

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, Todd Kirsten and Ben Pisoni. Staff present were Susan Steele, Township Manager; Amy Smith, Township Clerk; Scott Brown, Roadmaster and Don Franson, Township Engineer. Residents & others in attendance: Robert Musheno.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

There were no citizen comments.

4. **MINUTES**

- ***MOTION: Mr. Kirsten moved to approve the meeting minutes of May 22nd, 2014; Ms. Spencer seconded; Vote 5-0-0; Motion Carried.***

5. **BILLS LIST**

- ***MOTION: Mr. Kirsten moved to approve the Bills List dated June 12th, 2014; Mr. Merritt seconded; Vote 5-0-0-; Motion Carried.***

6. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

- ***MOTION: Mr. Kirsten moved to approve the Treasurer's Report June 12th, 2014 for the month of April 2014; Ms. Spencer seconded; Vote 5-0-0-; Motion Carried.***

Ms. Steele provided a mid-year budget to actual report and discussed two items she brought to the Boards attention regarding Real Estate Income and a miscellaneous expense.

7. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTION ON BOB MUSHENO TAX COLLECTOR MATTER**

Ms. Steele explained the tax certification process and stated there was an error that happened in July that resulted in taxes not being paid on a parcel for the supplemental taxes that came out in February. Ms. Steele stated that the amount due with interest and penalties is \$2006.00 and most of that expense is due to the State College Area School District. Ms. Steele explained that once the property taxes become delinquent there is a lien placed on the property but because there was a change in ownership the lien cannot be placed on the property owner that owes the taxes but stays on the property and new property owner. Ms. Steele stated that there are several options the Board could consider to help Mr. Musheno resolve this error. Ms. Steele explained the County and Township can forgive the taxes by drafting a Resolution requesting forgiveness for the taxes due which would be taken to the Centre County Board of Appeals for approval. Ms. Steele stated the School District can't forgive the taxes. Ms. Steele stated the bonding company will pay the taxes but will place a lien on his property. Ms. Steele stated if no one forgives the Township can't sue the property owner that owes the taxes but Mr. Musheno could and would the Township be willing to help reimburse for court costs.

Mr. Musheno stated when he knew he had made a mistake he contacted the County and the School District and was told not to worry about it. It was suggested that he write a letter to the homeowner and request he pay the taxes. Mr. Musheno stated he had brought this up again at his end of year review in January of 2014, and was again told not to worry about it. Mr. Musheno stated he received a phone call from Ms. Joyce McKinley, from the County, in April stating the County and Township would forgive the taxes. Ms. Steele commented she knew nothing about this until April and was told Mr. Musheno could make payments. Mr. Musheno stated it is not easy to come up with the funds that are due. Mr. Musheno stated he is willing to make payments to the School District but does not feel he should have to pay the interest and penalties. Mr. Musheno stated he had no formal training and did not know you could use the RBA system to generate certification letters as Ms. Steele is doing. Ms. Steele stated until she started collecting the taxes no one knew the accountability that tax collectors are held to. Mr. Musheno stated he had received nothing in writing stating what is owed in taxes.

Secretary

Ms. Steele stated a tax collector cannot get errors and omissions insurance. Ms. Spencer stated she is disappointed in the School District. Mr. Musheno stated he had collected approximately 5 million dollars in the 2 years he had collected for the School District and received .95 per parcel. Mr. Stevenson questioned who can forgive the School District taxes, the School Board?

Mr. Pisoni commented that a letter should be written to the previous homeowner that owes the taxes and request payment. Ms. Steele stated as of December 31st it is in the hands of the County. Mr. Musheno stated he had written a letter explaining that he had made a clerical error and requested payment. Mr. Kirsten stated he would like to start with writing a letter to the previous homeowner. Ms. Spencer stated the Board should appeal to the School District. Mr. Kirsten stated he understands the School Districts position and they can't go down the road of forgiveness. Mr. Stevenson requested Ms. Steele send a letter to the County requested a letter stating what taxes are due and amount and copy Mr. Musheno and the School District in response. Mr. Stevenson stated he would also like to front the costs to sue the previous homeowner. Ms. Spencer thanked Mr. Musheno for taking the tax collection job.

8. POSSIBLE MOTION TO APPROVE CATA BUDGET FY 2014-2015

Mr. Stevenson commented that a citizen had some wonderful ideas on promoting CATA in Halfmoon Township. Mr. Kirsten stated he would like the CATA bus app posted to the website and in the newsletter. Mr. Stevenson stated he would also like to see data on price savings on driving vs. the CATA bus. Mr. Kirsten stated he would like to promote this as long as the Township has the service.

