

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Mark Stevenson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Other Supervisors present were Barbara Spencer, Andy Merritt and Todd Kirsten. Staff present were Susan Steele, Township Manager; Amy Smith; Township Clerk; D.J. Liggett, CRPA; Ron Hoover, OSPB and Joe Tylka, OSPB. Residents & others in attendance: Sara Walters, Centre County Farmland Preservation Office; Denny & Joan Thomson; Scott Reed, and Galen Corl.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Mr. Reed stated he has concerns with the recycling center on Ira Lane being used inappropriately for months. There has been an issue with cluttered litter and it puts a bad light on the neighborhood.

Mr. Corl echoed the same sentiments and commented he would like them moved and if not moved than cleaned up better.

Ms. Steele stated that over the summer the recycling center was checked regularly by the part time summer help and the township would have to pay this person over time to take care of this during the winter months. Ms. Steele commented staff has been checking this area and the County comes out twice a week to change out the bins. Ms. Steele stated if the Board would like her to have someone check on them as they did in the summer she can arrange this. Ms. Steele stated if the bins are full staff calls the recycling center and if residents see they are full and they call staff will contact the recycling center.

Mr. Merritt stated he had cleaned up the recycling area on Sunday and there was not much litter mixed within the leaves. Mr. Kirsten suggested doing a sweep once a week. Ms. Spencer commented that there only seems to be complaints from two gentlemen and not a constant steady stream of complaints. Ms. Spencer stated when there was a camera up there were no complaints and suggested the township look into purchasing a camera.

Mr. Corl state the litter had improved over the summer but did not help. Mr. Reed stated he did not want the recycling center in the neighborhood. Mr. Reed commented as the township grew so did the need for recycling and feels this particular location has outgrown the needs.

Mr. Stevenson commented there were two problems, one being litter around the fence and the bins being full too frequently. Mr. Stevenson stated he is not satisfied and is frustrated with the answer he has received as to why there cannot be a third bin and more frequent pickups. Mr. Stevenson stated he would like to know the pickup schedule and whether the schedule is adjusted for holidays. Mr. Stevenson stated he would like some feedback from the neighbors before considering whether to move the bins. Mr. Stevenson stated he would like to think about whether to keep the fence, have the road crew check the recycling area two times a week and have the transfer station come out three times a week. Mr. Stevenson directed staff to post in the next update a survey questioning whether citizens favored relocating the recycling bins from Ira Lane to the Township Municipal parking area.

Mr. Corl stated he would like to see the area cleaned as the Board of Supervisors would expect.

Mr. Stevenson suggested placing recycling bins at businesses or check the right of way at the Gamelands near the power lines and pricing a camera.

Ms. Steele reiterated that if the bins are full staff will contact the transfer station. The Board requested staff install a sign with the township's telephone number so if the bins are full citizens can call.

4. **MINUTES**

- ***MOTION: Mr. Kirsten moved to approve the meeting minutes of December 11th, 2014; Ms. Spencer seconded; Vote 4-0-0; Motion Carried.***

Secretary

- **MOTION:** *Mr. Merritt moved to approve the reorganization meeting minutes of January 5th, 2015; Mr. Kirsten seconded; Vote 4-0-0; Motion Carried.*

5. BILLS LIST

- **MOTION:** *Mr. Kirsten moved to approve the Bills List dated January 8th, 2015; Ms. Spencer seconded; Vote 4-0-0; Motion Carried.*

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

- **MOTION:** *Mr. Kirsten moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and 2014 end of year 2014 report; Ms. Spencer seconded; Vote 4-0-0; Motion Carried.*

7. APPOINT SUPERVISOR TO THE OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION BOARD

- **MOTION:** *Ms. Spencer moved to appoint Mr. Pisoni as the Board of Supervisor representative to the Open Space Preservation Board; Mr. Kirsten seconded; Vote 4-0-0; Motion Carried.*

8. APPOINT RON HOOVER TO THE OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION BOARD

- **MOTION:** *Ms. Spencer moved to appoint Mr. Ron Hoover to the Open Space Preservation Board; Mr. Kirsten seconded; Vote 4-0-0; Motion Carried.*

9. PRESENTATION BY SARA WALTER OF THE CENTRE COUNTY AG PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Ms. Walter commented the Farmland Preservation Program had turned 25 years old in 2014. There are 44 easements with 6,750 acres.

Ms. Walter provided a power point presentation to the Board reviewing the Farmland Preservation tools and techniques, easement options, preservation history, LESA guidelines and the municipal partnership program.

