

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING HELD  
November 16, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Butler Township Board of Commissioners was held on November 16, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the Butler Township Municipal Building, 290 S. Duffy Road, Butler, PA 16001. The following Commissioners were present: Pres. Joe Hasychak, Vice-Pres. Dave Zarnick, Commis. Sam Zurzolo and Commis. Charles M. Nedz. Commis. Joe Wiest was absent.

Also present were Manager Ed Kirkwood, Solicitor Larry Lutz, Zoning Officer Jesse Hines, and Township Engineer Dan Deiseroth.

Pres. Hasychak called the meeting to order followed by a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pres. Hasychak asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the November 2, 2015 meeting. There being none, the minutes will stand as presented.

Pres. Hasychak noted receipt of the following monthly reports: Treasurer, Police, Road and Fire/Zoning.

Commis. Zurzolo reported that the public is invited to the opening of the new Butler City playground on Saturday, November 21, 2015.

Commis. Nedz had nothing to report.

Commis. Zarnick reported that Commis. Hasychak and he attended the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners meeting in Lancaster, PA over the weekend. He noted that there are over six thousand mandates that the state sets for municipalities that are unfunded by the state. He reviewed some of the mandate changes that are currently before the state legislature which, if passed, will create additional costs for the township and/or residents. He will keep the board posted as these bills proceed.

Commis. Hasychak reported that he attended the Butler Transit Authority meeting in the past week.

Commis. Hasychak reported that Commis. Zarnick and he were guest speakers on "Speak Up" on WISR.

Commis. Hasychak reported that Commis. Zarnick, Commis. Zurzolo and he attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new hospital center in Summit Township.

Commis. Hasychak reported that Commis. Zarnick, Commis. Zurzolo and he attended an event sponsored by the Butler C.O.G.

Commis. Hasychak reported that Commis. Zarnick, Commis. Zurzolo, Commis. Nedz and he attended the Veteran's Day Parade in Butler City.

Zoning Officer Hines reported on the progress concerning the Noise Ordinance Amendment. He presented his findings to the board and recommended moving forward with the request to be exempt from the LCB noise requirements.

Engineer Deiseroth reported on the progress of the storm sewer projects within the township.

Solicitor Lutz has nothing to report.

Manager Kirkwood reported that today marked the first time in six plus weeks that one hundred percent of the staff is off medical leave. There was a tremendous amount of work that other individuals provided for the township while the employees were on medical leave. He commended the staff for pulling together to be able to administer to the needs of all of the residents.

Manager Kirkwood reported that he has been tracking the number of hours that the township employees work for the Affordable Care Act Requirements. The IRS ruled earlier this year that if you have more than the equivalent of fifty full time employees there are stringent and massive reporting requirements that need to be met. He is trying his best to not to have to perform this reporting because of the time involved. He will be making a recommendation by the end of the year on how he feels the township should proceed in regards to possibly outsourcing some out the duties.

Manager Kirkwood reported that he and Chief Hays met with a representative of West Penn Power concerning the street light repairs within the township. As of Thursday of last week all but six street lights have been repaired. If the process continues to work as it has been for the last ten days, we should not have any more issues with having street lights repaired in a timely manner.

Manager Kirkwood gave an update on his investigation on the rates that PA American Water is charging for the fire hydrant rental.

Commis. Hasychak asked for public comment on agenda items. There was none.

Zoning Officer Hines presented the request by Calvin Binus of 126 Blair Drive for a modification of odd shape lots and a final approval of the Binus Subdivision contingent upon compliance with Gateway Engineers' letter dated October 22, 2015.

Motion by Commis. Nedz to grant a modification for odd shaped lots in the Binus Subdivision. Seconded by Commis. Zurzolo. The vote was: Nedz: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes and Hasychak: Yes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Commis Nedz to grant final approval of the Binus Subdivision contingent upon compliance with Gateway Engineers' letter dated October 22, 2015. Seconded by Commis. Zurzolo. The vote was: Nedz: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes and Hasychak: Yes. Motion Carried.

