

**Township of Crescent
Board of Commissioners
Monthly Business Meeting
September 10, 2015**

On September 10, 2015 the monthly meeting of the Crescent Township Board of Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Crescent Township Municipal Building 225 Spring Run Road, Crescent, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

Crescent resident Larry Fadool led the Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

Those present - Commissioners: President Jerry Keller, Vice-President Todd Miller, Joe Sabol, Bill Cook and James Meredith

Secretary/Manager: Kellie Crago

Solicitor: Richard Start

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Commissioner Keller awarded a certificate of appreciation to Crescent resident Larry Fadool. He kindly designed and installed a display case in the lobby of the municipal building. Inside the case is Peter Shouses' pistol which has been handed down from generation to generation. Ed Belgie was the last known owner of the pistol. He recently passed away and transferred the ownership of the pistol to Mr. Fadool. Mr. Belgie's wish was for the township to display the piece for all residents and visitors to see.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Keller asked for a motion to approve the August 13, 2015 business meeting minutes. Commissioner Miller made a motion and was seconded by Commissioner Sabol. Commissioner Cook abstained from the vote since he was absent from the meeting. A roll call vote was taken and found all four remaining commissioners in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Keller asked for a motion to approve the August 19, 2015 workshop meeting minutes. Commissioner Meredith made a motion and was seconded by Commissioner Sabol. Commissioner Cook abstained from the vote since he was absent from the meeting. A roll call vote was taken and found all four remaining commissioners in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report dated August 31, 2015 was presented to the Board for their approval. A motion to accept the August 2015 Treasurer's Report as received was made by Commissioner Sabol and seconded by Commissioner Miller. A roll call vote was taken and found Commissioners in favor of the motion.

LIST OF BILLS

The list of bills was presented

The funds removed prior to the monthly meeting	\$ 42,280.80
Invoices due	\$ 7,292.80
Estimated payroll for September	\$ 44,000.00
Highway Fund for street lights	\$ 3,485.46
The total estimated bills for September	\$ 97,059.06

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Crago reported the office received the following information for the month of August: meeting minutes from Moon Township Municipal Authority and Creswell Heights Joint Authority, correspondence from Mooncrest Neighborhood Programs, the Pittsburgh Airport Area Chamber of Commerce, the UPMC HAPPI program, the Legislative locator, the Cohen Law Group, the PA Liquor Control Board and a thank you note from the Collins Family.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Crago reported the office completed the following in the month of August: handled Right to Know requests, completed lien letters, handled an unemployment claim, completed the sale of the 1997 PW truck, reviewed health insurance options for the township, received a zoning validity appeal, worked on the CDBG pre-application, removed a township lien from a residents' property, worked on a reassessment appeal, discussed Stormwater and MS4 with the Senior Citizen group, completed the transfer of the new police cruiser, handled all the accounts payable, receivable, payroll for the township along with resolving any residents concerns. She also informed the residents the township office will be closed on Thursday Sept 24 and Friday Sept 25. The office staff will be attending the annual Joint conference for Townships, Boroughs and Authorities.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Start reported their office has reviewed two (2) appeals filed by SBA Towers concerning the placement of a communication tower and will be researching legal issues with those appeals. They also reviewed the legal issues associated with the potential change in health insurance for township employees, reviewed Right to Know requests and provided legal advice, and reviewed the employee benefit resolutions that are on the agenda for this evening.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Commissioner Miller reported for Public Safety.

- Calls for service 132
- Total complaints for the month 133
- Total citations/warnings issued 26
- Arrests 4 (2 counts of simple assault and harassment, DUI and

Possession of small amounts of marijuana)
3600 miles

- Police cars traveled

The following repairs were made on the cruisers:

- Car 106: re-secured equipment box to deck lid – DPW; new Accutrak placed in service – S&D Calibration; replaced the fire extinguisher due to a vehicle fire from a motor vehicle accident- Office Tice
- Car 107- New police vehicle placed in service August 13th; equipment box and shelf installed – DPW

Written and physical agility tests for 11 part time police applicants were conducted on Wednesday August 12 at the police academy. All applicants passed the physical agility test and 6 of the 11 applicants passed the written exam. Interviews with the Civil Service committee will be scheduled in the near future.

On August 1st from 10:30-3:30Pm, Officer Sheers participated in a DUI checkpoint held in Robinson Township. On Friday August 14th, from 11PM-4AM, Captain Longerman participated in a DUI roving various traffic violations. Both operations were attended as part of the West Hills DUI Task Force.

