

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REORGANIZATION MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2012
(MEETING CONTINUED FROM JANUARY 2, 2012)
7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Sam Abatta called the Continued Reorganization Meeting of January 9, 2012 to order at the Robinson Township Municipal Complex, 1000 Church Hill Road at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Triko-A, Mapel-P, Shiwarski-P, Forquer-P, Abatta-P
Also in attendance were: Township Manager Aaron Bibro, Finance Director Barbara Swearingen, Solicitor Robert Garvin, Engineer Michael Meyer, Planning Director Urbano and Dolly Cvengros for the purpose of taking minutes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Edward Popham (1166 Hayes Avenue), I have an issue with some back taxes that I allegedly did not pay. I received a collection notice from Jordan Tax Service from Robinson Township apparently authorizing this action. There was a 1500 sq. ft. mistake that resulted in Allegheny County back in 2005 saying that they suddenly realized there is a 3 car detached garage that was built in 1990 and charged back taxes for 2002, 2003 and 2005, which I paid. Not receiving a bill from Robinson Township, I did not pay any taxes. As you can see, there was an additional \$47.85 that was not paid. Since it has escalated, it went from \$115.00 less \$46.00 which is a difference of \$67.61 through no fault of my own. I find this disturbing. We always pay our taxes on time. My wife and I both have credit ratings of over 800. We do what we are supposed to do. This is insulting. I called the tax office today and spoke with a very nice gentleman named Doug. He told me "after we took over, we found a lot of messiness." Apparently, I am not alone with this situation. I would like some answers. I am asking that the Township pay the \$67.61 and I will pay my taxes, which I am obligated to do so within thirty days.

Chairman Abatta, when this problem first occurred, did you get in touch with Mr. Bibro or anyone else besides the tax office to try and find a solution?

Mr. Popham, I received the certified notice on Friday afternoon and picked it up on Saturday afternoon. I made some calls this morning and Doug from the tax office told me that the best course of action would be to come in front of Council this evening. I am furious.

Commissioner Shiwarski, when was the first time that you were aware of any delinquency?

Mr. Popham, Jordan Tax Services sent me a certified letter.

Chairman Abatta, I am going to ask our Township Manager to look into this incident with Jordan. There is something awry here. I am glad you came to the microphone to air your problems and I can guarantee you that we will get an answer for you.

Mgr. Bibro, I will call the president of Jordan this week. We have had this situation pop up a few times this year and they have been very responsive and we usually come to a conclusion that makes the resident pretty happy. We have no problem working with you in this situation.

Charles Simm (34 Eichelberger Drive), I am here for the last time to voice my dislike of how this whole situation of the problem with the hillside behind my house has been handled by the Township. I do not believe that Robinson Twp. should take over nine years to fix one sewer pipe. As far as I am concerned, I am very disappointed with how you have handled this. I told you people not to file a claim for me and you went ahead and I lost \$7300.00. I don't know why you filed the claim. What did it gain you? I feel that the new Commissioners coming in right now should try and understand that the people don't want to take money from you. I just want back what I put into it. For the last time I just want to tell you that you people know that you did damage on Mrs. Morris' property and because she did not come down here because she has a bad heart and did not complain, you choose to totally ignore the fact that you did damage on her property. For eight years you have not done a thing about it. In the future, when that main raw sewage line slides down the hill, you are going to try and shove it off on the water company and it is not their problem. It is your problem.

Chairman Abatta, with all due respect, I have been sitting on this Board for four years and this is not the first time that you have come up and made us aware of the problem that is at hand. Not only am I constantly aware of it, but I have been to your property many different times, as well as former Commissioners. I think the bottom line is, Robinson Twp. has tried to rectify the problem. We spent an excessive amount of money to try and solve the problem. I know that you have some other concerns that you feel we are responsible for, but what we are going to have to do is talk to our engineer and talk to our legal department again and see what, if anything, can be done. Again, my thoughts are that this problem was taken care of in a timely fashion.

Mr. Simm, is that to your satisfaction or to mine? I think a lot of the job was done right, but there were other things that were not done the way that I thought should have been done. I should not need a lawyer to try and get something straight from this building.

Chairman Abatta, we are not going to go back and forth on this issue in this forum. I feel that Robinson Township has met its burden and has rectified this problem.

BUILDING INSPECTOR/ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT

The Building Inspector/Zoning Officer Report is attached.

The Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session on January 2, 2012 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to discuss legal and personnel issues. The Board will take official action, if any, from this executive session at the continued meeting on January 9, 2012

Township Officials Appointments

Appointment: Township Manager

Vice-Chairman Forquer nominated Aaron Bibro.

