

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 Jim Vitale presiding. Supervisors present: Mr. Vitale, Mr. Sinatra, Mr. Eicher, Mr. Gribben and Dr. Mills.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ACTION ITEMS:

(There were none.)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Vitale called for a motion for approval of the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 10, Workshop Meeting of August 31 and Regular Meeting of September 7, 2011, which were distributed to the Board of Supervisors for their approval. Motion made by Mr. Sinatra and seconded by Mr. Gribben. 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. Environmental Advisory Council | n. Parks & Recreation Dept. |
| f. Fire Department | o. Planning Commission |
| g. H.A.R.B. Board | p. Police Department |
| h. Local Services Tax | q. Road Department |
| i. Moon Industrial Development Authority | r. Valley Ambulance Authority |
| | s. List of bills to be paid |

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. On behalf of the Moon Area School District, Dr. Donna Milanovich and Mark Scappe addressed the Board. Mr. Scappe said that they would like to thank the Moon Township Police Department for their unwavering commitment to serve the needs and protect the residents of the Moon Area School District. They were honored to have Chief McCarthy and Captain Seamon at their September 12 Board of Education meeting so that they could recognize them and the entire department publicly. They are grateful for the collective relationship and they look forward to continuing this positive partnership. He thanked each and every officer for making sure that safety is never an issue in Moon Area School District. Dr. Milanovich said that she wanted to be in attendance to tell everyone of the help they receive daily from the Moon Township Police Department. Chief McCarthy and every member of the department are always there to help them. We have such a positive relationship that they wanted to bring them to the school board meeting to recognize them and tell the Board of Supervisors how important that relationship is to the school district. Dr. Milanovich and Mr. Scappe thanked the Board and left the meeting.

- B. Mr. Vitale said that brick orders for the Moon Township Memorial Garden walkway will continue to be accepted on an ongoing basis. Commemorative bricks are a meaningful way to remember a loved one, honor a friend or family member or recognize a milestone. Bricks are available for \$65 for an engraved 4x8" brick or \$200 for an 8x8" business brick. Brick orders will be accepted on an ongoing basis. Order forms are available on the Township website, www.moontwp.com, or at the municipal building.
- C. Mr. Vitale recognized and thanked all of the sponsors and volunteers that generously contributed time, talents and resources to the September 11 dedication ceremony and Memorial Garden redesign.
- D. Mr. Vitale recognized Moon Township resident Denise Imbrogno who played an important role in making the September 11 ceremony such a meaningful event. On behalf of the Board, Mrs. Imbrogno was presented with a proclamation.
- E. Mr. Vitale read a proclamation recognizing Eagle Scout Michael L. Byrne.
- F. **Presentation** – The Allegheny County Airport Authority (ACAA) construction of a Tear Drop Roundabout on Ewing Road at the intersection of the eastbound on/off ramps of Business Loop 376.
- G. Please join Moon Parks for a **Family Friendly** Halloween Event in Moon Park on Wednesday, October 26, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Visit the **"Amazing Talking Pumpkin."** Come in costume to enjoy music provided by the Moon Area High School Band and activity stations, safety tips, pumpkin decorating, hayrides, story-tellers, picture booth (*sponsored by Moon Township Walgreens*). **All little ghosts & goblins welcome!** Parking for the event will be located at the upper back lot near the new tennis courts in Moon Park.
- H. Mr. Vitale advised citizens that Trick-or-Treat Night in Moon Township is scheduled for Monday, October 31, 2011 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
- I. Mr. Vitale advised citizens that the Moon Township Road Department will be picking up brush at curbside throughout October and concluding on October 28, 2011. Pick-up dates will follow residents' garbage collection schedule. Brush is to be stacked at curbside and should not any more than 6 feet in length and 4 inches in diameter.
- J. Mr. Vitale advised citizens that that there will be a change in the collection schedule for the pick-up of leaves. Leaves will **no longer be picked up on Saturdays as in prior years**. The Moon Township Road Department will be picking up leaves at curbside and this will also follow residents' garbage collection schedule. Leaf pick-up will commence on Monday, October 24, and conclude on Friday, December 2. Leaves must be placed in brown paper biodegradable bags and at curbside by 8:00 a.m. The Road Department asks that residents please try to keep leaves, brush and garbage separated. For further information, please consult the Township web site at www.moontwp.com, MCA-TV or call the Township Office at 412-262-1700.
- K. Mr. Vitale advised citizens that the leaf waste drop-off site at Downes Fire Station will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from October 22 through December 4. The site will