PUBLIC WORKS

Commissioner Meredith reported for the Public Works department. For the month of August the workers completed the following:

- Worked on the Agility agreement with PennDOT; mowed Bocktown Rd., excavated ditches along the roadway and cleared inlets on Bocktown Rd.
- Crack sealed Crest Dr, Starr Rd., Prospect St., Laurelridge, Cloverdale, part of Sautter and Crescent Blvd Extension.
- Repaired underground broken water line at Shouse Park
- Painted crosswalks on McGovern Blvd.
- Cleaned parks throughout the month and for rentals
- Supplied mulch to Huntsridge and Sautter park play areas
- Tiger mowed and cut grass on areas throughout the township
- Trimmed the tree in front of the police station
- Repaired a sink hold on Front Street
- Build a shelf for the inside of the new police SUV
- Replaced batteries in the Peterbuilt truck

MS4 work completed:

- Installed a new grate and repaired inlet on Keim Street
- Finished paving around inlets on Mill, Keim and Main Streets
- Installed required inlet silt protection to inlets behind the municipal building

Commissioner Meredith commented on a number of concerns brought up by residents at the last meeting. Regarding the dumpsters at the municipal building, he noted this used to be open 24 hours for all residents and even non-residents. Due to the extreme amounts of garbage that were overflowing he was going to recommend the service be discontinued. The manager came up with the current suggestion of allowing the dumpsters to be open only during business hours to curb the overflow. The current status is working extremely well and he suggests the township maintain this position. Mr. Fadool ask Commissioner Meredith what was allowed to be put into the dumpsters. Regarding cameras, they were purchased and will be used to identify residents that are dumping illegal items into the containers. The

next concern was the baseball field. Moon Little League will be maintaining this through the fall months since they will be renting the pavilion for a fall season. Another concern was the grass on the vacant lot in Parkwood where the electric tower sits. Public works will be trimming only the width of the right of way only on that particular lot.

Commissioner Cook questioned what was happening with remedying the slide that is occurring on Riverview Rd. Commissioner Meredith indicated he has not been in any discussion since the meeting since the meeting with the Geo-technical engineer. Commissioner Cook would like the board to move forward and put together a solution before the roads slides and it is closed completely. He suggests issuing a bond to help pay for the repairs. There was discussion on maybe finding a temporary fix until we can come up with the money, or discuss with the railroad the possibility of encroaching onto their property to fix the area. Commissioner Cook would like the board to find grant money. None of the commissioners have reached out to local groups looking for grants at this time.

FINANCE

Commissioner Keller commented that the township is about 66% through the fiscal year. 86% of the projected revenue has come in and 67% of the projected expenses have been spent. He wanted to compliment the Police Department and Public Works for their low expenses at 61% and 54% respectfully. He noted Public Works will probably be over budget for the year due to the Board voting to complete the paving of McKee Street by \$30,000. Commissioner Meredith commented on the great job Brian Cain has done regarding MS4's and containing the costs. Commissioner Keller asked all departments to watch their spending until the end of the year.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Commissioner Sabol reported there was no Recreation meeting last month. They will be meeting on September 21 at 7:30pm to discuss the Halloween party which is scheduled for October 24 at 1PM at the Fire Hall. The Parks Board had the Moon Lacrosse team help spread mulch at Huntsridge and Shouse Park.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Denny Lewis reported to Chief Scott. The department attended a structural burn in Beaver County. This was an advanced training class. They also completed training on the North Side and the disaster drill at the Pittsburgh International Airport. 14 members completed training at the Ambridge Dam last week. The department responded to a couple of calls; Oak Street and Montour Heights County club. Training continues every Monday evening from 7-10PM. Members will also be present during trick or treat and the Recreation board Halloween party on October 24.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Denny Lewis reported he will be attending the quarterly training for Emergency Management next week and will be completing the quarterly review at the end of this month. In October he will be attending the Gas Pipeline training and is requesting both the Township Manager and Public Works Foreman both attend with him. There is no charge for the meeting that will be held in Moon Township.

VALLEY AMBULANCE

Wendy Schulenberg stated the union has signed a new three year contract. The Board also approved a zero balance budget.

OLD BUSINESS

The only item under old business is the discussion on the renewal of employee health insurance. Commissioner Cook wanted to know if the township has had contact with the unions to try and open the contracts for union members and require them to contribute toward their health care. Commissioner Keller informed him it is already in their contracts and they both will open up next July for contributions starting in 2017. Ms. Crago explained the different options available to the township and indicated during the workshop meeting the board had narrowed the choices down to two; the current UPMC (47% increase in premium) and Highmark through MEIT (34.7% current premium increase). She further explained if the board chose MEIT, come January 2016 the township employees would be able to choose either from UPMC or Highmark. Discussion continued about the Highmark option, the offered benefits versus UPMC and premium. Commissioner Miller made a motion to switch the township health insurance to Highmark through MEIT and was seconded by Commissioner Meredith. A roll call vote was taken and found all commissioners in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

