

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

83

A special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Upper Macungie Township was held on November 24, 2014, at 6:00 PM, in the Municipal Building at 8330 Schantz Road, Breinigsville, PA 18031. Those present were Chairman, James M. Brunell; Secretary, Kathy A. Rader; Township Manager, Daniel P. Olpere; Treasurer, Barry Moyer; Greta Slifer; Solicitor Andrew Schantz,

Chairman Brunell opened the meeting and asked all present to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Due to the untimely death of Vice Chairman Samir P. Ashmar, Chairman Brunell made an announcement regarding funeral services and then asked all to take a moment of silence.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss issues relating to the 2015 Township Budget. Also, any other business that may come before the Board; and, to take any necessary action, if appropriate.

Prior to budget discussions:

**Old Dominion Freight** – Mr. Sunny Ghai appearing for the residents who oppose the Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) decision, requested that the Board of Supervisors appeal the ZHB decision to Common Pleas Court. The residents would then join as objectors. Solicitor Schantz and Manager Olpere both addressed the residents, regarding the appeal and also the Conditional Use Review Hearing. After much discussion, a motion was made by Chairman Brunell, seconded by Secretary Rader and unanimous to appeal the ZHB decision. Any court appearance notices received by the Township will be copied to Mr. Ghai.

**Vacancy Procedure** – The vacancy procedure in the Second Class Township Code was reviewed by Solicitor Schantz. The Board has 30 days to fill the vacancy left by VC Ashmar. After some discussion, a motion was made by Secretary Rader, seconded by Chairman Brunell and unanimous, to send a memo to all the township boards and commissions and post on Facebook and the UMT website that if anyone is interested in being appointed to the vacancy that they submit a resume, letter of intent as to why they want the appointment, number of township meetings attended within the last year, and political party affiliation. This information must be received by Manager Olpere, by e-mail, no later than Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> so that the Board of Supervisor may attempt to make the appointment to fill the vacancy at the December 4<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors meeting.

**Verizon Cell Tower** – Solicitor Schantz reported that during recent contract discussions with Verizon, the equipment that the Township will be placing on Verizon's tower cannot be connected to the Verizon generator. The Township would have to have their own. This issue was not revealed during previous discussions when considering compensation to the Township. For the Township to have their own generator would create a costly, unexpected expense. After much discussion, Secretary Rader made a motion to have Manager Olpere talk to the Verizon government liaison and work with Solicitor Schantz for further negotiations. Chairman Brunell seconded the motion and it was unanimous.

**2015 Budget**

Township Manger Olpere reviewed the changes made to the draft budget that resulted from the last budget meeting. The budget is ready to be approved for advertising.

Olpere stated that consideration be given to increase the Street Light Tax. The Township income from the tax does not cover the expense. Olpere's suggestion is to raise the tax, only enough to cover the shortfall. Upon a motion by Chairman Brunell, seconded by Secretary Rader and unanimous, the Street Light Tax will be raised to cover the shortfall of the expense.

**Resolution 2014-44 – 2015 Wage Increases** – Olpere reported the wage increases in the budget for 2015. Upon a motion by Chairman Brunell, seconded by Secretary Rader and unanimous, BE IT RESOLVED the wage increases included in the 2015 Budget for the non-union employees will commence with the first pay period in January.

Secretary Rader made a motion to advertise the proposed 2015 Budget, seconded by Chairman Brunell and unanimous. Rader then made a motion to authorize a special meeting to be held by the Board of Supervisors on Monday, December 22, 2014, at 6:00 PM to, if appropriate, adopt the 2015 Budget. Motion was seconded by Chairman Brunell and unanimous.

A motion to adjourn was made by Chairman Brunell, seconded by Secretary Rader and unanimous. Meeting is adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Kathy A. Rader  
Secretary