Nomination seconded by Commissioner Shiwarski

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

MOTION Forquer SECOND Shiwarski to adopt a Resolution confirming the entry into an Employment Agreement between the Township of Robinson and Aaron Bibro.
ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Assistant Township Manager/Finance

Commissioner Shiwarski nominated Barbara Swearingen

Nomination seconded by Commissioner Mapel

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

MOTION Forquer, SECOND Shiwarski authorizing the entry into an Employment Agreement between the Township of Robinson and Barbara Swearingen, CPA
ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Township Secretary

Vice-Chairman Forquer nominated Dolly Cvengros

Nomination was seconded by Commissioner Shiwarski

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Township Solicitor

Commissioner Shiwarski nominated Goldberg, Kamin & Garvin

Commissioner Forquer seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Planning Commission – Township Legal Consultant

Vice-Chairman Forquer nominated Goldberg, Kamin & Garvin

Commissioner Shiwarski seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Township Engineer

Commissioner Shiwarski nominated Remington, Vernick & Beach

Commissioner Mapel seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Township Planning Director

Commissioner Mapel nominated Rick Urbano

Vice-Chairman Forquer seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Township Zoning Officer

Commissioner Shiwarski nominated Rick Urbano

Vice-Chairman Forquer seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

MOTION Mapel, SECOND Forquer to approve a 2.75% wage increase for Rick Urbano,
Robinson Township Planning Director/Zoning Officer

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Township Code Enforcement Officer

Vice-Chairman Forquer nominated Greg Cuthbert

Commissioner Shiwarski seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

MOTION Forquer, SECOND Shiwarski to approve a 2.75% wage increase for Greg
Cuthbert, Robinson Township Code Enforcement Officer

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Township Building Inspector

Commissioner Shiwarski nominated Plans Examiner Incorporated

Vice-Chairman Forquer seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Township Fire Code Official

Commissioner Shiwarski nominated Plans Examiner Incorporated

Commissioner Mapel seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Emergency Management Coordinator

Vice-Chairman Forquer nominated Brian Jazudek

Commissioner Shiwarski seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Earned Income Tax Collector

Vice-Chairman Forquer nominated Jordan Tax as appointed by the Southwest Allegheny County Tax Collection Committee per Pennsylvania Act 32 of 2008

Commissioner Shiwarski seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Delinquent Township Earned Income Tax Collector

Commissioner Shiwarski nominated Central Tax Bureau of Pennsylvania (CENTAX)

Vice-Chairman Forquer seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collector

Commissioner Shiwarski nominated Jordan Tax Services

Vice-Chairman Forquer seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Other Year's Real Estate Collector

Vice-Chairman Forquer nominated Jordan Tax Services

Commissioner Shiwarski seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Local Services Tax (LST) Collector

Vice-Chairman Forquer nominated Central Tax Bureau of Pennsylvania (CENTAX)

Commissioner Shiwarski seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Delinquent Local Services Tax Collector

Commissioner Shiwarski nominated Central Tax Bureau of Pennsylvania (CENTAX)

Commissioner Mapel seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Planning Commission (Term Ending Dec. 31, 2015)
Planning Commission (Term Ending Dec. 31, 2013)

Vacancies (2)

Vice-Chairman Forquer nominated William Kisow for the term ending December 31, 2015

Commissioner Mapel seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Commissioner Shirwarski nominated Teresa Laurent for the term ending December 31, 2013

Commissioner Mapel seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: MATR (Term Ending December 31, 2016)

Vice-Chairman Forquer nominated Dr. Charles Blocksidge

Commissioner Shiwarski seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Zoning Hearing Board (Term Ending Dec. 31, 2014)

Commissioner Shiwarski nominated Lawrence Martrano

Commissioner Mapel seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Library Board (2 Terms ending December 31, 2014)

Commissioner Shiwarski nominated Christie Zagari Willy

Vice-Chairman Forquer seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Vice-Chairman Forquer nominated Karen Evans Meyers

Commissioner Shiwarski seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Civil Service Commission (Term Ending 12/2017)

Commissioner Mapel nominated James Coletta

Vice-Chairman Forquer seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Township Vacancy Board (Term Ending Dec. 31, 2012)

Vice-Chairman Forquer nominated Bryan Young

Commissioner Shiwarski seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment of Official Organizations

Appointment: Township Depository

Vice-Chairman Forquer nominated Citizens Bank

Commissioner Shiwarski seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Official Township Newspaper

Commissioner Shiwarski nominated the Suburban Gazette

Vice-Chairman Forquer seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Appointment: Secondary Township Newspaper

Vice-Chairman Forquer nominated the Pittsburgh Post Gazette

Commissioner Shiwarski seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Scheduling of Regular and Agenda Setting Meetings

Schedule: Regular Meetings

Commissioner Shiwarski nominated the 1st Monday of each month for the Board of Commissioners Meetings

Vice-Chairman Forquer seconded the nomination

ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Chairman Abatta, we will be doing one meeting per month beginning next month. We used to have the Caucus Meeting the first Monday and the Regular Meeting on the second Monday. We will be streamlining and putting everything together on one meeting night.

