

**NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
NORTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2015**

Chairman Ronald J. Heintzelman called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance 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 Meetings of August 3, 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. The annual Senior Activity Day will be held September 17<sup>th</sup> at the Schnecksville Fire Co. Pavilion.
2. Community Preparedness Day will be held at the St. Luke's West End Medical Center in South Whitehall Township on September 19<sup>th</sup>.
3. The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Laurys Station Community Day will be held at the Laurys Station Fire House Park on September 19<sup>th</sup>, at 2 PM.
4. PPL will be flying a helicopter over their power lines in the township, for a few days in September, as part of their routine maintenance.
5. The Board held an Executive Session on August 26, 2015, to discuss threatened litigation.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, the August Treasurer's report was approved as presented and the Treasurer was authorized to disburse checks # 10113-10250. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes. There were no public comments on this item.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**PARKLAND HOLLOW MINOR RESUBDIVISION EXTENSION OF TIME**

Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, the Board accepted an extension of time, until October 6, 2015, in order for the Board to review the Plan of Parkland Hollow Minor Resubdivision. 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 Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, 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 properties:

3746 Bellview Rd	2015	\$ 5.11
3075 Grist Mill Rd	2015	\$105.81
4951 Mulberry St	2015	\$ 26.28

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

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**AUTHORIZATION TO DISTRIBUTE BUDGETED ALLOCATIONS EMS & SR. CLUBS**

Supervisor Heintzelman made a statement noting that he would abstain from voting due to a potential conflict as he is a member of one of the fire companies. Upon motion by Steve Pany, seconded by Richard Celmer, the Treasurer was authorized to distribute the 2015 budgeted allocations to the Emergency Service Organizations and the Senior Citizens Clubs as follows:

Each fire company	\$30,000.00 = \$120,000.00
NOVA	50,000.00
ESO	4,000.00
Schnecksville Senior Citizens	950.00
Laurys Station Keen-agers	700.00

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

**D & L TRAIL COVE ROAD TRAILHEAD PARKING PROBLEM**

Robert Stiffler, Christopher Strohler and Scott Everett appeared before the Board to discuss the parking problems at the Treichler's Bridge D&L Trailhead. They requested the Board enact an ordinance and install signs prohibiting parking along sections of the road in that area. Other remediations to the parking problem were discussed.

- Mark Hills, River Rd., Laurys Station, noted examples of the parking problem near the trail head.
- Dan Nemeth, Clearview Rd., Coplay, inquired if a boat launch was allowed in that area.
- Tom Van Vreede, Church Drive, Coplay, voiced his concern for pedestrian safety if cars were allowed to cross the trail and that bikes are being ridden at high rates along the trail.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

• **REQUEST FOR PAYMENT #4 IRT EXTENSION PROJECT**

An application for payment of \$63,849.67 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.

- Mr. Bartlett presented an update on the IRT construction.
- He announced there will be a second meeting in October. The October 19<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held for the purpose of 2016 budget discussions.
- Mr. Bartlett requested the Board authorize him to begin the purchasing process for a new street-sweeper on the state contract. The cost is \$249,975.00 and he proposed to lease it with a \$1.00 buy-out.

**MOTION** - Upon motion by Ronald J. Heintzelman, seconded by Steve Pany, The Board authorized the Manager to proceed with the purchasing process for a new street-sweeper in order to receive it as early as possible for the 2016 season. Roll call: Richard Celmer - yes; Ronald J. Heintzelman - yes; Steve Pany – yes.

- Jeanene Bauer, Jordan Rd., Orefield, questioned if Supervisor Heintzelman had a conflict of interest by voting on this since he was also an employee.
- Jeff Barber, Manchester Place, Slatington, asked for details of the lease conditions and stated better rates may be obtained from the local banks.

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*MANAGER'S REPORT continued . . .*

- Don Travis, Manchester Place, Slatington, asked Mr. Bartlett to explain the benefits of leasing versus purchasing out right.
- Leonard Nuss, Old Post Rd., Coplay, stated the Manager should check with local banks for a better rate.
- Mr. Bartlett announced that Susan Gelinas, Tax Collector, has announced her resignation effective January 1, 2016. Anyone interested in being considered to fill her remaining term should contact the township.
  - Jeff Barber, Manchester Place, Slatington, inquired about the annual salary.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT** No report.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR (Non-agenda items):**

- Mark Hills, River Rd., Laurys Station, thanked Susan for her years of dedicated service.
- Jim Morris, Riverview Rd., Slatington, thanked the township for installing additional warning signs and noted that the batteries need to be replaced on the barricade lights.
- Dick Getz, Mauch Chunk Rd., Coplay, commented on the need for an ordinance against brake retarders, and asked if hunting was allowed in the township.
- Heather Skorinko, Clearview Road, Coplay, on behalf of The Friends of Loralwood, handed out proposed changes to the SALDO, that pertained to the issue of 55 and Older Adult Communities, which they would like the Board to consider adopting.
- Joe Lampe, Mill Rd., Schnecksville, inquired about the status of his complaint regarding the Makovsky property.
- Jeff Barber, Manchester Place, Slatington, asked if this issue was the threatened litigation discussed in the executive session. He also inquired about how much money was in the bond for Manchester Place road.
- Don Travis, Manchester Place, Slatington, noted that the SALDO states the bond must be updated each year.
- Dan Nemeth, Clearview Rd., Coplay, inquired about the township's response of the original submission by Strawberry Acres and how was it returned.
- Ronald Roth, Rt. 309, Schnecksville, inquired about the following items; who turns the flashing light to red at the Schnecksville Fire Company when they have a call; what is the status of the sewage plant; what is the status of the heliport law suit; and what is the status of the Copeechan shoot issue.
- Jeanene Bauer, Jordan Rd., Orefield, stated she heard the DEP denied sewage holding tanks for WalMart.
- Rich Semmel, Clearview Rd., Coplay, asked if the Board has decided on a date for a joint meeting with the Planning Commission.

**ADJOURNMENT** Meeting adjourned at 9:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Norder, Secretary/Treasurer