Ms. Walters discussed the municipal partnership program further. Ms. Walters discussed easements and commented there is no cost for the landowner to acquire a subordination. Ms. Walters commented that most banks will subordinate. Ms. Walters stated that the county will consider open space preserved within the township when reviewing criteria for a property. Mr. Tylka questioned whether it would make a difference if the tract size was one 200 acre tract or 2 100 acre tracts based on the formula. Ms. Walters stated she did not think it would make a difference. Ms. Walters stated partial exclusion of the property if you did not want to put the entire tract in the program. Ms. Walters commented that 50% of the property has to at least be 1-4 class soils. The County will pay all costs.

Ms. Walters stated that 243 acres of the Thomson property was eligible for the Centre County Farmland Preservation Program and the rest will be in a conservation easement through the Western Conservation Agency so the entire property will be protected.

Mr. Stevenson commented that this may be a good partnership for the County and Township.

10. PRESENTATION BY DENNIS AND JOAN THOMSON REGARDING PLACING THEIR PROPERTY IN THE COUNTY PROGRAM AND IN THE WESTERN PA CONSERVANCY AND POSSIBLE MOTION TO DIRECT OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION BOARD ADMINISTRATOR TO WRITE A LETTER OF SUPPORT ON BEHALF OF THE SUPERVISORS

Mr. Thomson commented that 243 acres were active tillable ground that was being preserved through the County. There are 350 acres that will be donated to the Western Conservation Agency. Mr. Thomson commented the property was currently in a trust that his children control but stated the children were every bit dedicated to the preservation that he and Ms. Thomson share.

Secretary

Mr. Stevenson congratulated the Thomsons and added that he applauds the excellent use of estate planning and commends them for their public spirit. Mr. Stevenson stated the Board would be happy to provide a letter of support but questioned whether it would be necessary. Mr. Thomson stated the letter would could make a difference in the event of a judgment call. Mr. Thomson stated the municipal partnership could give the Township the opportunity to multiply preservation.

- **MOTION:** Ms. Spencer moved to approve drafting a letter of support from both the Board of Supervisors and Open Space Preservation Board; Mr. Kirsten seconded; Vote 4-0-0; Motion Carried.

11. POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO PARKS ORDINANCE AND MOTION TO ADVERTISE FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON FEBRUARY 26, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M.

- **MOTION:** Mr. Kirsten moved to direct Township Solicitor to review parks amendments and direct staff to bring back to a future meeting; Ms. Spencer seconded; Vote 4-0-0; Motion Carried.

12. PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 2015-001, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PARTICIPATION OF HALFMOON TOWNSHIP IN THE PA TOWNSHIPS HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST

Mr. Stevenson opened the public hearing at 9:02 p.m. No comments or discussion. Mr. Stevenson closed the public hearing at 9:03 p.m.

- **MOTION:** Mr. Kirsten moved to approve Ordinance 2015-001; An Ordinance authorizing the participation of Halfmoon Township in the Pennsylvania Townships Health Insurance Trust (for life and disability) pursuant to the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Law; Mr. Merritt seconded; Vote 4-0-0; Motion Carried.

13. PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 2015-002, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PARTICIPATION OF HALFMOON TOWNSHIP IN THE PA PENSION TRUST

Mr. Stevenson opened the public hearing at 9:04 p.m. No comments or discussion. Mr. Stevenson closed the public hearing at 9:05 p.m.

- **MOTION:** Mr. Kirsten moved to approve Ordinance 2015-002; An Ordinance authorizing the participation of Halfmoon Township in the Pennsylvania Pension Trust (for life and disability) pursuant to the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Law; Mr. Merritt seconded; Vote 4-0-0; Motion Carried.

14. PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 2015-003, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PARTICIPATION OF HALFMOON TOWNSHIP IN THE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION GROUP TRUST

Mr. Stevenson opened the public hearing at 9:06 p.m. No comments or discussion. Mr. Stevenson closed the public hearing at 9:07 p.m.

- **MOTION:** Mr. Kirsten moved to approve Ordinance 2015-003; An Ordinance authorizing the participation of Halfmoon Township in the Unemployment Compensation Group Trust pursuant to the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Law; Mr. Merritt seconded; Vote 4-0-0; Motion Carried.

15. MOTION TO APPROVE PSATS PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPALITIES PENSION TRUST ACT 44 DISCLOSURE FORM AS THE TOWNSHIP'S ACT 44 DISCLOSURE FORM

- **MOTION:** Mr. Kirsten moved to approve PSATS PA Municipalities Pension Trust Act 44 Disclosure form as the Township's Act 44 Disclosure Form; Mr. Merritt seconded; Vote 4-0-0; Motion Carried.

Secretary

16. MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Steele provided her report with the Board

17. SUPERVISORS' REPORT

Ms. Spencer attended the UBEH COG meeting. She is Chair and Mr. Cowan is Vice-Chair.

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

- ***MOTION: Ms. Spencer moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m.; Mr. Kirsten seconded; Vote 4-0-0; Motion Carried.***

Secretary