

**MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
PUBLIC MEETING
SEPTEMBER 8, 2014**

PRESENT

| | | |
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| PAT MALLON, CHAIRPERSON | } | |
| H. GEORGE LEONHAUSER, VICE CHAIR | } | |
| DREW KREILING, SECRETARY | } | BOARD OF SUPERVISORS |
| THOMAS GALLAGHER | } | |
| WILLIAM OETTINGER | } | |
| STEPHANIE TEOLI KUHL, TOWNSHIP MANAGER | | |
| SUSAN PONTIOUS, ESQ., TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR | | |
| LARRY YOUNG, P. E., TOWNSHIP ENGINEER | | |

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Mallon requested that everyone remain standing for a moment of silence. Mr. Gallagher said this Thursday will be the 13th Anniversary of 9/11, the largest terrorist attack on United States ground that has ever happened.

2. Announcements, Correspondence, Awards and Reports.

- a. Next Board of Supervisors Meeting – **September 22, 2014 – 7:30 p.m.**
- b. Trophy Presentation - 4th of July Parade Float Contest Winner – Chick-fil-A

Mr. Mallon presented the 4th of July Parade Float trophy to Jodie Hartenstein from Chick-fil-A. Ms. Hartenstein thanked the Board.

- c. Proclamation: National Preparedness Month

Jim McGuire, Fire Marshall and Emergency Manager advised that each September is National Disaster Preparedness Month and this year’s theme is “How prepared is your family?” Mr. McGuire went into great detail on the importance of being prepared for disasters ahead of time. Preparation is the key to surviving any type of disaster that occurs. There are many different things that Mr. McGuire identified to become prepared:

- Identify your risk – if you live in a low lying area or are in an area prone to lightning strikes.
- Create a family disaster plan – important phone numbers, practice fire drill, etc.
- Build a disaster supply kit for your home, i.e. water, canned food, manual can opener, etc.
- Prepare children so they know what to do.
- Remember special needs folks. We need to take care of the very young and the older folks.
- Learn some type of disaster preparedness, such as CPR, first aid, etc.
- Understanding post 9/11 risks. In the event of a disaster, will your cell phones work?
- Decide on a place to meet in the event of a disaster.
- Get involved – there are plenty of places within the community where folks can volunteer their time; such as Red Cross, local fire departments, local ambulance rescue, etc.

Mr. Mallon thanked State Representative Frank Farry who ran an Emergency Preparedness Expo along with the Pennsylvania Director of Emergency Management and Fire Marshal Jim McGuire. It was a well attended event.

3. Public Comment. *Non-Agenda Items only.* (Maximum 30 minutes)

Pat Mason, 570 Periwinkle Avenue, Langhorne expressed his concern with the fact that he lives in a flood plain and has received stormwater on his property. He also advised that the property behind his property is being developed and he believes it to be in a dangerous area. He reported overgrown brush on both sides of the roadway on Bridal Drive and also very large potholes.

Ms. Teoli Kuhls requested that Mr. Mason provide her with his phone number so that someone may get in touch with him tomorrow to discuss the issues he raised this evening.

4. **Consent Agenda Items.**

- a. Consideration of authorizing payment of September 8, 2014 Bill List in the amount of \$1,566,313.67.
- b. Consideration of approving the August 18, 2014 Minutes of the Public Meeting of the Middletown Township Board of Supervisors.
- c. Consideration of reappointing Bee Bergvall & Company as Independent Auditors for the year ending December 31, 2014 at a cost of \$26,000.

ACTION: MR. LEONHAUSER MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A – C AS LISTED ABOVE. MR. KREILING SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

5. Consideration of approval of Grant Resolutions for application to the Bucks County Redevelopment Authority Municipal Grant Program as follows:

- o Resolution #14-17R - 6 Police Vehicles
- o Resolution #14-18R - 3 Public Works Vehicles
- o Resolution #14-19R - Automatic Electronic Defibrillators
- o Resolution #14-20R - Technology Upgrades for Police Vehicles In-car Computers
- o Resolution #14-20aR - Technology Upgrades for Police Vehicles In-car Cameras
- o Resolution #14-21R - Continued Funding for Emergency Radios
- o Resolution #14-22R - Sprinkler System – Penndel-Middletown Main Station
- o Resolution #14-23R - Stretchers/Lift Equip – Penndel-Middletown Emergency Squad
- o Resolution #14-24R - Training Equipment – Penndel-Middletown North Station

ACTION: MR. OETTINGER MOVED TO ENACT RESOLUTIONS #14-17R THRU #14-24R AS LISTED ABOVE. MR. GALLAGHER SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

6. Consideration of Authorizing the advertisement of an Ordinance approving, adopting and enacting the Codification of Township Ordinances.

Ms. Teoli Kuhls advised that the Board authorized that General Code do a complete recodification that is now completed. This ordinance basically enables that to be the 'Law of the Land' in Middletown Township. Something very exciting for users of the Township Website and anyone who is interested in the code. This codification provides the Township with a web access electronic code called eCode 360, which is searchable, easy to use, and readily available to all interested parties.

Mr. Gallagher stated that it wasn't long ago that the Board had to reject a bid because of a problem in the codification that happened in the past and he wants to make sure that issue has been addressed and whatever else may have been found to prevent those things from happening in the future.

Ms. Teoli Kuhls stated that the codification has been reviewed by the Township staff as well as the Township Solicitor.

ACTION: MR. MALLON MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE ADVERTISEMENT OF AN ORDINANCE APPROVING, ADOPTING AND ENACTING THE CODIFICATION OF TOWNSHIP ORDINANCES. MR. GALLAGHER SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 5-0.

