

MINUTES OF THE HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING HELD ON APRIL 7, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hamilton at approximately 7:07 P.M. with the opening statement that the meeting had been duly advertised and met all the requirements of the Sunshine Law. Also present were: Deputy Mayor Kievit, Councilman Ross, Councilman Armstrong, Councilman Kula, Manager Marianne Smith, Clerk Jane Bakalarczyk and Township Attorney Fred Semrau.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. Discussion of Zoning Ordinance Relative to Swimming Pools – Township Attorney gave a recap of the revisions to the ordinance. He stated that there are two ordinances on tonight's regular meeting agenda for introduction. He stated that one ordinance eliminates the 15,000 sq ft restriction and the second ordinance addresses requirements for pools on lakefront properties. Township Manager stated that after the ordinances are introduced, copies will be mailed to the lake communities so that any concerns they may have can be addressed before second reading and the public hearing to be held on May 5, 2009.
- B. Discussion of Submission of COPS Hiring Recovery Program Grant – Captain Lee Gordon stated that she spoke with the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) and they confirmed that if the township were to apply for three officers now, the township could decline one officer once the grant was approved, if at that time the township felt that only two officers would be feasible. The Council asked Captain Gordon to obtain something in writing to that effect. The resolution authorizing the submission of the grant has been prepared and has been placed on the agenda for the regular meeting to follow.
- C. Title 39 Enforcement - Lieutenant Kenneth Brenzel stated that some sections of Indian Fields (Phase II) have inadequate parking and suggested that the Council adopt an ordinance to address this issue. Lieutenant Brenzel asked the Council for authorization to submit information to the Township Engineer to have formal maps prepared. The Council agreed with his request. An ordinance has been prepared by the Township Attorney and has been placed on the agenda for the regular meeting to follow.
- D. Discussion of Public Works Staffing Levels – Robert F. Schultz, Public Works Director stated that there have been significant price increases in materials such as salt and asphalt. He stated that he would like to complete a survey this year, for the Council's review, which will entail compiling a complete database of the township's infrastructure and the estimated costs involved with the projects that need to be completed. He stated that with regard to the recycling program, he sees a need to add a fourth route, but he feels that staffing should stay status quo this year.
- E. Fire Department Company 1 Building Improvements – The Township Manager stated that what the fire department would like to do first is to redesign the building. She stated that the fire department has some money saved from the township's mortgage contributions and they would like permission from the Council to use that money to hire an architect to redesign the improvements. The Council was in agreement to grant this request.
- F. Discussion of Development of Action Plan Relative To Block 84, Lot 33 and Construction/Health Violations – The Township Manager stated that there have been numerous complaints from residents regarding this property. She stated that because of health and safety issues, our Construction Official and our Health Inspector did enter the premises under a search warrant from Judge Mulhern to inspect the premises. Township Manager supplied the Council with a copy of the report of their findings. Township Attorney reviewed the next steps that may be taken by the Council, as the Board of Health, regarding this property. Council suggested to have the Township Attorney move forward with the necessary steps to bring this matter before the Board of Health.

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- G. Hardyston Township Board of Education 2009 Budget/Referendum - Township Manager stated that since the Board of Education also had a meeting tonight, she was supplied with copies of their presentation for the Council to review. She also stated that the Board of Education informed her that they have received a commitment from the State to cover 40% of the cost of the roof replacement, and they hope to recover most of the remaining 60% through their lawsuit. The School Budget and Referendum will be voted on at the School Elections to be held on April 21, 2009.
- H. Status of COAH Planning – Township Manager stated that Carrine Piccolo, Assistant Planner has been working with SEED Corp. She stated that part of the Township’s plan is to do some group homes, and this particular agency is looking to purchase two homes in Hardyston. They are looking for a contribution of \$30,000 per bedroom which is equivalent to a unit of COAH housing. She stated by doing this, the Township would pick up eight units of COAH credits. The Council agreed to invite SEED Corp. to the next meeting for further discussion.
- I. Solar Energy Generating Facility Update – Township Manager stated that she has a meeting next week with Dave Klochner of Enerative and he will have the draft of the specs and she hopes to have them for the Council’s review at the next meeting.
- J. Redevelopment of Former Municipal Building Site – Township Manager stated that Bob F. Schultz, DPW Director, is working on getting new proposals from the companies for demolition and also working on developing the bid specs for the building.
- K. Discussion – 2009 Budget – The Council agreed that a special workshop meeting should be held on April 28, 2009 for further budget discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT (in accordance with P.L. 2002, c.80): A motion was made and seconded to open the meeting to the public. All in favor. Motion carried. No public comment. A motion was made and seconded to close the meeting to the public. All in favor. Motion carried.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: No further comments.

ADJOURNMENT: At approximately 9:00 p.m., a motion was made by Kievit to adjourn seconded by Ross. All in favor. Motion carried.

Jane Bakalarczyk, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk