

**WALKER TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Reorganization Meeting
January 4, 2016**

Attendance:

**Supervisors- James Heckman
 Ronald Burd
 Keith Harter**

Solicitor-

**Staff- Donna Reese
 Leah Burd**

**Guests: Ken McMullen (Township Resident)
 Deb Zimmerman (Walker Twp Park & Rec Board)
 Mitchell Holden (Eagle Scout Candidate)**

Call to Order: Vice-Chairman Ronald Burd called the January 4, 2016 Reorganization Meeting of the Walker Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00pm in the Walker Township Municipal Building.

Pledge of Allegiance: Vice-Chairman Burd led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reorganization: **Ronald Burd was appointed Chairman of the Board of Supervisors** on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Chairman Burd then presided over the meeting.

Keith Harter was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Board of Supervisors on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Ronald Burd and approved by all three Supervisors.

James Heckman was appointed Roadmaster on a motion by Ronald Burd. Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Ronald Burd and Keith Harter were appointed Assistant Roadmasters on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Ronald Burd and approved by all three Supervisors.

Approval of December Meeting Minutes: James Heckman motioned to approve the minutes from the December 2, 2015 meeting as presented; motion second by Ronald Burd and approved by all three Supervisors.

Guests: **Deb Zimmerman** presented the following Park & Rec Board items for discussion:

- Inquired about the status of the restroom project. Supervisor Heckman stated the water has not been turned on and that several landscaping items will not be completed until spring. The General Contractor presented a Request for Payment #3, no payment requests have been received for the plumbing and electrical work;
- Inquired about the use of funds from the Park & Rec Budgets for the restroom project, in particular funds from the Open Space Account. The Supervisors would like to consult with Solicitor Miller on the issue;
- Park & Rec Board would like to pursue construction of a pavilion near the new restrooms. Discussion was held on the size of the structure and its placement. Engineer Don Franson will be consulted for the project;
- Park & Rec Board would like to post a listing of park rules at the entrances to the Park. The Supervisors reviewed the rules and made several suggestions for additions or revisions. The Park & Rec Rules Committee will revise the list for final approval;
- Park & Rec Board is seeking permission to hold a Fall Festival in the Park on Saturday, September 24, 2016. Several questions regarding vendor participation and insurance issues were raised. Deb will compile a list of questions for Solicitor Miller to review;
- Deb inquired if the Supervisors could recommend a mason she could consult regarding attaching lettering to the ‘Wall of Appreciation’. She will pursue some of their recommendations in order to complete this project.

Deb is planning to publish a **newsletter** in early February and requested input from the Supervisors.

Mitchell Holden presented a proposal for his **Eagle Scout Project** in the Township. Mitchell is working with the Park & Rec Board to solicit sponsorships/donations for additional benches and trees for in the park. He provided the Supervisors with an article he would like to have published in the newsletter regarding his project. Mitchell will determine where to place the benches and trees and assist in their installation. All correspondence and monetary donations will go through the Township office. The Supervisors gave approval for Mitchell to pursue his project.

Ken McMullen addressed the Supervisors regarding an ongoing stormwater drainage issue at his Hemlock Drive property in Zion Ridgecrest. Mr McMullen stated water continues to run off nearby farm lands where it is ponding at the intersection at his residence. The Supervisors will instruct Don Franson to investigate.

Reorganization (Continued): Donna Reese was appointed Secretary/Treasurer on a motion by Ronald Burd. Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Leah Burd was appointed Assistant Treasurer on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Keith Harter; Ronald Burd abstained.

Bond was set at \$300,000 for the Treasurer on a motion by Keith Harter. Motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.

John Miller III (Miller, Kistler, Campbell, Inc) was appointed Solicitor on a motion by Keith Harter. Motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.

Vaughn Zimmerman was appointed Zoning Officer on a motion by Ronald Burd. Motion second by James Heckman; Keith Harter voted no. Motion passed by a two to one vote.

William Workman was appointed Alternate Zoning Officer on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Leah Burd was appointed as representative to Centre County Tax Collection Committee (Alternate – Ronald Burd) on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Keith Harter; Ronald Burd abstained.