The first item under new business is the motion to set Crescent Township's Trick-or-Treat for Thursday October 29 from 6:30-8PM. Commissioner Sabol made a motion and was seconded by Commissioner Miller. A roll call vote was taken and found all commissioners in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

The second item was the motion to pass R-10-15, which would update the non-union full time employee's sick leave time. Ms. Crago explained the sick leave would be updated from 3 days to 6 days after six months of work. This was discussed at the workshop meeting and will make the benefits parallel with the union contracts. Commissioner Miller stated they wanted this to be done since the original ones were set over twenty years ago. Commissioner Miller made a motion and was seconded by Commissioner Cook. A roll call vote was taken and found all commissioners in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

The third item was the motion to pass R-11-15 which updates the non-union full time employee's vacation allotment. Commissioner Miller made a motion and was seconded by Commissioner Sabol. A roll call vote was taken and found four commissioners in favor of the motion with Commissioner Cook opposed. The motion passed.

The fourth item under new business was the motion to pass R-12-15 which would update the non-union full time employee's Personal Leave benefits. Commissioner Miller made a motion and was seconded by Commissioner Meredith. A roll call vote was taken and found all commissioners in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

The fifth item was the discussion of electrical repairs needed at Shouse park. Commissioner Keller noted a quote was presented to the board regarding electrical repairs still needed. Both service drops into the park need to be replaced. Commissioner Cook made a suggestion for the Parks Board to pay the \$4400 electrical bill because they have \$8600 in their bank account. Discussion continued regarding extras that may be needed. Commissioner Cook made a motion to recommend the Parks Board pay the bill. The motion died due to the lack of a second. Ms. Crago noted Moon School district would loan their lift truck for the project. She also stated the electrician would need 2-3 days of shutting the power off to the park

completely and Moon Little League is using the park until October 20. It was suggested to take the estimate to the Parks Board for approval.

The last item was the motion to accept the Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Non-uniform and Police pension plans for 2016. Commissioner Keller noted the figures where in the packets for review. Commissioner Miller made a motion and was seconded by Commissioner Meredith. A roll call vote was taken and found all commissioners in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jeff Gagat 1638 Aster Lane wanted to discuss the letter Parkwood Estates HOA received regarding the maintenance of the detention ponds. He feels at the turnover meeting eleven years ago, three out of the four ponds were assigned to the Parkwood Estates HOA. The HOA feels that since all three HOA's in the plan utilize all the ponds, they responsibility to maintain them should be equal. The fourth pond he feels is to be maintained by the carriage homes. They are actively looking to resolve the issue and would like the expenses to be shared equally among all HOAs that utilize the ponds. Solicitor Start noted he has not reviewed the documents at the current time and will look into the matter. Mr. Gagat also wanted to thank Commissioner Meredith for cutting the grass along the right of way.

John Radcliffe of 1636 Aster Lane wanted to know if there were any plans to finish crack sealing the remaining streets in Crescent. He is concerned because his road has not been sealed for over two years.

Karen Patton 576 Sautter Drive wanted to discuss a previous an issue she has brought to the police departments attention regarding no parking issues in her neighborhood. She wanted to address the MS4. She knows the township has been notified for years MS4's have been coming and it should have been budgeted accordingly. She is aware catch basins need to be repaired and should be in the budget for next year.

Denny Lewis 492 Crescent Blvd Ext. wanted to add to the Fire report. This Saturday the SWIFT water team will be attending a training session on the Monagahela. Regarding the dumpsters at the fire department, they now have locks on them to deter residents from excessive dumping in their receptacles. Commissioner Keller reminded residents to put all their trash out at the curb and utilize the service. He is lead to believe the excessive dumping is coming from people outside the township. The township is not responsible for providing service to those people. Mr. Lewis wanted to comment on residents that park on both sides of the streets and corner lots. He reminded residents emergency vehicles need to get through so park in the designated areas. He is also concerned about other roads collapsing besides Riverview, Spring Run Road, and Harper Road. Lastly he does not understand why the Parkwood lot is being cut by the township when they have a HOA.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Cook wanted to remind the Board they set a policy that residents are not allowed to speak unless it is under Public Comment. They also set a policy to not answer resident's questions at the meeting and questions would only be taken under advisement. He wanted to know why Mr. Fadool was allowed to ask a question during the reports and even get a response. The policies should be for everybody.

Commissioner Meredith commented on the crack sealing. They rent the machine for a week and try to get what they can. He will make sure next year they will look at other streets.

Commissioner Keller wanted to thank all the residents for coming to the meeting and the ones who volunteer their time for the township.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Cook and was seconded by Commissioner Miller. A voice vote was taken and found all commissioners in favor of the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:08PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Certified as a true and correct copy

Kellie L. Crago
Township Manager / Secretary