

**Township of Crescent
Board of Commissioners
Monthly Business Meeting
April 17, 2012**

On April 17, 2012 the monthly meeting of the Crescent Township Board of Commissioners was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Crescent Township Municipal Building, 225 Spring Run Road, Crescent, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

ROLL CALL

Those present: Commissioners: President Bill Cook, Vice President Karen Patton,
Commissioners Joe Sabol, Diane Cvengros and Jerry Keller

Secretary/Manager: Patience Eckhardt

Solicitor: Richard Start

Commissioner Cvengros announced that she would be recording the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2012 Regular Business meeting minutes as submitted was made by Commissioner Sabol and seconded by Commissioner Cvengros. A voice vote was taken and all Commissioners were in favor of the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Patton asked for clarification between the treasures report and a line item on the budget. Secretary/Manager Eckhardt responded that a deposit had been adjusted due to a miss posting. A motion to accept the March 31, 2012 Treasurer's Report with adjustment was made by Commissioner Patton and seconded by Commissioner Cvengros. A roll call vote was taken and found all Commissioners were in favor of the motion.

LIST OF BILLS

The list of bills was presented. The funds removed from the General Fund for the month of March were \$112,434.37. The funds removed from the General Fund prior to the monthly meeting were \$36,436.05. Invoices due total \$4,409.73 and the estimated Payroll for April is \$34,000.00. Total disbursements from State Liquid Fuels Fund: \$3,943.09. Total estimated bills for April are \$78,788.87.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Commissioner Cvengros and seconded by Commissioner Keller. A roll call vote was taken and found all Commissioners in favor of the motion.

CORRESPONDENCE

During the month of March the Secretary/Manager's Office received the following correspondence. We received the Creswell Heights Joint Authority meeting Minutes for January and February, the Valley Ambulance Authority minutes, The Moon Township Municipal Authority Minutes as well as a notice from the Char-West COG that our year 38 Structure Demolition Grant has been approved. We also received a letter from Jan Rea informing us of the realignment of districts within Allegheny County and introducing herself as our new Allegheny County representative.

SECRETARY/MANAGER'S REPORT

During the month of March the Crescent Township Secretary/Manager's Office completed the following tasks. The office dealt with several ongoing issues with the ACT 32 implementation and answered all of the inquiries from residents pertaining to filing their taxes for the 2011 tax year as well as the first quarter 2012 wage taxes. We contacted several legislators in an attempt to receive letters of support for our ongoing efforts in obtaining a grant through the Allegheny County Community Infrastructure and Tourism Fund. The office sent Debra Garuccio her letter of exoneration, as well as dealt with several property maintenance violation notices, finished the inspection of the structure demolition of 911 Harper, completed the SHACOG Spring Commodities annual survey, received our 2011 Actuarial Valuation Reports from PMRS as well as saw to the payment of all bills, completion of payroll and all of the day to day activities of the Township.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Start reported that in regards to McCutcheon Way, discussion has continued with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regarding both the Township's Grant Application as well as repair of the roadway. A meeting will be held with the Corps representatives in the immediate future. Solicitor Start stated they have successfully negotiated the withdrawal of the charges of an Unfair Labor Practice that had been filed against the Township with the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board. He let the board know there has been continuous discussion regarding Lamar Advertising relevant to an extension of the advertising agreement that the Township has with Lamar, but later discussion will happen under New Business. Solicitor Start stated he is

monitoring the litigation pending in Commonwealth Court which challenges the portion of House Bill 1950 preempts municipal zoning regulations and he shall continue to advise the Township regarding the status of this matter. Solicitor Start made the board aware this will have an impact on the Township's local ordinance. Commissioner Cook asked if this is going to directly affect the Township. Solicitor Start responded, with his understanding of the Court's statements that were made which are disheartening, one of the justices observed was the Judge did not believe the plaintiffs, which are the challenging municipalities, had demonstrated that they have a strong likelihood of prevailing. When the court addresses an injunction that is one of the things they have to consider and for the Justice at this early stage render an observation that the Judge did not think the plaintiffs had a good chance at winning. This is not sounding good for the Township so far as the argument of the municipality to keep zoning control within the municipality. Commissioner Cook responded with his understanding, if the Court was to win, the Township would not be able to regulate drilling.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Commissioner Bill Cook reported on behalf of Lennon Smith Souleret that pertaining to MS4, the Pa DEP issued a permit extension of 9 months to March 14, 2013. The new permit requires more general mapping of the storm sewer system; preparation of a written TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) Plan for municipalities that discharge to impaired Waters with a TMDL; preparation of written plans for addressing each minimum control measure; adoption of a Stormwater Maintenance Ordinance and Stormwater Management Ordinance or submittal of a certification from the Township Solicitor that certain checklist items are included in the municipality's Stormwater Ordinances already; and sampling of each outfall once during the permit cycle for municipalities that are renewing their permit and twice for new permittees. The Notice of Intent (NOI) for permit renewals including the TMDL Plans must be submitted to the PA DEP by September 14, 2012.

