

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2007

A special meeting of the Conemaugh Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 10:10 a.m. on September 4, 2007 by Chairman Calvin Gindlesperger. Board members present were Calvin Gindlesperger, Chairman, Wayne Kauffman, Vice-Chairman, and David Hart, Secretary/ Treasurer. Solicitor James Beener was present.

FLOOR OPENED TO PUBLIC COMMENT:

Albert Zuccolotto of 110 Wilshire Blvd. asked how the Supervisors could have a meeting to discuss the financing of police cruisers after they had already been purchased. Mr. Hart answered that the advertising for the financing for the purchase of new police cruisers had been approved by the Supervisors, the cruisers were purchased and paid for, and the General Fund would be reimbursed from the financing received. Mr. Zuccolotto asked if that was the way it was planned. Mr. Hart answered, yes. Mr. Zuccolotto felt it was done backward.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **OPEN & ACCEPT BID(S) FOR FINANCING OF CRUISERS:** Chairman Gindlesperger opened the following bids received for the financing of three 2007 Dodge Charger police cruisers:

1) **Dollar Bank Leasing Corp. of Pittsburgh, PA** – Amount financed - \$75,900.00 for a two-year lease/purchase of three police cruisers. Eight quarterly payments (in advance) of \$9,999.95/quarter with an interest rate of 6.13% - total of payments - \$79,999.60. \$100.00 in closing costs.

2) **Acme Auto Leasing LLC of North Haven, CT** – Amount financed - \$75,900.00 for a two-year lease/purchase of three police cruisers. Eight quarterly payments of \$10,159.14/quarter with an interest rate of 5.24% - total of payments - \$81,273.12. No additional costs.

There was some discussion as to why the bid with the lower interest rate had the Township paying back \$1,273.52 more than the bid with the higher interest rate with the same terms except that Dollar Bank required payments in advance.

There was a motion by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Gindlesperger, to accept the financing bid from Dollar Bank Leasing Corp. as described above, based on what appeared to be a lower payment and subject to further review of the inconsistency, for the lease/purchase of three 2007 Dodge Charger police cruisers. Roll call vote: Mr. Hart – yes, Mr. Gindlesperger – yes, and Mr. Kauffman – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

2. **ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 664:** There was a motion by Mr. Kauffman, seconded by Mr. Hart, to adopt Ordinance No. 664 amending the size of the Conemaugh Township Planning Commission from nine members to seven members due to the lack of interest. Roll call vote: Mr. Kauffman – yes, Mr. Hart – yes, and Mr. Gindlesperger – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 665:** There was a motion by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Kauffman, to adopt Ordinance No. 665 imposing fees, costs, and charges for filing of a

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municipal lien for failure to pay sanitary sewer assessments and charges. Solicitor Beener explained that the point of this Ordinance was to enable the Township to charge and collect the costs involved in filing municipal liens for failure to pay sanitary sewer assessments and charges from those residents who had liens placed against them. Roll call vote: Mr. Hart – yes, Mr. Kauffman– yes, and Mr. Gindlesperger – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Solicitor Beener had the following items to discuss:

1. The Township was successful on bidding at a tax sale for the May Lindstraum property, which was acquired for the Maple Ridge Sewer Project. This would eliminate the need for grinder pumps for approximately 9 – 10 properties in that Project area. The deed was recorded and as soon as Solicitor Beener had the deed, he would forward it on to the Township.

2. The Township had received no bids for the sale of used police weapons. There was a motion by Mr. Kauffman, seconded by Mr. Hart, to re-bid for the sale of the used police weapons. It was further decided to place the advertisement in the Tribune Democrat since the first advertisement was placed in the Daily American with no response. Roll call vote: Mr. Kauffman – yes, Mr. Hart – yes, and Mr. Gindlesperger – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Mike Quinn, Whitewater Park Project, had indicated that the Conemaugh Valley Conservancy might have a timing issue concerning payment to the contractor on the Greenhouse Whitewater Park Project. The Conservancy was undertaking a line of credit in order to pay the contractor. The funding was to come from a Growing Greener grant from DCNR, but it had not been received yet. This grant would be issued from DCNR to the Township to be passed on to the Conservancy.

There was a motion by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Kauffman, that the Conemaugh Township Supervisors approve the pledge of the proceeds or payments received by the Township from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources grant to the Township for construction of a whitewater course at Greenhouse Park. Such pledge shall be as collateral for a loan to the Conemaugh Valley Conservancy, which loan shall be the sole responsibility of the Conservancy to be used to pay contractors in the construction of the Whitewater Park. The Township shall not have responsibility for repayment of the loan, and the pledge approved hereunder shall be only with respect to payments or proceeds after they are received by the Township, and shall not be a pledge of the underlying grant. Upon receipt by the Township of a disbursement under the grant, the Township shall make payment with respect to the Conservancy loan to the extent that the Conservancy shall have made payment to the contractors on the whitewater course project, but for no other purpose. Such pledge shall be subject to any required approvals or consent by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and final legal review by the Solicitor of the loan and pledge documents. Roll call vote: Mr. Hart – yes, Mr. Kauffman – yes, and Mr. Gindlesperger – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mike Quinn noted that there would be no cost to the Township in this matter. He further stated that the Conservancy could possibly pay the contractors from the line of credit. Solicitor Beener said if the Conservancy would pay the contractors from the line of credit, the Township would transfer the grant money for those bill already paid directly back to the line of credit.

Albert Zuccolotto asked if any grants were applied for police consolidation. Mr. Hart said that Chief Jackson was pursuing those grants available, but he had to wait to apply for some grants until the largest municipality had come on board, which had been Shade Township. Mr.

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Zuccolotto wanted to know why the three new cruisers were needed right away. He stated it was a lot of money for these cruisers and the Township could have received grants to purchase them. Mr. Hart stated that the Township had already received a \$50,000.00 grant from Congressman Murtha's office, and also had received a donation of \$25,000.00 from Waste Management, which was above and beyond the tipping fees received, which helped pay for the cruisers.

John Mastillo of Jerome asked if the police department filed UCR's (Uniform Crime Reports). He said if these reports were not filed, the department could not receive grants. Mr. Mastillo informed the Supervisors that they should be sure they were receiving detailed police reports in order to track how much time the police were spending on each municipality they patrol, which would include enforcing ordinances. Solicitor Beener stated that the police department did not enforce ordinances for the other municipalities they patrolled. He further indicated that the police reports received by the Supervisors did list all the specifics for each municipality patrolled. It was also noted that the police department did file UCR's. Mr. Zuccolotto stated that they might file those reports, but not in a timely fashion.

The Supervisors went into an executive session at 10:35 a.m. to discuss a personnel matter. They returned at 11:47 a.m. Solicitor Beener stated that the Supervisors reviewed a personnel matter at length, but there would be no action at this time, noting that the matter was subject to more detailed review.

ADJOURNMENT:

There was a motion by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Kauffman, to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Submitted by,

David A. Hart, Secretary/Treasurer