

**NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING
FEBRUARY 11, 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 Organization and regular Board of Supervisors Meeting of January 5, 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. Tires will not be accepted for recycling until April 1st, 2015.
2. The Municipal Offices will be closed Monday, February 16th for the Presidents' Day Holiday.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, the January Treasurer's report was approved as presented and the Treasurer was authorized to disburse checks #9385-9517. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

**ORDINANCE 2015-2 DELINQUENT REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTION
ORDINANCE APPROVING COLLECTION PROCEDURES AND ADOPTING INTEREST AND
SCHEDULE OF ATTORNEY FEES AND CHARGES TO BE ADDED TO THE AMOUNT
COLLECTED AS PART OF UNPAID REAL ESTATE TAXES AND MUNICIPAL CLAIMS FOR
DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS AND APPOINTMENT OF PORTNOFF LAW ASSOCIATES TO
COLLECT UNPAID TOWNSHIP TAXES**

Supervisor Heintzelman recessed the regular meeting in order to conduct a Public Hearing to hear comments on the proposed Ordinance 2015-2.

Ordinance 2015-2 authorizes the collection procedures of unpaid real estate taxes and delinquent accounts and appoints Portnoff Law Associates to collect unpaid Township taxes. Atty. Young noted that the Ordinance was duly advertised and gave a brief synopsis of Ordinance 2015-2.

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 2015-2. 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.

**NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
FEBRUARY 11, 2015
PAGE 2**

OLD BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION 02-11-15 BROOK HILL ESTATES DEDICATION

Resolution 02-11-15 accepts dedication of the Right-of-Way along Rising Sun and Riverview Roads and Brook Hill Drive and Settlers Ridge for Brook Hill Estates, located in the lands of The Neffs National Bank.

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, Resolution 02-11-15 was adopted. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

NEW BUSINESS:

**RESOLUTION 02-11-15A RELEASES LEHIGH COUNTY TAX BUREAU FROM
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION**

Resolution 02-11-15A directs the Lehigh County Tax Claim Bureau not to collect delinquent real estate taxes on behalf of North Whitehall Township.

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, Resolution 02-11-15A was adopted. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

RESOLUTION 02-11-15B RETIREMENT PLAN AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT

Resolution 02-11-15B adopts an amendment and restatement to the North Whitehall Township Retirement Plan in order to bring the plan up to date regarding recent legislative and regulatory changes for retirement plans.

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, Resolution 02-11-15B was adopted. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

RESOLUTION 02-11-15C AMEND FEE SCHEDULE

Resolution 02-11-15C proposed an amendment to the schedule of fees under Planning Fees as follows: delete fees associated with item #2, Recycling Containers.

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, Resolution 02-11-15C was adopted. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

AUTHORIZATION TO DISTRIBUTE BUDGETED IRONTON RAIL-TRAIL ALLOCATION

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, the Treasurer is authorized to distribute the 2015-budgeted allocation of \$500.00 to the Ironton Rail-Trail Oversight Commission. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item..

AUTHORIZATION TO DISTRIBUTE SCHNECK HOUSE ALLOCATION

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, the Treasurer is authorized to distribute the 2015-budgeted allocation of \$2,000.00 to the Upper Lehigh Historical Society's Schneck House. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

**NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
FEBRUARY 11, 2015
PAGE 3**

RESOLUTION 02-11-15D

APPOINTMENT OF A CPA

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, the Board adopted Resolution 02-11-15D. Resolution 02-11-15D appointed the accounting firm of Kirk, Summa & Co. to conduct the North Whitehall Township fiscal year 2014 Audit. The intention to appoint was duly advertised. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Mr. Bartlett recommended that the Board consider amending Ordinance 2007-2 as it pertains to carrying/possessing fire arms in the rules for township parks. He also suggested adding a 'no hunting' entry in the revised ordinance.

MOTION - Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, the Board authorized the Manager and the Solicitor to review Ord. 2007-2 for consistency with state laws regarding carrying of weapons. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes.

- Jeanene Bauer, Jordan Rd., Orefield, asked if the township was fearful of a suit from the NRA if the ordinance is not amended, adding it seems like common sense not to allow firearms in a playground.
- Mark Hills, River Rd., Laurys Station, noted it is a constitutional right to carry a concealed weapon.

2. Mr. Bartlett announced that the Election Board is considering dividing the township's 3rd voting district into 3 districts and is looking for suitable new polling places.
3. The Manager asked the Board if they would consider creating a mandate that every resident must purchase the new reflective address sign offered by the fire companies.

MOTION - Upon motion by Ronald J. Heintzelman, seconded by Steve Pany, the Board directed the Manager to research the feasibility of this suggestion. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes.

- Rich Semmel, Clearview Rd., Coplay, stated he thought it is a good idea.
 - Mark Hills, River Rd., Laurys Station, thought the township should enforce the current rules and felt neighborhoods would look like government housing units.
 - Jeanene Bauer, Jordan Rd., Orefield, questioned if the township already has a rule about the size of house numbers.
4. Mr. Bartlett reminded residents that there are 3 ordinances regarding the removal of snow, parking on streets during snow events and shoveling snow onto roads. He also noted there is an ordinance in place that regulates the operating of ATVs and snowmobiles.
 - Rich Semmel, Clearview Rd., Coplay, asked how the township is notified after hours about bad snow conditions.
 5. Mr. Bartlett stated he has proposals from 6 companies regarding the update of the township website.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – No Report.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR (Non-agenda items):

- Matt Szuchyt, liaison for Senator Pat Browne introduced himself to the audience. It was noted that Sen. Browne now has a satellite office in the municipal building.

**NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
FEBRUARY 11, 2015
PAGE 4**

COMMENTS continued . . .

- Julie Hoffman indicated that plans for her lot consolidation were submitted to the Township and wanted to confirm what action the BOS took on the Brookhill Resolution tonight. Supervisor Pany replied that the offer of dedication was for the roadways and improvements in the right of way and also stated that the over land storm sewer was not accepted by the Township. Supervisor Pany stated that the landowner is responsible to maintain the section of storm sewer contiguous with the lot owners' property. Mrs. Hoffman indicated that she would have to follow-up with the Bank's attorney since she was not informed of that when she purchased from Neffs Bank. Mrs. Hoffman thanked the Solicitor for informing her that the plans did not contain all of the drafting error corrections and the Planning Engineer would review the technical revisions with Mrs. Hoffman's engineer, if he had not already done so.
- Matt Sorrentino, Castle Builders, requested a reduction in the subdivision escrow fee, to \$5,000.00, for Lot 15 in Parkland Hollow.

MOTION - Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Ronald J. Heintzelman, the Board granted the escrow reduction request. Roll call: Richard Celmer - no; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes, motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Norder, Secretary/Treasurer