Regarding the 2011 Road Program, a review of the restoration was completed. Growth was evident on all roads. LSSE has transmitted to the Township Partial Payment No. 4 (Final) in the amount of \$6,459.23 as noted in LSSE's letter dated April 13, 2012.

Pertaining to CD Year 37, all work is complete. LSSE recommends Partial Payment No.1 (Final) in the amount of \$4,497.00 as noted in LSSE's letter dated March 22, 2012. A motion is required by the Township recommending payment prior to the Char-West Council of Governments issuing payment. Commissioner Cook stated this motion is under New Business further in the Agenda.

In regards to McCutcheon Way, the Township has previously applied for and was notified that two of the grants applied for were denied funding. Garvin Boward was requested by the Township to provide a revised cost for the work based on the current conditions of the site. The revised cost for the slide repair was provided by Garvin Boward for approximately \$200,000.00 for the rock buttress embankment. This cost does not include engineering, inspection and permitting which would be approximately \$25,000.00 to \$50,000.00 additional.

Commissioner Cook ended the report by informing the Board in regards to the Sign Management Plan, the Public Works department continues to work in the Township mapping out the street and multiple signs that will need replaced with this project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY

Commissioner Joe Sabol reported that during the month of March there were 172 calls for service, 172 total complaints for the month, 8 calls to assist other police departments and 5 medical calls. They issued 46 warnings for traffic offenses, 0 non-traffic citations, 28 traffic citations, and 0 parking citation/warnings issued for a total of 74 citations/warnings issued for the month. He reported that there were 6 arrests for the month of March with three being a DUI, one for a Fugitive Warrant, one for Receiving Stolen Property, along with one for Ordinance Violation. Commissioner Sabol reported that the vehicles travelled a total of 3,951 miles with car #105 having the air filter and oil filter replaced by DPW. Snow tires were removed; front tires rotated to rear; 2 existing regular tires placed on front by Grady's Auto Body. #106 having the snow tires removed; front tires rotated to rear; and 2 new tires placed on front by Goodyear. Car #107 having snow tires removed; front tires rotated to rear; and 2 new tires placed on front by Goodyear.

On Saturday March 17, 2012 from 9PM -3AM, Officer Suder, along with other officers from the West Hills DUI task force, participated in a DUI checkpoint located in Ohio Township.

Mandatory update classes were attended by Officers McConnell, Suder, Zurynski, Smailbegovic, and Chief Zimmel.

PUBLIC WORKS

Commissioner Cook reported in the Month of March, the Crescent Township Public Works Department worked on and completed multiple projects and tasks. The Department helped maintain cleanliness along the road ways by removing trash along Prospect and other Township roads. The deck hockey rink was completed along with an oil change in one of the police vehicles and light bulbs changed in the police station. The Department continued the sign mapping for the Township Sign Management Plan. Routine maintenance was completed on the Township vehicles. Work was completed on multiple retention ponds in the Township. Benches were installed in Huntsridge Park along with the leaf removal being completed.

FINANCE

Commissioner Patton reported the Township has just completed the first quarter of the budget and things are looking quite well. The Townships anticipated revenues are slightly higher this

quarter at 35.14% than in 2011. A contributing factor is that The Township moved the Real Estate Tax due date. As of the end of March the Township received approximately \$101,000.00 of the property taxes. The Township's 1% Sales Tax Allocation revenue has also a slight increase this quarter which tells us that people are spending their money. Also, expenditures are very similar to 2011's expenses but the Township Departments still need to be very cautious on their spending because it will still be awhile before The Township receives all of our Real Estate Taxes and our garbage revenue.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Commissioner Cvengros reported that the Crescent Township Recreation Board did not meet in the Month of April. The Easter Party was held April 7, 2012 there were refreshments crafts and games for the children. A thank you to the Recreation Board and all its members and the volunteers for making the party such a good time for all. Commissioner Cvengros stated she received many compliments from residents there that they had a very nice time.

