

Regular Meeting

August 11, 2015

The regular meeting of the Millcreek Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chairman Figaski in the Assembly Room of the Millcreek Township Municipal Building. Present were Mark Zaksheske, Brian McGrath, Richard Figaski, John Groh, Evan Adair, Esq., Gail Jares and Richard Morris, P.E. Sheryl Williams was absent.

Following the Pledge to the Flag, Chairman Figaski called for public comment on agenda items other than development or rezoning applications. No comments were received.

It was moved by Mr. Groh and seconded by Mr. McGrath to approve the minutes of the Board's July 28, 2015 meeting. Motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

It was moved by Mr. McGrath and seconded by Mr. Groh to approve payment of the July 29, 2015, July 31, 2015, August 4, 2015 and August 11, 2015 General Fund bills and the August 4, 2015 General Fund bills for payroll in the aggregate amount of \$1,005,011.32 and the August 4, 2015 Sewer Revenue Fund bills in the amount of \$252,532.16. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. McGrath noted that participating municipalities are required to consider and act upon the annual audits of the Erie Area Council of Governments and moved that the Board approve Resolution No. 2015-R-17, which would approve the Independent Auditor's Report of COG's finances for calendar year 2014. Seconded by Mr. Groh, the motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Figaski stated that the Board had received from Felix & Gloekler, P.C. certain recommendations that could save the Township money and moved that the Board retain Felix & Gloekler, P.C. to perform certified public accounting auditing services for the Township and the Sewer Revenue Fund for calendar year 2015 at a fee not to exceed \$11,500. The motion was seconded by Mr. McGrath. No public comment was offered. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Morris recommended that the Board approve a Stormwater Maintenance Agreement with Millcreek Township School District with regard to the District's McDowell High School parking lot improvement development. Mr. Groh moved approval of the Agreement and Mr. McGrath seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. McGrath, on the recommendation of Ashley Marsteller, moved that the Board approve a pay rate change for Kristen Owens, a Water Safety Instructor/Lifeguard at Belle Valley Pool, to \$9.50 per hour. Mr. Groh seconded the motion. No public comment was offered. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. McGrath announced that BayCrete Redi-Mix, Inc., on its own and without charge, provided and delivered concrete for improvements at Veterans' Park as a way to thank those who have served our country and thanked BayCrete for its good works.

On recommendation by Chief Tesore, Mr. Figaski moved that Daniel Jones, of Fairview Township, be appointed to the West Ridge Fire Department Fire Police roster effective August 11, 2015. Mr. Groh seconded the motion. No public comment was offered. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

On recommendation by Chief Tesore, Mr. Figaski moved that the Board authorize the West Ridge Fire Department Fire Police to conduct traffic control at Brown's Farm and Sterrettania Road for the McDowell High School cross country invitational on September 5, 2015 from 7 a.m. to noon. Mr. Groh seconded the motion. No public comment was offered. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

On recommendation by Chief Tesore, Mr. Figaski moved that the Board, retroactively, authorize attendance by Ptlm. Nathan Spiker and Ptlm. Carey Nicholson at "Basic Crisis Negotiations" training at the Logan Township Police Department in Altoona, Pennsylvania on August 10 through August 14, with costs for registrations, lodging, meals and fuel being approximately \$1,700. Both of these officers are new to the Police Department's crisis negotiation team and this class will complete their initial certifications. Mr. Figaski explained that vacancies in the class first arose on August 7. Mr. Groh seconded the motion. No public comment was offered. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

On recommendation by Diane Lyons, Mr. Figaski separately moved that the Board approve hiring of Randy Houle and Gerald Hickin III as dispatchers effective approximately August 24, 2015 at an hourly rate of \$17.84, contingent on successful completion of pre-employment physical exam and drug screen. Mr. Groh seconded each motion. No public comment was offered on either motion. Both motions were carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Figaski noted that the Board had retained Cohen Law Group from Pittsburgh to represent the Township with respect to the proposed acquisition of Time Warner Cable by Comcast and the effect on the current franchise, as did other COG member municipalities. As that transaction failed and there is now a proposed acquisition of Time Warner Cable by Charter Communications, Mr. Figaski moved that the Board retain Cohen Law Group to assist the Township in the new transaction, at a maximum fee of \$3,675, which can be reduced by as much as 40% depending on the number of other municipalities which retain Cohen Law Group in this matter. Mr. McGrath seconded the motion. No public comment was offered. The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Groh noted that Belle Valley Fire Department had hosted activities at National Night Out on August 4 and thanked the Department for its efforts and all residents who participated.

Richard Bayhurst, residing at 4104 Concord Road, suggested that the Township amend its zoning ordinance to address the appearance of fencing installed by people as it faces their neighbors. Mr. Bayhurst said that his neighbor installed a stockade fence whose side facing the Bayhurst home is unsightly, and that the neighbor had rejected a suggestion to share in the cost of improving that side's appearance. Mr. Bayhurst would like to be notified if the Township proposes any new regulation on this subject.

Gary Behr, residing at 4045 Feidler Drive, opposed that sort of change to zoning regulations, saying that he views that as being too much governmental involvement in what really are personal matters

Karen Link, residing at 2363 Prospect Avenue, stated that she is a lifeguard training for Millcreek's Parks and Recreation office and expressed concern about a "big culture change" in those using the pool. Ms. Link suggested that an increased presence by the Police Department might be helpful.

There being no other business, on motion by Mr. McGrath, seconded by Mr. Groh, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Gail Jares
Assistant to the Assistant Secretary

APPROVED: August 25, 2015

Richard P. Figaski
John H. Groh
Brian P. McGrath