the Treasurer was authorized to disburse General Fund checks # 3107-3176. Roll call: Terry P. Stoudt - absent; Ronald E. Stahley - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**ADOPTION OF THE 2010 BUDGET**

Treasurer Brenda Norder noted 2 changes to the draft budget: 1) Addition of \$2,000.00 for the Lehigh Tax Collection Committee account and 2) An increase in the Humane Society expense to \$6,000.00 (from \$3,500.00). Upon motion by Ronald E. Stahley, seconded by Ronald J. Heintzelman, the Board adopted the proposed budget for 2010 with changes noted. Roll call: Terry P. Stoudt - absent; Ronald E. Stahley - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes.

- Doug Wetzel, 4337 Sand Spring Road, Schnecksville, inquired about the cost of the legal fees associated with the ATV and nuisance ordinances and drafts and why there was no line item in the budget for that cost.

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

**REQUEST FOR INCLUSION OF SUPERVISOR-EMPLOYEES IN TOWNSHIP INSURANCE PLANS**

The Township received written requests from employed-Supervisors Stahley, and Heintzelman to be included, along with dependents, in all Township sponsored insurance plans including but not limited to medical, life, long and short term disability, prescription, dental and vision, as per Section 606(c) (1) of the Second Class Township Code. These requests are for the balance of 2009 and the calendar year of 2010. Upon motion by Ronald E. Stahley, seconded by Ronald J. Heintzelman, the Board granted the request. Roll call: Terry P. Stoudt - absent; Ronald E. Stahley - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes. There were no public comments on this item.

**ADOPTION OF TAX RESOLUTION 12-30-09**

Upon motion by Ronald E. Stahley, seconded by Ronald J. Heintzelman, the Board adopted Tax Resolution 12-30-09. Tax Resolution 12-30-09 establishes the 2010 rate as follows:

1. Real Estate to be 1 mill or \$1.00 for every \$ 1,000.00 of assessed valuation;
2. Street Light Assessment will be based a flat rate of \$37.00/residential and \$1,505.00/institutional;
3. Real Estate Transfer Tax at the rate of 1/2 of 1%;
4. Earned Income Tax at the rate of 1/2 of 1%.
5. Local Service Tax at the rate of \$52.00 (Township \$47.00 and School District \$5.00)

Roll call: Terry P. Stoudt - absent; Ronald E. Stahley - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes.

- Jerome Joseph, 3521 Rome Court, Orefield, asked if the Street Light Assessment increase was due to the increased cost of electricity.
- Richard Getz, 3333 Mauch Chunk Road, Coplay, asked if the new lights, to be installed by PPL, would use less electricity and could the township purchase electricity from other sources.
- Ernie Atiyeh, Allentown, inquired if the township would consider cooperative purchasing with other townships.

**APPOINTMENT OF EXISTING WORKING SUPERVISORS**

Upon motion by Ronald E. Stahley, seconded by Ronald J. Heintzelman, the Board appointed the positions of the existing working supervisors, Ron Stahley as Director of Public Works and Ron Heintzelman as Community Services Coordinator, to be in effect through the date and time for the 2010 Organization Meeting, on January 4, 2010. Roll call: Terry P. Stoudt - absent; Ronald E. Stahley - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes.

- Doug Wetzel, 4337 Sand Spring Road, Schnecksville, inquired if this pertained only to the two supervisors present.
- The Supervisors wished everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

**COMMUNICATIONS** - Pesticide Registry.

**ADJOURNMENT** Meeting adjourned at 7:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Norder, Secretary