The Board would like to extend its sincere appreciation to everyone for several reasons. First, the Board would like to thank everyone who showed up on Palm Sunday to assist the Board with cleaning and sprucing up Riverview Park and Huntsridge Park. A special thank you goes out to Boy Scout Troop 905 who worked at Riverview.

Secondly, the Board appreciates everyone who supported the Board with two recent fund-raising events. On Thursday March 22, 2012 the Board hosted a Tupperware Bingo party. A week later the Board concluded their sale of Globe Car Wash tickets. The Board would also like to thank everyone who supported them by selling tickets and/or purchasing Tupperware.

The Board voted to obtain bids for the removal of a tree in Huntsridge Park that has died and is deemed a safety hazard. The Board is also getting a price on replacing the mulch at Huntsridge. Money for these two projects is to come from the Board's fund-raising efforts.

It was also decided that the board needs to purchase a storage cabinet for supplies. This cabinet will be placed in the Multi-Purpose Room and secured with a lock. A motion was made for this purchase and carried unanimously.

The Board's next meeting will be at 7:00p.m. Tuesday, May 12, 2012 in the Multi-Purpose Room. All are welcome to attend.

CRESCENT TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

No report

VALLEY AMBULANCE AUTHORITY

No report

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Denny Lewis reported that he spoke to J.R from Valley Ambulance and with the Ambridge/Aliquippa Bridge being closed there was a concern about response time. He stated the response time has not been affected and the time is as usual. Mr. Lewis wanted to address comments that have been made in the Township about an incident over the weekend involving one of the police officers from the Crescent Township Police Force. There was an accident Saturday night in South Heights Borough and it has been said that Crescent Township Volunteer Fire Department did not respond. Mr. Lewis stated the accident occurred outside of the Township and Hopewell responded to the incident.

Mr. Lewis spoke previously about a drill that is to happen at the power plant and after attending a meeting, Mr. Lewis reported that drill will happen later on this summer and he will inform the Township of times & dates.

Mr. Lewis brought up a concern dealing with the weather in the County. Allegheny County has put out a "No Burning" notice because of the dry and windy conditions. Mr. Lewis asked Chief Zimmel if this was a police issue that could be enforced. Commissioner Cook asked if recreational fires were allowed inside the Township and Mr. Lewis responded that recreational use should not be a problem as long all regulations are followed.

OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Cook wanted to comment on the first item under New Business. Commissioner Cook held a small discussion on the proposed contract Lamar sent the Township with the revisions the Township requested. After some explanation a Motion to enter into the proposed contract with Lamar Advertising keeping both shelters in the Township was made by Commissioner Cook and seconded by Commissioner Sabol. A roll call vote was taken and found all Commissioners in favor of the Motion.

The second item under New Business is the discussion and motion on the funds budgeted for the 2012 Road Program. Commissioner Cook went into some detail about how at the last meeting the Board voted on suspending the 2012 Road Program because of the uncertainty from McCutcheon Way along with engineering costs. Commissioner Cook stated that if the Township

were to not use this money on Township roads this year, he would like to see this money placed into a separate fund account and use it next year along with funds budgeted from next year's budget. Commissioner Patton asked for clarification on when the funds would be moved, asking if the Board wanted the funds to be moved now or wait until the end of the year. Commissioner Cook responded that he did not want to see the money spent on anything other than Township roads but he did not care when the money would be moved. Secretary/Manager Patience Eckhardt stated that it was her understanding based off the motion that is decided and made tonight, the office will open up another bank account that will be utilized to place any unused funds that were budgeted for the Road Program that were not used for the Road Program into this fund at a later date. The entire \$50,000.00 would not be moved all at once, because at this time if some of these funds were needed to be used for engineering costs due to McCutcheon Way or the like, the difference would be transferred at the end of the year.

A motion to transfer the unused balance of the \$50,000.00 budgeted for the 2012 Road Program into a separate account for the 2013 Road Program at a later date was made by Commissioner Cook and seconded by Commissioner Patton. A roll call vote was taken and found all Commissioners in favor of the motion.

