

**MINUTES**

The Moon Township Board of Supervisors, Allegheny County, met in regular session at the Moon Township Municipal Building, 1000 Beaver Grade Road, Moon Township, PA 15108.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, Chairman Tim McLaughlin presiding. Supervisors present: Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Vitale, Mr. Sinatra, Mr. Eicher and Mr. Gribben.

Mr. McLaughlin said that prior to this meeting the Board met in executive session to discuss personnel matters and litigation.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ACTION ITEMS:**

(There were none.)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Action Item**—Approval of the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of July 28 and Regular Meeting of August 4, 2010, which were distributed to the Board of Supervisors for their approval. Motion made by Mr. Vitale, seconded by Mr. Sinatra. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.

Reports as they were received will be available for public review for 24 hours at the Township Office. They include:

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|--|-----------------------------------|
| a. Animal Control                        | j. Moon Transportation Authority  |
| b. Building Permits                      | k. Moon Twp. Municipal Authority  |
| c. CATV Advisory Board                   | l. Moon Twp. Public Library       |
| d. Deed Transfer                         | m. Moon Twp. Recreation Authority |
| e. EMS Tax                               | n. Parks & Recreation Dept.       |
| f. Environmental Advisory Council        | o. Planning Commission            |
| g. Fire Department                       | p. Police Department              |
| h. H.A.R.B. Board                        | q. Road Department                |
| i. Moon Industrial Development Authority | r. Valley Ambulance Authority     |
|  | s. List of bills to be paid       |

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A. Mr. McLaughlin advised citizens that the Board of Supervisors and the Environmental Advisory Council would like to raise resident awareness of Emerald Ash Borer, an invasive beetle that is attacking ash trees in Pennsylvania. The infestation already has killed millions of trees in the Midwestern and eastern United States. Ash trees, which are numerous in this area, typically live for only two or three years after infection. Because falling trees can damage buildings, power lines and public areas, the township has approached this proactively by creating an inventory of the location and health of ash trees on township property. The inventory will help the township to evaluate its ash tree population and take appropriate precautions, which could include future removal of trees that threaten public safety or infrastructure. We will continue to update residents about this process. Meanwhile, residents are encouraged to evaluate ash trees on their own

property as well. More information about Emerald Ash Borer can be found online at [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info).