- ***MOTION: Ms. Spencer moved to approve CATA Budget FY 2014-2015 in the amount of \$6,854.00 for Halfmoon Township's contribution; Mr. Merritt seconded; Vote 5-0-0; Motion Carried.***

9. PRESENTATION BY TOWNSHIP ENGINEER REGARDING SMITH ROAD WIDENING AND POSSIBLE MOTION TO APPROVE PENNDOT AND TOWNSHIP ENGINEER PREPARING SPECIFICATIONS FOR SAME

Mr. Franson reviewed the speed counts through the Smith Road curve and commented there were 559 cars traveling this curve daily. The average speed going east was 26.5 mph and going west 22 mph. Mr. Franson stated he drove Smith Road nine times with a ball bank indicator and based on those findings determined the recommended speed should be posted at 25 mph through the curve. Mr. Franson stated currently there are chevron signs but no signs to show there is a curve ahead. Mr. Franson stated anything over 10 mph it is required to have turn signs posted for each approach. Mr. Franson stated the chevron signs could also be replaced to increase the reflectiveness. Mr. Franson stated he recommends the arrow signs at the curves on Smith Road near Buckhorn Road and Marengo. Mr. Kirsten questioned what Mr. Brown thought of increasing the wideness at the curve. Mr. Brown stated people will drive faster but the road needs widened. There was discussion on widening from Autumn Meadow Park to Charlotte Street and the obstacles that would be in the way for that project.

Mr. Franson stated that the citizens that attended the open house opposed the widening. Mr. Franson stated he would like to see more data if the project is not done and then when the overlay is completed check the data again. Mr. Franson stated the Board should decide if they want to widen the curve so the overlay is done at the same time and not completed in two separate projects as this has effects on the seams. Mr. Kirsten stated he has concerns that the Board may be increasing speeds on the curve with the widening. There was discussion on stripping.

Mr. Brown stated he would like to pave to State Route 550 instead of stopping at Lutz Lane. Mr. Franson stated any project over \$100,000 would have to be prevailing wage and that type of paving would put the project over \$100,000.

- ***MOTION: Mr. Merritt moved to direct Township Engineer and Penn Dot District II to prepare specifications for overlay of Smith Road from Charlotte Road to Lutz Lane with widening from Charlotte to Tow Hill road; Mr. Pisoni seconded; Discussion: Mr. Kirsten requested review of costs; Ms. Steele commented the Board could hold off until next year and complete the whole project; Mr. Stevenson questioned that if the specs come in too high if the Board could drop the project and not have to approve; Mr. Franson stated the Board could request an alternate bid from State Route 550 to Lutz Lane; Mr. Merritt moved to amend the motion and include an***

alternate bid for overlay from State Route 550 to Lutz Lane with no widening; Vote 4-0-1; Messrs. Stevenson, yea; Pisoni, yea; Merritt, yea; Ms. Spencer, yea; Mr. Kirsten, nay; No abstentions; Motion Carried.

Mr. Kirsten questioned whether rumble strips could still be an option. Mr. Franson stated he would have to clarify if that can be done.

10. POSSIBLE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2014-08, AGILITY AGREEMENT WITH PENNDOT

Mr. Brown explained this is an agreement to barter services.

- ***MOTION: Mr. Kirsten moved to approve Resolution 2014-08, Agility Agreement with PENNDOT; Mr. Merritt seconded; Vote 5-0-0; Motion Carried.***

11. POSSIBLE MOTION TO APPROVE DRAFT AMENDED CENTRE REGION CODE AGENCY ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT

Ms. Steele explained that the Board already approved this at the COG General Forum so this is a formality.

- ***MOTION: Ms. Spencer moved to approve the draft amended Centre Region Code Agency Articles of Agreement and advertise for public hearing, Ordinance 2014-01, Amending the Code Articles of Agreement for June 26th, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.; Mr. Kirsten seconded; Vote 5-0-0; Motion Carried.***

12. MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Steele reviewed her report.

13. SUPERVISORS' REPORT

Mr. Merritt requested the sandwich boards be placed at the crosswalks on SR 550.

Ms. Spencer provided reports from the Port Matilda Fire Company, Fireman's Relief and UBEH COG. Ms. Spencer stated she has a copy of the Long Range Transportation Plan if anyone would like to review and commented that 322 to I-80 project was placed back on the plan.

Mr. Kirsten reminded citizens of the property tax rebate program and you can qualify if: 65 and older after December 31, 2013; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older. The income limit is \$35,000 a year for homeowners and \$15,000 annually for renters, and half of Social Security income is excluded. The website is revenue.state.pa.us or you can call 888-222-9910.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

- ***MOTION: Mr. Kirsten moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.; Ms. Spencer seconded; Vote 5-0-0; Motion Carried.***