

**BIRMINGHAM TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES
JANUARY 19, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:30 PM in the Township Building by Chairman Conklin with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. A quorum of Supervisors was declared. The following Township Officials were in attendance:

John Conklin	-	Chairman, Board of Supervisors
William Kirkpatrick	-	Vice-Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Al Bush	-	Member, Board of Supervisors
Thomas Nelling	-	Chief of Police
Lloyd Roach	-	Emergency Management Coordinator
Gregory Kurey	-	Recreation, Park & Open Space Committee Vice-Chairman
Mark Beauchamp	-	Recreation, Park & Open Space Committee Member
Quina Nelling	-	Secretary/Treasurer

Mr. Kirkpatrick moved to approve the January 5, 2009 organizational minutes as written. (Approved all in favor.)

Mr. Bush moved to approve the bills submitted for payment. General Fund bills totaled \$25,591.47. Sewer Fund bills totaled \$16,315.60 (Approved all in favor.)

POLICE REPORT

Chief Nelling reported for the month of December 2008. There were 1,269 incidents for during the month. Sixteen cases remain open which are all incidents relating to thefts from vehicles. There were 9,857 patrol miles logged on the vehicles during the month.

Chief Nelling provided some 2008 year end statistics for the Board.

- 15,045 total incidents
- 2,351 traffic citations
- 178 criminal arrests
- 40 DUI arrests
- 48 underage drinking arrests
- 26 disorderly conduct
- 60 deer struck
- 120 accidents
- 254 alarms
- 96 ambulance calls

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PRESENTATION

In October 2008 the Board of Supervisors held a tabletop exercise for emergency management. An improvement plan was provided to the Township by the County after the exercise. Lloyd Roach reviewed some of the areas of improvement with the Board.

- Lack of manpower depth in the emergency response team for handling the response and manning the various shifts needed for a response team
- Lack of individuals that know the Township on a physical basis
- Lack of public communication venues with residents
- Handling of animals/pets
- Training sessions for the Supervisors

Mr. Roach will approach various homeowners and volunteer groups in the Township to recruit manpower. He will also approach the County about a system for a reverse 9-1-1 automated call system to contact the residents. Another drill needs to be scheduled this fall to address the weaknesses in the emergency response plan

Mrs. Nelling volunteered to help with emergency response needs for animals.

Mr. Roach also discussed a regional emergency team concept with the Board. He met with East Bradford, West Goshen, and Westtown Townships and the Borough's EMCs to discuss this concept. No command of an incident would be given up by Birmingham for a Township incident, however assistance with personnel and equipment would be available. The Board was agreeable with Mr. Roach pursuing this concept. A formal proposal will be presented to the Board for emergency management regionalization at a future date.

Discussion ensued on the highest probably emergency situations for the Township, which include power outages, flooding, tornadoes, and plane crashes. Mr. Roach expressed extreme concern if the Township has to handle another Hurricane Agnes because of all the additional impervious cover that is now in the Township and the increased amount of run-off that would occur.

325th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Greg Kurey and Mark Beauchamp, members of the Recreation, Park & Open Space Committee, gave a power point presentation to the Board on plans for a 325th Anniversary Event for the Birmingham Township. Mr. Kurey and Mr. Beauchamp are the event coordinators. The highlights of the presentation included:

- Mission Statement
- Purpose of Presentation
- Date and Time for Event
- Need for Road Closure
- Parking Requirements
- Police, Fire, and Ambulance Requirements
- Potential Resources
- Attractions at the Event
- Marketing and Advertising
- Trash, Recycling and Port-A-Potties
- Costs
- Next Steps and Direction from the Township

The tentative date for the event is August 29, 2009. Each issue was discussed in detail. Direction and guidance was requested from the Supervisors. The power point presentation will be given to the Supervisors with prompt feedback and guidance requested in order to continue with the Event planning. Updates will be provided to the Supervisors on a regular basis during the planning process.

SEWER PLANT OPERATION

Mr. Kirkpatrick reported that the Board has been in negotiations with Applied Water Management, Inc. on a contract to operate the sewer plant. The automated maintenance system and computer have been eliminated from the contract. Applied Water has been operating the plant on a temporary contract since the beginning of 2009. Some progress has been made on the overall cost, however Applied Water has remained firm on a 4.6% annual increase over the term of the contract. Mr. Kirkpatrick said that the Supervisors have an obligation to the users of the system to keep the cost low. He suggested not entering into a contract period for a period longer than four years and that a suitable pricing option be proposed to Applied Water.

Chairman Conklin moved to authorize Mr. Kirkpatrick to negotiate a counter offer on the sewer plant operation contract with Applied Water, the specifics of which are discussed in executive session. (Approved all in favor.)

HISTORIC COMMISSION

Seven residents have expressed interest in serving on a Historic Commission for the Township. The Commission was authorized by Ordinance 0702 which was adopted on 11/19/2007. Mr. Bush moved to appoint the following members to the Historic Commission which were unanimously approved by the Supervisors.

Lloyd Roach	-	2013
Ed Zaloga	-	2012
Donna Landon	-	2011
William Snook	-	2010
Mark Gross	-	2010
Scott Garrison	-	2009
Betty Organt	-	2009

The Historic Commission will meet on Tuesday, January 20th to organize and set a meeting date and time.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Planning Commission has recommended that Mary Pat McCarthy be appointed to the Planning Commission to fill the unexpired term of Chris Bailey who filled a vacancy on the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Bush moved to appoint Mary Pat McCarthy to the Planning Commission to a term ending in 2010. (Approved all in favor.)

The Planning Commission Secretary's salary was established at the organizational meeting. The Board approved compensation for the various Township committee

secretaries' positions without making appointments to the positions. Mr. Bush announced that Jacquie Roach has expressed interest in being the Planning Commission Secretary and she will start taking the minutes at the February meeting.

FEES RESOLUTION

Mrs. Nelling had discussed the legal fees associated with the CJ Tire's Conditional Use Application with the Township Solicitor. The Township charges \$1,000. for conditional use applications. The cost to the Township for CJ Tire's was \$3,500. Mrs. Nelling recommended that the fees be increased for the various hearings held before the Supervisors and the Zoning Hearing Board. After discussion the Board decided not to raise the fee for the Zoning Hearing Board applications as often times it is residents that use that process. However, the hearings before the Supervisors are predominantly businesses. Mr. Kirkpatrick moved to increase the non-refundable application fee for hearings and appeals before the Supervisors to \$1,000. with an additional deposit fee of \$1,500. (Approved all in favor.)

Mrs. Nelling proposed that the Board eliminate the zoning fee of \$50. for fences as fences over five feet only require building permits and there is no reason to have a zoning permit for fences under five feet since they can be installed on property lines. Mr. Kirkpatrick moved to eliminate zoning fees for fences from the fees resolutions and to only require zoning permits for fences over five feet. (Approved all in favor.)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Quina Nelling
Secretary/Treasurer