

MINUTES of MEETING
Durham Township Board of Supervisors
Tuesday, December 08, 2015
Township Building Meeting Room

Present: **Supervisors:** Bartley E. Millett, Chairman
Richard M. Johnson, Vice Chairman
Manfred Marschewski, Member

Secretary: Joseph M. Kulick

Solicitor: Peter N. Harrison

Zoning Officer: Edward A. Child

Road Master: Andy Volak

Absent: None

Meeting called to order by Chairman Bartley E. Millett at 7:33 PM. All in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

The Chairman introduced Bucks County Commissioner, Chair Robert G. Loughery, who was in attendance to present Supervisor Manfred Marschewski with a Bucks County Citation for his 34 years of government service. Chairman Millett presented Supervisor Marschewski with a Citation from State Senator Bob Mensch and Vice Chairman Johnson presented one from State Representative M. Quinn, neither of whom could attend due to commitments in Harrisburg. Mr. Marschewski and his wife Frieda (not in attendance) were also awarded the Durham Township Citizen(s) of the Year for 2015 award for all of their years of dedicated service to the Durham Township residents.

Approval of Minutes from November 10, 2015 Regular Meeting

Vice Chairman Richard M. Johnson made a **motion** to approve the Minutes as submitted. Member Manfred Marschewski **seconded** the motion. All agreed. **Motion passed**, Minutes approved as submitted.

Approval of Financial Report Ending November 30, 2015

Member Manfred Marschewski made a **motion** to approve the Financial Report as presented. The Vice Chairman **seconded** the motion. All agreed. **Motion passed**.

Final Review & Adoption of the 2016 Draft Budget:

Chairman Bartley E. Millett announced that the 2016 Draft General & State Fund Budgets had been previously presented and reviewed at the November board meeting and has since been made available in the township office for the past month. Township Manager Joe Kulick advised the board that the document has been legally advertised in the Intelligencer on November 17, 2015 as required by law. He (Kulick) also advised the board that no changes have been proposed since the November review and then recommended the board adopt the final budget as presented.

Since the 2016 Budget included a property tax increase; the board reviewed Resolution 2015-2 increasing the General Fund Real Estate Tax millage to six (6) mills from the current four (4) mills. After a brief discussion a **motion** was made by the Chairman to approve Resolution 2015-2. The Vice Chairman **seconded** the motion and everyone agreed. **Motion passed**.

Since the meeting attendees did not have any further discussion or questions, a **motion** was made by the Chairman to adopt the 2016 Budget as presented. The Vice Chairman **seconded** the motion and Member Manfred Marschewski did not agree. **Motion passed 2 to 1** and the **2016 Budget was adopted** as presented. There were no further comments or questions.

Updates: None presented.

New Business:

Durham Historical Society (DHS) Presentation:

DHS President David Oleksa was present and addressed the board. He requested that the board consider dedicating the monthly rental received from the post office to commence restoration the mill. If so, the DHS will seek out additional funding to assist in the endeavor. As a sign of goodwill Mr. Oleksa presented the township with a \$5,000 check from the DHS to “get the ball rolling”. The board unanimously agreed on a **motion** from Member Manfred Marschewski and **seconded** by the Chairman. The Vice Chairman agreed and the **motion passed**. There were no further comments or questions.

Old Business: None Scheduled

Zoning & Building Report:

Township Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer Ed Child was present at the meeting and read his report aloud; zoning permit issued to Community Bank to change signage from First Savings Bank of Perkasio, building & zoning permits to Brown on Lehnberg Road to renovate their bathroom. 23 zoning permits and 19 building permits issued year-to-date approximately the same as last year. There were no motions or any further comments or questions.

Public Works Report:

Road Master Andy Volak was present at the meeting and advised the board; discussed mill window replacement with Glenn Hissim of Hissim Woodworking, installed tree and holiday lights on bandstand, installed a new salt spreader spinner motor on DT-1, new salt spreader conveyor chain on DT-3, installed snow markings on various roads throughout the township, repaired roadside gutters in several locations, repaired guide rail poles on Valley View Road, purchased new mower blades and installed on roadside mower, cold patched some pot holes, cleaned-up brush that was illegally dumped on Funks Mill Road, ordered an additional 50 ton of road salt. Resident Steven Salva questioned the still remaining deteriorated condition of the state roads throughout the area. There were no motions, further comments or questions.

Environmental Advisory Council / Planning Commission Report:

EAC Chair Kathleen Connally was present and provided an update: Master Composting Program in the works, Environmental tips to be placed monthly on newly created EAC Facebook page, roadside clean-up conducted on Route 611 removing lots of trash. Resident Kathy Gentner commented on the updating of the townships’ comprehensive plan and the plan to obtain and compare the surrounding municipalities’ plans. She (Gentner) also mentioned the creation of a new oil and gas drilling ordinance, along with an air and water preservation ordinance and a master road (*repair*) plan. She also reiterated the existence of three (3) openings on the planning commission for 2016. Member Manfred Marschewski noted that he spoke with resident Joel Roney and he was interested in a PC spot.

Resident Erin Goga questioned if a sitting township supervisor could also serve on the planning commission. *Yes*. Resident Lou Bucci commented that the comprehensive plan should contain strong “energy language”. Resident Wendy Badman reminded the board that a resident survey should be sent out to obtain input from them on the townships’ future. PC member Lois Oleksa commented that only a partial update of the plan is actually needed. There were no further comments or questions.

Public Service Announcements: The Chairman announced:

State Senator Bob Mensch’s office will be present tomorrow, December 09, 2015 to assist you with any State related concerns.

Community Fire Company #1 Monthly Breakfast with Santa will be held on Sunday, December 20, 2015 8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon... Order by Menu.

Township Offices will be closed for the Holiday’s on Christmas Day, Friday, December 25th and again on Friday, January 01, 2016 for New Year’s Day.

Regional Monthly Recycling Day will be held on 2nd Saturday, January 09, 2016, 9:00AM to 12 Noon

The Townships' Annual Holiday Coffee & Cake (& pretzels!) Party will be held directly after this Board of Supervisors Meeting. Bring a delicacy! All are invited to attend. Bid farewell to Township Supervisor Manfred Marschewski after 34 years of service to Durham Township!

Other Questions/Comments: None

Pay Bills / Close Meeting:

The Chairman made a **motion** to pay the bills as presented and to then close the Meeting; **seconded** by the Vice Chairman. All agreed. **Motion passed.** Meeting closed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Minutes Submitted by: Township Secretary/Manager Joseph M. Kulick
Minutes APPROVED at January 12, 2016 Regular Meeting