The next item under New Business is the Motion to approve the "Clean up Crescent" event for June 7, 2012 in memory of David A. Davie. The event would last from 10 a.m. and end approximately around 3 p.m. depending on the amount of volunteers who show up. A request was also made for the use of the Multi-Purpose room after the event for a place for the volunteers to have a cookout.

The motion to approve the "Clean up Crescent" event was made by Commissioner Sabol and seconded by Commissioner Cvengros. A roll call vote was taken and found all Commissioners in favor of the motion.

Item four and five under New Business are being combined and pertain to the discussion and motion on the transfer of \$10,000.00 to the Crescent Township Police Vehicle Fund and the transfer of \$10,000.00 into the Crescent Township Public Works Vehicle Fund. Commissioner Patton explained last year when the Township was working on the budget there were several discussions on being prepared and proactive that the Public Works and the Police Department would be able to purchase vehicles by putting money aside so eventually the funds could be built up. Each year the Township would like to put aside \$10,000.00 each into the separate funds for the department's future vehicle purchases.

A motion to transfer \$10,000.00 into the Police Vehicle Fund and \$10,000.00 into the Public Works Vehicle Fund was made by Commissioner Cvengros and Seconded by Commissioner Patton. A roll call vote was taken and found all Commissioners in favor in the motion.

Item six under New Business is the Motion to approve the final payment to T.A. Robinson for the 2011 Road Program in the amount of \$6,459.23. Commissioner Cook reported that this money was held back due to restoration and a recommendation from the Township Engineers was made to pay T.A. Robinson their balance.

A motion to approve the final payment to T.A. Robinson for the 2011 Road Program in the amount of \$6,459.23 was made by Commissioner Cvengros and Seconded by Commissioner Patton. A roll call vote was taken and found all Commissioners in favor of the motion.

Item seven under New Business is the motion to approve the final payment in the amount of \$4,497.00 for the structure demolition of 911 Harper Road as completed through the CDBG Grant Year 37 and the Char West COG. Commissioner Cook reported everything is completed and the Board has a recommendation to pay the final payment.

A motion to approve the final payment in the amount of \$4,497.00 for the structure demolition of 911 Harper Road as completed through the CDBG Grant Year 37 and the Char West COG was made by Commissioner Patton and seconded by Commissioner Cvengros. A roll call vote was taken and found all Commissioners in favor of the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dorothy Shutka of 721 Pine Street, Crescent, PA 15046 wanted to bring to the Boards attention a grave concern about the more recent dumping of concrete, debris, and pet feces in what she believes may be a Township road and or Township Right of Way located at the residence of 717 Elm Street. Dorothy mentioned she brought this matter to the Police Department in September of 2011 in hopes they could do something about it. Discussion between the Board and Dorothy was held and the Board responded that this matter would be looked into further concerning the hazards this may cause but without knowing all information and facts surrounding the matter no decision could be made at this point in time.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Jerry Keller stated he is an active member of the Military Affairs Coalition and part of the coalitions' mission is to save the 911th Airlift Wing and the 171st Air Refueling Wing in Pittsburgh, PA from being closed. Commissioner Keller stated there are several US Congressional Districts involved such as Congressmen Murphy, Altmire and Critz as well Senators Toomey and Casey. Also, the Governor's office is involved and has directed all State Elected Officials to provide support as well. The Military Affairs Coalition meets on Wednesday's at Moon High School.

One avenue of approach out of several moving forward is to have a BRAC hearing which will force a comparison of bases based on numbers such as efficiency, effectiveness, basic costs, etc. In order to help move toward a BRAC, getting signatures on a petition asking for a BRAC is necessary. Commissioner Keller said he has a petition with him and invited anyone who wishes to sign it to see him after the meeting is adjourned.

Commissioner Keller also mentioned he will be speaking in Moon Township about the Military Affairs task of saving the 911th and the 171st and said if anyone is interested in attending, see him after the meeting and he will give them the particulars regarding the time and place.

He also mentioned there will be a rally for the 911th and 171st on 5 May, 2012 at Cargo A at the Pittsburgh International Airport and would appreciate the support of anyone who can attend the event.

Commissioner Cvangros also mentioned that First Lady Michelle Obama made a stop at the base and met with the service members and their families.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Sabol. A voice vote was taken and all commissioners were in favor of the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Certified as a true and correct copy.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patience Eckhardt
Secretary/Manager

(Seal)