

MINUTES OF THE HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 14, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hamilton at approximately 7:00 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 Kula, Councilman Miller, Councilman Cicerale, Councilman Verrilli, Manager Marianne Smith, Clerk Jane Bakalarczyk and Township Attorney Fred Semrau of Dorsey & Semrau.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Sale of Assets – Real Estate and Municipal Equipment Auction

Township Manager stated that the township held a real estate auction of certain lands and properties which are no longer needed for public use by the township. She stated that there were no interested parties willing to purchase any of the properties at the minimum asking bid. She stated that she will discuss lowering the minimum asking bid with the Tax Assessor. She stated that some adjacent property owners of those properties might be interested if the price was lowered. She also stated that an online auction has been scheduled for next week to auction off some of the EMS equipment.

B. Economic Development Commission – Proposed Brochure

Councilman Miller stated that the Economic Development Commission has been working on a new brochure. He stated that this is the third brochure that has been done to date. He shared a copy of the new brochure with the Council for their review. He stated that the EDC is ready to go to press and they have received some good quotes. He stated that the printing will be paid for from the EDC budget and no additional funding will be required.

C. Littell Community Center Property – EMS/St. Clare's Vehicle Parking

Township Manager stated that currently the township allows St. Clare's to use a room in the Littell Community Center while they are waiting for calls. She stated that the rig doesn't necessarily need heated space, but it will need covered space, particularly in the winter. She stated that there is a bay available to rent that is owned by the Department of Military Affairs. She also stated that the conversation of the township purchasing the building was brought up again by the Department of Military Affairs representative. The Council was in agreement that this is something that the township should look into and discuss once all the information has been gathered.

D. Crystal Springs Bonding

Township Manager stated that the Township Engineer is working on a report for the Council to address updated performance bonds for the bonds currently in place. She stated that the report will be ready in early January.

E. Firehouse Renovation Update

Township Manager and William Hickerson of the Hardyston Township Fire Department provided the Council with an update of the progress of the firehouse renovation.

F. Abandoned and Vacant Property Ordinance Amendment

Township Attorney recommended that the township consider amending the current ordinance to allow for graduated filing fees each year a property stays vacant. He stated that other towns already have that stipulation in place. It was the consensus of the Council to have the Township Attorney prepare a sample ordinance amendment to include the graduated payments for their consideration.

**MINUTES OF THE HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
HELD ON DECEMBER 14, 2016**

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

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.

ADJOURNMENT: At approximately 7:50 p.m., a motion was made by Miller to adjourn seconded by Kula. All in favor. Motion carried.

Jane Bakalarczyk, RMC/CMC
Municipal Clerk