

7:00 PM

December 9, 2015

## SOUTH PYMATUNING TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the South Pymatuning Township Board of Supervisors was held December 9, 2015 at 7:00 PM in the municipal building with Chairperson Rose Lyons, Supervisors Brian Geisel and Laurel Alexander, and Secretary/Treasurer Karen Presley in attendance.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge to the Flag.

A motion was made by Rose Lyons and seconded by Brian Geisel to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2015 Regular Meeting, November 17, November 23, and December 2, 2015 Continuation Meetings and to dispense with the reading of them. Motion passed unanimously.

An Executive Session was held on November 18, 2015 to discuss personnel issues.

The Reorganization Meeting will be held Monday, January 4, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

### Public Comments:

Don Morrow wondered if the supervisors knew that the auditors must meet on January 5, 2016. The supervisors stated they knew.

Ed Wilson saw on the agenda a motion to discuss having the fire department audited. He said generally an audit for an organization that small is cost prohibitive.

Daniel Ser said he came to a June meeting and asked the supervisors to get back to him regarding the ditch on Buckeye in front of his house. Rose Lyons stated she made a motion in November to have that repaired. Laurel Alexander said our engineer recommended a certain way to fix the ditch and the supervisors need to make a decision.

Kurt Toth doesn't know why the township is paying an engineer to look at the problem.

Kevin Callahan said he prefers to have an engineer design something to fix the problem, as everything flows into his yard. He asked what decision the supervisors had to make. Laurel asked the other supervisors if they were going to repair the resident's driveway pipe issue and if they were going to do it for every resident who has a drainage problem, saying their decision will have implications for the township.

Daniel Ser said the gas company has been there three times marking the gas lines.

Kevin Callahan asked whose responsibility it is to fix the pipe since it is in the township's right-of-way. Brian Geisel said to his knowledge, the township has never worked on driveways. There was much discussion among the supervisors. Brian will talk to the road crew and Rose will contact Mr. Callahan and Mr. Ser next week.

Chip Mastrian clarified that the water fund owes the general fund \$75,000.00 which accumulated over many years. He appreciated the work done by Lindell and Laurel in preparing trend lines going back to 2001, but said they do not reflect the reality of the circumstances that changed the wage tax receipts.

Lindell Bridges agreed that certain circumstances change trend lines.

Ed Wilson said there is animosity between the fire department and the supervisors and asked Mr. Mastrian's opinion of how the fire department should be accountable to the supervisors regarding their finances. Mr. Mastrian said an audit is very expensive but the fire department should be responsible for providing financial statements to the supervisors.

Martha Stambaugh said in 2008 when her husband left the fire department there was \$119,000.00 in the accounts and nothing has been accounted for to the supervisors since then.

Mr. Mastrian said the supervisors need current financial communication from the township and the fire department to make decisions.

Kevin Callahan asked if the state budget not passing affects the township.

Kurt Toth asked about the status of the police vehicles. Laurel said she found a demo 2015 Interceptor for \$33,000.00 with less than one thousand miles. He then asked if the supervisors were going to raise taxes. Rose said to balance the budget,

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she proposed at the budget meeting last night to either lay off or raise taxes. She said it was decided to transfer

\$50,000.00 that was owed from the water fund, taxes were raised 1.75 mills, police vehicle maintenance and building maintenance were cut.

Bill Klumph said to get the Tahoe and another vehicle in for repairs and to delay action on purchasing a vehicle until the new supervisor starts in January. Laurel said to repair the vehicles will cost more than they are worth according to the Kelly Blue Book value.

Kurt Toth again asked about trading vehicles in and again was told that vehicles can't be traded using the COSTARS Program. Laurel suggested selling the old vehicles on the Municibid site.

Steve O'Brien said if the supervisors want to audit the fire department's books, he is fine with it, but asked if the supervisors could wait until after the department's elections in January. He said a few years ago the fire department bought a small tanker and put \$110,000.00 down on it.

Dennis Sump asked how the 1.75 millage increase will affect residents on average. The supervisors said it goes by the assessed valuation on an individual's tax card.

Ed Wilson said the increase will be minimal and that the supervisors may have to increase taxes again.

Kevin Callahan hopes there is no increase in taxes next year.

Chuck Vranich asked if the Board has pursued all avenues and tried to get a used police vehicle.

Bill Klumph said Southwest Regional may have used vehicles.

Kevin Callahan said he read an article saying it may be cheaper to rebuild a vehicle than to purchase new.

Laurel said they've taken the Tahoe to four different places and spent \$2700.00 this year on a Charger that is only worth \$6,000.00. She would like to see a rotation for purchasing new vehicles.

Police, fire, and zoning reports were read.

A motion was made by Rose Lyons and seconded by Brian Geisel to pay the bills totaling \$90,188.22. Motion passed unanimously.

Laurel Alexander read Attorney McConnell's resignation letter.

A motion was made by Rose Lyons and seconded by Brian Geisel to adopt Resolution accepting the proposal for an addition to the Agricultural Security Area. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Laurel to purchase a police SUV from Tri-Star for \$33,960.00. Motion died for lack of a second.

A motion was made by Rose Lyons and seconded by Brian Geisel to adopt a Resolution amending the previous Resolution fixing and levying the tax rate on real estate in the township. Motion passed with Laurel Alexander voting no.

A motion was made by Rose Lyons and seconded by Brian Geisel to adopt a Resolution for Plan Revision for New Land Development. Motion passed unanimously.

The motion on the agenda for authorizing advertising a Road Occupancy Permit Ordinance was tabled.

A motion was made by Rose Lyons and seconded by Brian Geisel to authorize advertising the reorganization meetings. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Laurel Alexander to have the fire department attach receipts or explanations to their 2015 expenditures. Motion died for lack of a second.

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A motion was made by Brian Geisel and seconded by Laurel Alexander to have the supervisors and fire department members go over the books of the fire department on an annual basis. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Rose Lyons and seconded by Brian Geisel to recess the meeting until December 29, 2015 at 5:30 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting recessed at 8:55 PM.

Visitors in attendance:

Ethan Koser	Martha Stambaugh	Don Morrow	Barb Meyer
Steve O'Brien	John Leyshon	Harry Mammarelli	Lindell Bridges
Bob Ridgway	Michaelene Harris	Tom Lyons	Erica Titus
Troy Titus	James Keating	Guyla Sump	Dennis Sump
Bob Layman	Pat Layman	Kurt Toth	Ed Wilson
Sheryl Wilson	Daniel Ser	Chuck Vranich	Bill Klumph
Chip Mastrian	Robert Rice	Kevin Callahan	Mike Derr

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Presley  
Secretary/Treasurer