open at 9:00 a.m. and close at 5:00 p.m. In addition to leaves, residents may also bring brush to the site to be chipped by the Road Department.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Action Item** – Mr. Vitale called for a motion to approve an agreement with Stromberg, Garrigan & Associates for the development of a waterfront park, upon approval from the DCNR, as recommended by the Parks & Recreation Director, Waterfront Park Steering Committee and Township Manager. Motion made by Dr. Mills and seconded by Mr. Sinatra. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.
- B. **Action Item** – Mr. Vitale called for a motion to approve/deny bond reduction request No. 9 for the Cimarron Development, Phases 1 and 2, to \$263,100 as recommended by the Township Engineer in his letter dated September 16, 2011. Motion to approve made by Mr. Gribben, seconded by Mr. Sinatra. Mr. Eicher asked the status of the proposed trail in this development. Mr. Petroccia said that there is a proposed trail but is not sure where it is supposed to connect. That trail still needs to be completed. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.
- C. **Action Item** – Mr. Vitale called for a motion to appoint Janney, Montgomery & Scott as financial advisors for the 2011/2012 bond issue as recommended by the Assistant Township Manager and Finance Director. Motion made by Mr. Sinatra, seconded by Mr. Gribben. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.
- D. **Action Item** – Mr. Vitale called for a motion to approve/deny the Elizabeth Bundy Plan No. 2 as recommended by the Township Engineer in his letter dated July 29, 2011. Motion to approve made by Mr. Sinatra, seconded by Mr. Eicher. Mr. Petroccia said that this plan came before the Supervisors on May 4. It was a two-lot minor land development at that time. It is located off Route 51. The plan came back in July as a three-lot minor land development so it is basically a revision to an existing approved plan that we are being asked to approve tonight. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.
- E. **Action Item** – Mr. Vitale called for a motion to extend an offer of employment to Marissa Gerkey for the position of Planning Director at an annual salary of \$63,000. Motion made by Dr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Eicher. Mr. Vitale asked Ms. Creese to give some background on this motion. Ms. Creese said that on behalf of Assistant Township Manager Jeff Ziegler and herself, they are pleased to recommend Marissa for the position of Planning Director. They completed two rounds of interviews and Marissa was the top candidate. Ms. Creese gave details of Ms. Gerkey's qualifications. She is being brought on to replace former Planning Director Adam McGurk. The Township has been without a Planning Director since April and we all are pleased to be getting a full-time Planning Director on staff. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.
- F. **Action Item** – Mr. Vitale called for a motion to approve/deny the Sewage Facilities Planning Module for the Foxwood Road Pressure Sewer System as reviewed and revised by the Township Solicitor and adopt Resolution R-16-2011 accordingly. Motion to approve made by Mr. Sinatra, seconded by Mr. Gribben. Mr. Petroccia said this is the Moon Township Municipal Authority responding to a letter from the Allegheny County Health Department that concluded that 34 properties on Foxwood Road needed to be connected into the sanitary sewer system. It is an extension of the sanitary sewer

system, which is a revision to the sanitary sewer plan. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.

MOTION TO PAY THE BILLS:

Mr. Vitale called for a motion to pay the bills [**check no. 9253 through check no. 9363, EFTs, and Capital Reserve check no. 1300 through check no. 1311**]. Motion made by Mr. Sinatra, seconded by Mr. Gribben. All Supervisors voting yes, motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

Mr. James Copenhaver of Jackson Road asked the Board for a sound abatement sign for trucks using Flaugherty Run Road. There is already a sign for trucks to use a lower gear, which then causes them to use an engine brake. He is not sure if the Township has the authority to prohibit the use of such brakes since Flaugherty Run Road is a State road. There are many large-capacity trucks that use that road and the sound can be quite annoying. A simple sign may remedy the situation. If the trucks have mufflers on their engine brakes there is no problem. That is his only request and he thanked the Board. Mr. Lucas said that the State may not have sole jurisdiction in such a situation. Many communities have “jake brake ordinances” so he would have to look into it if that is the desire of the Board.

Tom Arnold of Crawford Drive said that he was always under the impression that the board of the Moon Transportation Authority was to be made up of two Supervisors, two members from the school board and a member of the business community. He asked if that has changed because since Mr. McLaughlin’s resignation from the Board of Supervisors, his seat on the Transportation Authority has been vacated as well. He thinks that vacancy on the MTA should have been filled right away. Mr. McLaughlin never attended any of the meetings so it has been a long time with a vacancy on the MTA board. He asked why Mr. McLaughlin was not replaced on the MTA when he resigned from the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Vitale said that we are looking into whether that seat needs to be filled by a Supervisor. We, like Mr. Arnold, believe that it does need to be filled by a Supervisor but are checking into the MTA’s bylaws and/or charter. We will refer that to our solicitor. Ms. Creese said that Mr. McLaughlin has resigned from the Board of Supervisors; he did not submit a resignation from the transportation authority. He would need to resign from that authority. Mr. Arnold said that he feels that a replacement from the Board of Supervisors should be made as soon as possible to this important authority.