- B. Mr. McLaughlin said that the Moon Township Board of Supervisors will hold a public follow-up meeting on Wednesday, September 15, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Moon Township Municipal Building with residents in the Sharon Road area to discuss the traffic-calming devices. Residents with an interest are urged to attend. Mr. McLaughlin asked if it was correct that letters were sent out to residents of the area. Mr. McGurk said that approximately 460 letters were sent out to property owners in the area of the traffic-calming devices advising them of the upcoming meeting.
- C. Mr. McLaughlin advised citizens that the "Wings Over Pittsburgh" Air Show will be held on September 11 and 12 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the 911<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing. For more information, call the Air Show Hotline at 412-474-8501 or check the web site at [www.wingsoverpittsburgh.com](http://www.wingsoverpittsburgh.com). Also at Moon Park on Friday, September 10, 2010, there will be a performance by the Tops in Blue at the ARL Amphitheater at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Kasler said that it is the military band made up of different groups. They perform a variety of types of music. It will be a great show.
- D. Mr. McLaughlin said that the Allegheny County Bar Association and the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office are holding a free clinic for seniors on Wednesday, October 20, 2010, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on Thorn Run Road. The purpose of this clinic is to educate our seniors about living trusts so they do not fall victim to scams.
- E. Mr. McLaughlin advised citizens that Trick-or-Treat Night in Moon Township is scheduled for Thursday, October 28, 2010 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
- F. Mr. McLaughlin advised citizens that the annual Halloween Parade is scheduled for Monday, October 25, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at Moon Stadium.
- G. Mr. McLaughlin advised citizens that the Moon Township Library Friends will hold their annual book sale September 16 through 25 in the Moon Township Municipal Building. The hours are as follows:
- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Thurs., Sept. 16 (Preview Night--\$10 admission) | 4 – 8 PM     |
| Friday, Sept. 17                                 | 10 AM – 6 PM |
| Saturday, Sept. 18                               | 8 AM – 2 PM  |
| Monday through Friday, Sept. 20 – 24             | 10 AM – 6 PM |
| Saturday, Sept. 25                               | 8 AM – 2 PM  |
- H. Mr. McLaughlin said that on Friday night, MCA-TV will kick off its 25<sup>th</sup> consecutive season of Moon Area High School Varsity football coverage. Beginning with the home opener against the Mars Planets, MCA-TV will cover every home and away Tiger football game. Games will air on MCA-TV, Comcast channel 14 and Verizon channel 35, on Saturdays at 11 a.m. and on Mondays at 10 a.m., 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Fans also can view games online at [mca-tv.com](http://mca-tv.com) the week following the game.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. **Action Item** – Mr. McLaughlin called for a motion to approve/deny the Sardello-Cherrington Plan of Lots, subject to the Township Planning Department's review letter dated August 23, 2010. Mr. McGurk said that Jeff Minton, on behalf of the applicant, is here to discuss the plan. Mr. Minton of William R. Minton & Sons said that he will be constructing a house for Mr. Sardello, which is in the Cherrington Phase III plan of lots. The lot line is being modified to accommodate a bump-out planned for the house. In order to have the required 10-foot side yard setback, the applicant acquired some additional property from the adjoining property owner who has sufficient property to meet his side yard setback. Mr. McGurk said that he and the Township Engineer have written review letters and the applicant has or will address all outstanding comments. Motion to approve made by Mr. Vitale, seconded by Mr. Gribben. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.
- B. **Action Item** – Mr. McLaughlin called for a motion to approve/deny the Conti-Knouse Plan of Lots, subject to the Township Planning Department's review letter dated August 23, 2010. Mr. McGurk said that this is a simple subdivision so it goes directly to the Board of Supervisors. The Conti-Knouse Plan is in McCormick Farms on Johns Ridge Road. Two adjoining neighbors bought a vacant lot between their homes and are splitting it down the middle and adding it to their lots. It has been reviewed by the Township Engineer and himself. There are minor administrative review comments, but nothing significant. Motion to approve made by Mr. Sinatra, seconded by Mr. Vitale. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.
- C. **Action Item** – Mr. McLaughlin called for a motion to authorize a contract with One Communications for the provision of local and long distance dial tone and related phone communication services for a period of 36 months. Motion made by Mr. Vitale, seconded by Mr. Gribben. Ms. Creese said that the Township has been reviewing its phone services with our previous carrier. Per discussion and review of the contract at the Workshop, we recommend a change to One Communications. This will save the Township in excess of \$32,000 over the 36-month term of the contract. Mr. McLaughlin asked if our current provider, Verizon, was contacted about meeting their price. Ms. Creese said that we still will have some services with Verizon, but this is a significant savings over 36 months. We did talk to Verizon but their price plans are significantly different and they cannot meet that price. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.
- D. **Action Item** – Mr. McLaughlin called for a motion to authorize a lease agreement with NeoPost for postage meters for the Administration and Police Departments for a period of 60 months. Motion made by Mr. Gribben, seconded by Mr. Eicher. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.
- E. **Action Item** – Mr. McLaughlin called for a motion to approve the Harvest Moon 5K Race that will take place on Saturday, October 30, 2010. Motion made by Mr. Vitale, seconded by Mr. Sinatra. Mr. McLaughlin asked Ms. Creese where the race would take place. Ms. Creese said that we do not have a final plan but it is likely that it will follow the same route as in prior years. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.

- F. **Action Item** – Mr. McLaughlin called for a motion to appoint Thorp, Reed & Armstrong, LLP as Special Bond Counsel per their proposal dated July 21, 2010. Motion made by Mr. Sinatra, seconded by Mr. Gribben. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.
- G. **Action Item** – Mr. McLaughlin called for a motion to approve a refund of realty transfer tax paid to Moon Township in error and due to South Park Township in the amount of \$555.00. Motion made by Mr. Gribben, seconded by Mr. Sinatra. Mr. McLaughlin asked who caught the mistake. Mr. Santicola said that it was caught by the lawyers for South Park. The lawyers that did the closing on this particular piece of property recorded it with the wrong transfer sheet that goes along with the recording of the deed and the money was erroneously sent to Moon Township. The lawyers refunded the money to the proper municipality. They are asking for reimbursement from us and the school district. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.
- H. **Action Item** – Mr. McLaughlin called for a motion to accept the resignation of Amy Ottaviani from the Moon Township Parks & Recreation Advisory Board and appoint Tammy Stiffler to fill the unexpired term to expire the first Monday in January 2014 as recommended by the Moon Township Parks & Recreation Director. Motion made by Mr. Vitale, seconded by Mr. Gribben. Mr. McLaughlin thanked Amy for her tireless work on the Parks Board. She helped out with the July 4<sup>th</sup> race. We really appreciate her efforts. He wished that everyone that served on boards had the energy that she had. He thanked Amy and said that we look forward to having Tammy Stiffler fill that unexpired term. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- A. **Action Item** – Mr. McLaughlin called for a motion to readvertise for bids for the Cherrington Center Roof Replacement/HVAC project. Bids to be opened, tabulated and awarded at an upcoming meeting of the Moon Township Board of Supervisors. Motion made by Mr. Gribben, seconded by Mr. Sinatra. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.