7. Presentation of the 2015 Minimum Municipal Obligation to the Township Pension Funds.

Dennis Penko, Finance Director presented the 2015 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Township Pension Funds. State Law Act 205 requires the pension plan sponsor to contribute a minimum amount each year to the pension plan called the Minimum Municipal Obligation, (MMO). The MMO is prepared by the Township's actuary and is based on the January 1, 2013 actuarial valuation.

The MMO for the upcoming year for each plan must be certified to the Municipality's governing body by September 30th of each year. This presentation is for information only; no action is required of the Board.

For the non-uniformed pension plan the annual financial requirement for 2015 is \$446,000. Member contributions that are anticipated in the amount of \$138,000 are deducted and bring the MMO to \$308,000. After estimated state aid of \$159,000, the Township's MMO requirement is \$149,000 which is an increase of \$105,000 over 2014. The expense line in this plan for next year's budget will be \$308,000 and the estimated state aid is \$159,000, which is a revenue item so the net is the net difference between the two.

For the police pension plan the annual financial requirement for 2015 is almost \$2.6 million. Member contributions that are anticipated in the amount of \$275,000 are deducted bringing the MMO to \$2,285,000. Estimated state aid is \$342,000 bringing the Township's net MMO requirement in at \$1.9 million; which is a decrease from 2014 of \$170,000.

The summary of the variances for the police pension plan has a favorable variance which is a decrease in expense in \$171,000. The non-uniformed plan increased in expense \$105,000 and the net favorable variance – decrease to expense is \$66,000. The key drivers to the variances – the police plan the actuarial gain of \$170,000 is the net of a very large experience gain offset by contribution losses and investment losses.

The non-uniformed plan had an increase in expense. The actuarial loss of \$105,000 is the total of contribution losses and investment losses which are the result of continued recognition of the 2008 investment loss under the actuarial smoothing method.

8. Other Business

a. 2015 Budget Calendar

Ms. Teoli Kuhls advised that Budget Workshops will be held on October 13th and November 5th, with a November 17th Budget presentation and authorization to advertise. If all goes well the Budget would be approved on December 15, 2014.

Mr. Mallon said the Patriot Golf Day at the Middletown Country Club was successful over the Labor Day Weekend, with over \$1,000 being raised for the Folds of Honor Organization. The Recovery Home Task Force had their first meeting on Friday, September 5th with the state director of Drug and Alcohol came to the meeting. This is an ongoing effort the Board has taken on with State Representative Frank Farry to ensure that those individuals that are in these recovery homes are getting the proper treatment in order to maintain their sobriety and also ways to correct some of the community concerns.

Mr. Mallon mentioned the issue raised with CSX and Woodbourne Road and the problems that occur due to the Railroad Crossings at the site. Mr. Mallon said the Board has been working on this issue along with State Representative Farry, State Senator Tomlin and Congressman Fitzpatrick for a resolution. Recently there was a meeting that Ms. Teoli Kuhls attended along with Lt. Kenneth Mellus. He believes some concrete solutions came out of that meeting.

Ms. Teoli Kuhls said the meeting was attended by representatives of those elected officials, also PennDOT and representatives from CSX. The primary issue is with a train that is originating in Albany, New York becoming delayed as it travels south and the number of cars that are on these trains. Apparently the economy has impacted CSX's operations favorably and they now have very long trains.

CSX shared with those in attendance at the meeting long term plans they have to have additional locomotives manufactured for them so they could have more trains. As a more short term solution for what is being experienced in Middletown which is an unacceptable delay of traffic was to first have connection made between CSX and the Middletown Police Department so that we will be alerted when one of these trains is going to cause a delay. When the train is not delayed, it comes in the middle of the night and does not cause a problem. The goal is to keep motorists from that area when we know there is a delay.

In addition, CSX is going to work with PennDOT to place three (3) electronic signs at various locations so that motorists will be alerted to the fact that there is a delay.

Mr. Mallon stated that a new program called "Breakfast with the Board" is being established in an effort to reach out to the community and engage the residents and business owners. It is an opportunity for folks to meet informally with their elected officials to provide feedback and share ideas. The idea is to hold the meetings quarterly with the first event being held at Middletown Country Club on Wednesday, October 22, 2014 in the Manor Room at 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Mr. Mallon said due to the constraints of the Sunshine Law, there will only be two (2) Board members in attendance at any given time. There will be other events that are being worked on and will be announced in the future.

Mr. Mallon was challenged several weeks ago by a Middletown resident, Chelsea O'Rourke, for the Ice Bucket Challenge for ALS. This is a way to create awareness for a horrible disease. ALS is a very insidious disease, simply put it stops the connection between the brain and the muscles so the muscles no longer function. What is so insidious about this disease is that the victim's brain stays sharp so they know what is happening to them as they begin to lose control of both their voluntary and involuntary muscle function.

Mr. Mallon made a donation in the amount of \$200 to ALS and would ask those that he challenges this evening to do the same thing; write a check and have somebody dump a bucket of water on your head. Let's raise awareness of this horrible disease and try to find a way to cure ALS.

Mr. Mallon challenged the following individuals; Mr. Mallon's son, Patrick Joseph Mallon, Jr., daughter Sharon Patricia Mallon; Todd Buch of McCafferty Ford, Kia and Hyundai; Greg Wozniak, CEO of St. Mary Medical Center. Mr. Mallon also challenged two elected officials and fellow public servants; State Representative Frank Farry and Congressman Mike Fitzpatrick.

9. Other public comment. (Only applicable if initial Public Comment period exceeds the 30 minute time limit.)
10. Adjournment.

ACTION: MR. MALLON MOVED TO ADJOURN THE PUBLIC MEETING OF THE MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AT 8:20 P.M. MR. KREILING SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 5-0.