Kevin Smith of Elite Runners said that he is in attendance representing the Student Ministry Program from St. Philip’s Church. They are requesting use of roads through Moon Township for 4th annual Harvest Moon 5K ten-mile race. This year the race will benefit the Youth Ministry Program at St. Philip’s. The event continues to grow each year. They have already worked with PennDOT to secure the closure of Beaver Grade Road from Coraopolis Heights Road to Ewing Road and Ewing Road itself during the race. They have worked with the Police Department, as well as the Parks and Recreation Department, each year on this race. His group will be absorbing all of the expenses and will be providing volunteers for the event. The volunteers will be distributing flyers to homes in the area of the race so that residents will be notified in plenty of time of the road closures and the time of the closures. Mr. Sinatra asked if the Board needed a motion to

approve this race. Ms. Creese said that she would check last year's language and put it on the Board's next meeting agenda.

REMARKS FROM THE SUPERVISORS:

Mr. Sinatra said that Halloween is upon us and he wished everyone a Happy Halloween. He urged everyone to be safe with the kids out there.

Mr. Eicher said that he wanted to speak briefly about Marcellus shale. A lot is being said and written on this matter. There are many pros and cons on this topic. It can certainly be an asset to the State, but along with that there are concerns that we read about every day. In Moon Township, we have an Oil & Gas Ordinance. We also have some other ordinances that would come into play if a company wanted to drill within the Township. Much of what happens with Marcellus shale is controlled by some State agency. As a township, we have some authorities that the State has given us; but we do not have a broad range of what we can do. But we are responsible to the residents for things such as highways, noise, etc. Several months ago, we asked the Planning Commission to take a look at this, do a review and make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. At that point the Board would follow through with our own public meetings about what needs to happen. Hopefully, we are very close to the Planning Commission giving us something. He brings this up because the Planning Commission meets the last Tuesday of the month. If they make a recommendation, the Board will have additional public meetings and seek public input to make sure that we have carefully examined whatever is within the Township's jurisdiction and did our due diligence to meet our obligation. He thinks it is incumbent on this Board, as quickly as possible, to get public input and review carefully where our ordinances are and what we need to do. He is bringing this up for two reasons. He is encouraging the Planning Commission to move forward as quickly as possible. He also wants to bring this to residents' attention so if they have an opinion, either pro or con, they make their opinion known so that the Board gets the best input possible from the community.

Mr. Gribben said that he wanted to expand on what Mr. Eicher has said. Input from the residents is very important. Very recently, the Board enacted some parking ordinances over by Robert Morris University and modified the parking ordinance by the Moon Area High School. Without input from the residents, we may not have arrived at that solution. The solution that we arrived at in the area by RMU was very good for the residents. So residents' input is very important. He encouraged residents to come in and give their input on any of these topics. You will be welcomed and we will take your input seriously.

Dr. Mills thanked the Board for giving her the opportunity to serve on the Board of Supervisors. As a member of the Planning Commission and the Comprehensive Plan Committee, she will benefit from serving on this Board. With regard to Marcellus shale, she and Mr. Eicher discussed the Township's current ordinance and the reciprocity between the two boards will be very beneficial. Six years ago, two people were elected to this Board—Mr. Mike Hopper and Mr. Timothy McLaughlin. For personal reasons, neither one was able to finish his term. She thanked both of them for their service to Moon Township. As an appointed member to the Board, she wanted to assure everyone that she will serve fairly and thoughtfully and respect the fact that she was appointed and not elected which, she thinks, is a distinct difference. She also wanted to congratulate Chief Belgie for the Memorial Park and dedication on September 11. As a lifelong

resident of Moon Township, she can't remember a more important day in Moon Township. For those that were not at the ceremony, a wonderful thing happened. At the end of Chief Belgie's presentation, Air Force One flew over the parking lot. That was pretty amazing that the President of the United States flew over the parking lot as if on cue. After that, his helicopter flew over; so he flew over twice. Congratulations to Chief Belgie and all of the Moon Township Volunteer Fire Department.

Mr. Vitale said he wanted to welcome Dr. Mills to the Board. She has been a great civic leader in Moon Township for many years. We look forward to serving with her.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet L. Sieracki
Assistant Municipal Secretary