Stan Wallace was appointed as Township Sewage Enforcement Officer provided he submits the necessary DEP documents (Alternates – Bowes & Kreger) on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors,

Don Franson (Franson Engineering) was appointed Township Engineer on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Don Franson (Franson Engineering) was appointed Township Stormwater Engineer on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

McCormick-Taylor was appointed Township Traffic Engineer on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Cheryl Vonada was reappointed to 5-year term on the Park & Recreation Board on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Daniel Mattern and Ronald Zimmerman were reappointed to 5-year terms on the Planning Commission on a motion by Keith Harter. Motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.

Donna Reese was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Planning Commission (until 2018) on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Dennis Mc Dowell was reappointed to a 5-year term on the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority Board on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Gary Barrett was reappointed to a 5-year term on the East Nittany Valley Joint Municipal Authority on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

William Workman was appointed to the Township Vacancy Board on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Donna Reese was appointed Recording Secretary for the Planning Commission on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Leah Burd was appointed Recording Secretary for the Park & Rec Board on a motion by James Heckman. Motion second by Keith Harter; Ronald Burd abstained.

James Heckman motioned to adopt **Resolution 16-416 increasing the Street Light Assessment from \$20 to \$25 per year**; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Keith Harter motioned to **draw from one General Fund budget item to pay another General Fund budget item**. Motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.

Keith Harter motioned to **itemize bills and prepare monthly list for Supervisor approvals/signatures**. Motion second by James Heckman and approved by all three Supervisors.

James Heckman motioned to **appoint Ronald Burd as CDL Program contact person**. Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

James Heckman motioned to **reappoint Harold Brungard as Township Emergency Management Coordinator and James Heckman as Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator.** Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

James Heckman motioned to **approve a mileage rate of \$.54 per mile or whatever the reimbursement rate is authorized by the IRS.** Motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

Keith Harter motioned that a **Township Supervisor can be an employee of the Township for 2016.** Motion second by Ronald Burd; James Heckman abstained.

Agenda Items and Other Business:

- James Heckman motioned to approve the quote from **Zimmerman Mechanical** to replace the heating units in the big meeting room at a cost of \$6,100; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors;
- James Heckman motioned to sign a contract with **Baker Tilly for the 2015 Audit** at an estimated cost of \$3,950-\$4,200; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors;
- Information was received on attending the **2016 PSATS Convention** Scheduled for April 17-20;
- **SBWJA requested a variance for the Forest Ave/Washington Ave** pump-station upgrade. The request was filed with the Zoning Hearing Board;
- James Heckman motioned to approve a request for **Payment #3 from SSR Contracting** in the amount of \$6,615 for the park restroom project; motion second by Ronald Burd and approved by all three Supervisors;
- Notice was received from **PA American Water** regarding an increase in water withdrawal at Nittany Well #1;
- Notice was received from Jim Purtell expressing interest for any future Planning Commission vacancy;
- The Board noted attendance figures for the Park & Rec Board and the Planning Commission for 2015.

James Heckman motioned to approve the December 2015 General Fund paid bills in the amount of \$39,358.81 and the December 2015 Treasurer's Report as presented; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

A request was sent to the Walker Township Fire Company for information needed to complete paperwork for our state workers insurance fund. Jim will follow up on the request.

Ronald Burd recessed the Board for an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters at 8:13pm. The regular meeting reconvened at 8:25pm.

James Heckman motioned to appoint Brian Saiers as Road Foreman at his current base rate of pay. Motion second by Ronald Burd, Keith Harter voted no. Motion passed by a two to one vote.

James Heckman motioned to give all employees a 3% wage increase effective with the first pay period of 2016; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors.

The Supervisors discussed further investigating banking options for Township funds and agreed to seek additional information from several local banking institutions.

Discussion was held regarding several abandoned properties in the Township.

James Heckman motioned to adjourn the meeting; motion second by Keith Harter and approved by all three Supervisors. The meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.