Engineer Deiseroth presented the request by United Growth for a third bond reduction. They are requesting the bond be reduced by \$384,497.72, leaving the new bond amount of \$1,171,429.09.

Motion by Commis. Nedz to reduce the United Growth bond by \$384,497.72, leaving the new bond amount of \$1,171,429.09. Seconded by Commis. Zurzolo. The vote was: Nedz: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes and Hasychak: Yes. Motion Carried.

Michael Gallagher, Center Township Solicitor, Ron Olson, Center Township Engineer, and members of the Center Township Board of Supervisors: Ed Latuska, Phil Wulff, and Ken Frenchak were in attendance to make a presentation of a Tax Increment Financing proposal. Ron Flatt, Supervisor Elect for Center Township, was also in attendance.

Ron Olsen, 126 South Main Street, Butler, Center Township Engineer, made a presentation of a Tax Increment Financing proposal with the township. A discussion followed.

Manager Kirkwood presented the request to authorize the drafting of specifications and advertising for a new asphalt roller for the Road Department.

Motion by Commis. Nedz to authorize the drafting of specifications and advertising for a new asphalt roller. Seconded by Commis. Zarnick. The vote was: Nedz: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes and Hasychak: Yes. Motion Carried.

Manager Kirkwood presented information on the Section 457(b) Deferred Roth Compensation Plan for Government Workers.

Motion by Commis. Hasychak to pass Resolution 15-29, amending of Resolution 03-21, approving the addition of a Section 457(b) Deferred Roth Compensation Plan for Government Workers. Seconded by Commis Nedz. The vote was: Nedz: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes and Hasychak: Yes. Motion Carried.

Zoning Officer Hines presented information on the Collector Street Listing.

Motion by Commis. Zarnick to pass Resolution 15-30, amending Resolution 96-08 for the purpose of additions to the Collector Street Listing. Seconded by Commis. Nedz. A discussion followed. The vote was: Nedz: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes and Hasychak: Yes. Motion Carried.

Commis. Hasychak presented information on the proposed 2016 Budget.

Manager Kirkwood presented highlights of the 2016 Budget and information on the proposed 2016 Real Property Tax Ordinance. The proposed Tax Rate for Real Estate for General Township Purposes is 7.1824. The proposed tax rate for Real Estate for providing Fire Protection Services is 2.391. The proposed tax rate for Real Estate for Debt Services is 1.6766.

Motion by Commis. Hasychak to introduce the 2016 Budget Ordinance, as presented. Seconded by Commis. Nedz. The vote was: Nedz: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes and Hasychak: Yes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Commis. Hasychak to introduce the 2016 Real Property Tax Ordinance, as presented. Seconded by Commis. Nedz. The vote was: Nedz: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes and Hasychak: Yes. Motion Carried.

Manager Kirkwood reviewed the bills report and the following totals were noted: General Fund - \$148,267.00; Highway Aid Fund - \$23,498.67; Park Development Fund - \$6,971.69; General Fund (added after October Bills Report) - \$93,444.68; Payroll Fund (prior month) - \$237,707.33; R&B Contracting & Excavating Inc. - \$58,050.00

Motion by Commis. Hasychak to pay the bills as per the bills report, seconded by Commis. Zarnick. The vote was: Nedz: Yes; Zurzolo: Yes; Zarnick: Yes and Hasychak: Yes. Motion Carried.

Commis. Hasychak asked for public comment on any item of concern.

Dave Heltzell, 100 Marion Drive, and Tony Stagno, 106 Holland Drive, presented information on the volunteer work that was completed at the township parks during 2015. They commended the work of the Monday Morning Maintenance Crew, the local Boy Scout troops, the companies that volunteer during the Week of Caring, Eric Heltzell and the Building and Grounds Department and Commis. Dave Zarnick.

Commis. Hasychak thanked Mr. Heltzell and Mr. Stagno for all of their time and talents that they have volunteered for the township parks.

Lori Hinderliter, Executive Director of the Butler Area Public Library, thanked the township for their support.

Questions were taken from the media.

Motion was made by Commis. Zarnick to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 PM, seconded by Commis. Nedz and carried unanimously.

Theresa Gusler