

**NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING
JULY 6, 2015**

Chairman Ronald J. Heintzelman called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence. In attendance were Supervisors Steve Pany, and Richard Celmer, Attorney Lisa A. Young, Manager Jeff Bartlett and Secretary/Treasurer Brenda Norder.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, the minutes of the Board of Supervisors Meeting of June 1, 2015 were approved. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. In order for the township staff to attend the Annual Summer Convention of the Lehigh County Association of Township Officials on August 7th, Township offices will be closed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, the June Treasurer's report was approved as presented and the Treasurer was authorized to disburse checks #9965-9991. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business

NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor Heintzelman recessed the regular meeting in order to conduct a Public Hearing on the proposed Ordinance 2015-7.

ORDINANCE 2015-7 INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE IRT

Ordinance 2015-7 approves the Intergovernmental Agreement between North Whitehall Township and Whitehall Township with regards to the paving of the 2.3 mile IRT spur as per the requirements of a DCNR grant. Atty. Young noted that the Ordinance was duly advertised and gave a brief synopsis of Ordinance 2015-7.

A stenographer recorded the proceedings; a copy of the transcript of the hearing shall be placed in the Minute Book.

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, the Board adopted Ordinance 2015-7. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

Supervisor Heintzelman resumed the regular meeting.

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BROOK HILL ESTATES LOT CONSOLIDATION REVISED FINAL

Julie and James Hoffman, Atty. Dinkelacker and Mike Gula presented the Brook Hill Plan, which is approved but not recorded, to the Board for their consideration of plan revisions to the access easement of the outfall. Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, the Board tabled the Plan pending a better access to the mid-height manhole. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

PARKLAND HOLLOW REDUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS ESCROW

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, the Board accepted the written recommendation of the General Planning Engineer Stephen Gitch, dated June 30, 2015 and authorized the release of \$38,376.00 from the Improvements Escrow Account for Parkland Hollow, leaving a balance of \$90,804.00 in the account. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

APPLE BLOSSOM CIRCLE SUBDIVISION EXTENSION OF TIME

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, the Board accepted an extension of time, until January 31, 2016, in order for the Board to review the Subdivision Plan of Apple Blossom Circle and so that the Developer can resolve outstanding issues with several outside agencies. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

EXONERATION OF TAXES VETERAN'S EXEMPTION BOYER

Upon motion by Richard Celmer, seconded by Steve Pany, the Board approved the request from the Township Tax Collector Susan Gelinas, on behalf of David Boyer, for exoneration from collection of his Real Estate property tax of \$75.75. Mr. Boyer is a qualified applicant for Disabled Veterans Real Estate Property Tax Exemption. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

REFUND OF TAXES

Upon motion by Richard Celmer, seconded by Steve Pany, the Board approved the request from the Lehigh County Assessment Office and authorized the Treasurer to refund Township taxes based on a revised assessment, on the following property:

4525 Education Park Dr 2014 \$39.61

Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

REQUEST FOR PAYMENT #2 IRT EXTENSION PROJECT

An application for payment of \$49,470.98 has been requested from Livengood Excavators for the work on the Ironton Rail Trail Phase 2 Extension Project. Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, the Board approved the payment application. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

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IRT EXTENSION PROJECT

An application for a change order was recommended by Spotts, Stevens & McCoy with regard to the Ironton Rail Trail Phase 2 Extension Project. The change order will result in a net increase of \$33,223.55 and change the fence material from stockade to composite fencing and gates. Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, the Board approved the change order. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION ON HELIPORT BAN

The Township received a request from resident Ronald Roth, asking for a discussion on the possibility of revisions to the Zoning Ordinance to eliminate the creation of heliports within certain areas of the township.

- Ronald Roth, Rt 309, Schnecksville, expressed his concerns regarding the recent case before the Zoning Hearing Board involving a special exception to create a heliport. He implored the Board to immediately enact an ordinance to ban heliports from the AR and AR-I zones.
- Betty Schuster-Hanzlik, 4853 Hilton Rd, Schnecksville, spoke about the current request for a heliport and stated she wants the Board to end the possibility of any future applications for heliports or airports near residential areas
- Cheryl Burke-Gregory, 5459 Mill Creek Rd, Heidelberg Twp., stated she wants the area preserved and kept as natural as possible and does not want a heliport built.
- Homer Williams, 5646 Brook St, Schnecksville, also spoke out against the current heliport request and the possibility of future requests, he asked for a motion to investigate creating a new ordinance.
- Bill Shaffer, 5433 Loftin Dr., Heidelberg Twp., voiced his opinions of the current applicant and questioned what restrictions could be placed on residents if the air space was used for an active heliport.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Bartlett reported on the following items:

- road paving is continuing and any notification of road closures will be done by the contractors.
- several grass complaints are being addressed

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- The Planning Commission has requested a joint meeting with the Board of Supervisors at their August 25th meeting, however two members of the Board of Supervisors are unavailable for a joint meeting on that date.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR (Non-agenda items):

- Richard Semmel, Clearview Rd., Coplay, inquired about the developers who have not cut their fields.
- Nick Felegy, Tri Clover Rd., Orefield, reported that East Penn Trucking had a refrigerator truck running all weekend during the Memorial Day weekend.
- Ernest Boll, 4941 Glenview St., Schnecksville, stated the Board needs to take action on the deplorable condition of the Makovsky property at 4916 Glenview St.

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- Charles Banta, 4712 Hilton Rd., Schnecksville, complained about the grass not being mowed at the abandoned property at 4718 Hilton Rd.
- Joe Lampe, 4906 Mill Rd., Schnecksville, inquired about the status of his complaint regarding the Makovsky property at 4916 Glenview St.
- Dick Getz, Mauch Chunk Rd., Coplay, commented on the Township's decision to stop accepting logs and stumps at the yard waste center.

Supervisor Pany formally thanked the Zoning Hearing Board members for their efforts and their professionalism.

ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 9:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Norder, Secretary/Treasurer