#### **MOTION TO PAY THE BILLS:**

Mr. McLaughlin called for a motion to pay the bills [**check no. 6659 through check no. 6855, EFTs, and Capital Reserve check no. 1162 through check no. 1171**]. Motion made by Mr. Vitale, seconded by Mr. Gribben. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**

Mr. Tom Spagnol of 3007 Fallbrook Drive thanked the Board for their service and thanked the employees of Moon Township. He recognizes what a difficult chore it is managing a township. He particularly wanted to commend Adam McGurk on his responsiveness and professionalism. Mr. Spagnol said that he and his wife have been residents of Moon Township for 5½ years and live in a relatively new development. He would like the Board to give some thoughts on the policies and procedures in dealing with developers and their contractors. He questioned who they serve. The living standards of the residents of the Township should be greatly considered. In his 5½ years through the efforts of Adam McGurk, Dave Meinert, Lisa Lapaglia and others in the

Township they have done the best that they can to motivate our developers to do what they are committed to do. As a resident in a new development he feels there is far too great a leniency with these developers. They make commitments and it is then up to the elected officials and staff to make them follow through on their commitments. There is a storm basin project in his development that he has been talking to Adam McGurk and Dave Meinert about for some time that has not yet been finished. Who is paying for the engineer's time for him to insure that the developer completes the work. Now it is September 1 and he wonders if it will fall through the cracks again this season. He has also experienced waking up at 6:30 in the morning to contractors hammering noise. Contractors starting before 7:00 a.m. diminish the quality of life of the residents. Contractors starting at 8:00 a.m. on a Sunday is rather frustrating. He suggested that the Board review the policies and procedures that are in place for developers. Mr. McLaughlin asked Mr. McGurk to comment. Mr. McGurk said that regarding the storm basin in the Woodlands at Trout Run, the developer has made some progress over this construction season but it is not yet complete in terms of the inspections that the Township Engineer has done. We are putting as much pressure as possible on the developer to get the work done this year. Contractors working on Sundays is a violation of our ordinance Mr. McLaughlin urged Mr. Spagnol to call the police if a contractor is working on Sunday as it is a violation of our ordinance. We cannot do anything to remedy the situation if we do not know about it. Mr. McGurk said that starting work at 7:00 a.m. is permitted Monday through Saturday by our ordinance. If that is something that the Board would want to change, we would have to change the ordinance. Contractors cannot do work on Sundays or Federal holidays.

#### **REMARKS FROM THE SUPERVISORS:**

Mr. Vitale said that this weekend Moon is going to host a softball tournament on Friday, Saturday and Sunday in Moon Park. On Saturday there will be a hot air balloon there between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. If anyone can support this event, it will be greatly appreciated.

Mr. Gribben had no comments.

Mr. Eicher said that this past Sunday the Fire Department held their annual car cruise in Moon Park. It was another very successful event. There were over 3,000 antique cars there. It again demonstrates what the volunteers in Moon Township are willing to do to benefit this township. He knows that the Fire Department wants to acknowledge the support they got from the Public Works Department and Parks Department. In speaking on behalf of the Township, he thanked those volunteers in the Fire Department for putting on another successful event.

Mr. Sinatra said that he wanted to congratulate the under-12 girls' Moon Hurricanes soccer team for winning their third Plum tournament in a row. It was a great weekend had by all Moon residents who attended the tournament. However, there was a low point. The head coach decided to indulge in alcohol between the games at the field. The reason why he brings this up is that this is youth sports. Obviously, we have a "no alcohol" policy in the park; but we are allowing the organizations to police themselves if they find a head coach violating this. There has to be a "no tolerance" policy for drinking alcohol on the sidelines. This, of course, occurred at the Plum tournament held by the PA West Soccer Association that the Moon Area Soccer Association belongs to. He

hopes that MASA does not brush this under the rug and dismiss this as not their problem because this was not on Township fields. But they appointed a coach to run a soccer team and it is a reflection on the community. Obviously, this is his daughter's team and he has pulled her from the team due to concern for her safety and he thinks it is the right thing to do. This coach has put a black eye on this great organization run by responsible adults. The only solution to this is a "no tolerance" policy and this coach has to be removed. This is the thought of not only this Supervisor but many team parents. But it was a great weekend and he knows that Moon Soccer will come to the forefront to take care of the situation.

Mr. McLaughlin said that he wanted to remind everyone that school is back in session. He urged everyone to please be careful and remember how fast you are driving. The speed limit is 15 miles per hour in a school zone. The police enforce this heavily as they should. The safety of the children is first. School zones are very clearly posted.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet L. Sieracki  
Assistant Municipal Secretary