MOTION Forquer, SECOND Shiwarski to approve the December, 2011 List of Bills
ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

MOTION Forquer, SECOND Shiwarski to approve a one (1) year lease between the Township of Robinson and Plans Examiners Inc. The lease will run from January 1, 2012 thru December 31, 2012
ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

MOTION Forquer, SECOND Shiwarski to exonerate Edward Ritter, former Township Treasurer from the collection of 2011 Real Estate Taxes
ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

MOTION Forquer, SECOND Shiwarski to refer to Robinson Township's Planning Commission and Allegheny county Department of Planning for review and recommendation, a proposed Zoning Ordinance text amendment for the C-5 Zoning District to define and authorize Light Manufacturing as a permitted use in the C-5 Zoning District.
ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

MOTION Forquer, SECOND Shiwarski to advertise a public hearing on a proposed Zoning Ordinance text amendment for the C-5 Zoning District to define and authorize Light Manufacturing as a permitted use in the C-5 Zoning District. The public hearing shall take place on February 13, 2012 at 8:30 a.m.
ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Mapel talked about how the Township has progressed over the years, from riding horses on Clever Rd. and swimming at North Park to what we have now. We are going to need to manage this growth more carefully so that we do not end up with gridlock like our neighbors to the north, south and east. He also discussed how he and Commissioner Abatta ran a campaign recently on looking at ways to streamline operations, manage Township affairs professionally and proficiently without theatrics and to do it respectfully. He expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to give something back to the community. He also expressed his thanks to all of the people who supported

him during his recent election including those that gave monetarily, people who wrote letters or made phone calls and people who took time away from their families to go door to door campaigning. It is not easy, but this is what he and Sam (Abatta) were committed to doing. He thanked "Friends of Abatta and Mapel" and the Democratic Committee of Robinson Township for all of their help. Commissioner Mapel expressed gratitude to his fellow Planning Commission Members saying that it was a privilege and he learned a lot about what goes on in the Township. He also expressed appreciation to Sam and Janet Abatta for their patience. Most importantly, he thanked his wife and daughters for all of their help.

Commissioner Shiwarski congratulated Commissioner Mapel on being newly elected to the Board. He also congratulated all of the other appointments to the Boards and thanked them for their commitment to the Township. He welcomed Aaron Bibro and Barbara Swearingen back for another year. Their work may go unnoticed to the majority of the residents, but to the Board, their work is very much appreciated. He also expressed thanks to Michael Meyer (Remington, Vernick & Beach), Goldberg, Kamin and Garvin, Rick Urbano, Greg Cuthbert and Township staff. He wished a healthy and prosperous New Year for the Township.

Vice-Chairman Forquer congratulated Chairman Abatta for winning the election and also for being voted in as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners. He also welcomed and congratulated Earl Mapel for his victory. He expressed confidence in the future of the Township. We have a balance forward of \$1.9 million, which has not been the case since 2008. We have cut back on expenses, but we are continuing to provide good services to the community. We are going to save money on electricity and also by using Jordan Tax Services. Commissioner Forquer stated that they tried to talk to Edward Ritter several times, but he was unapproachable and would not sit down and discuss things. He wanted to do things his way. He could have stayed. There were other alternatives that could have been looked at. It was common knowledge that the tax office was over-staffed. It was the decision of Mr. Ritter to leave. He was not forced out.

Vice-Chairman Forquer, along with Chairman Abatta will be attending the monthly meeting of the Council of Local Governments (COG) on December 15th.

If Dan Tallon is looking in tonight, he is in the thoughts of many. The Township is wishing him a speedy recovery and hoping that he can be honored as he so rightly deserves in the near future.

There will be no increase in the tax millage for 2012. Best wishes for a healthy and prosperous new year for everyone.

Chairman Abatta stated that speaking last, he now understands what Mr. Tallon went through last year when he sat in this chair. Everything has already been said. He thanked

all of the Township residents who came out and supported himself and Mr. Mapel in his re-election campaign. He is here to serve and not be served. He fully understands all of the responsibilities that he has been entrusted with and will carry out his duties to the fullest. He also thanked all of the residents that he has met through his door to door campaign for taking the time to discuss their concerns and important issues. He will work to maintain our first class facilities in a professional manner. Regardless of what is happening to our economy outside Robinson Township, we still maintain our standards and services to all of our residents, without a tax increase. This includes our police department, fire departments, EMS protection, our implementation of our PMS program for maintaining and improving our roads and infrastructure. We will hold developers to the highest standards for residential and commercial construction within all of our boundaries and will maintain and operate the best parks and recreation facilities as much as we possibly can. In looking at our 2012 Annual Budget that was prepared by Mgr. Bibro, he did a great job. He encouraged residents to look through the budget. It is well written and explains everything in detail. It will answer any questions that you may have. There is no increase in the tax millage of 3.05. The median resident of Robinson Twp. pays only \$345.87 annually in real estate taxes to the Township for all of its essential services. For every real estate tax dollar spent by a taxpayer, only 11 cents goes to Robinson Twp., 68 cents goes to Montour School District and 21 cents to Allegheny County. All of the residents of Robinson Twp. can look forward to all of its business items to be taken care of in a very professional manner with this Board. There will be no circus-like atmosphere, but a transparent and efficient means of government. All of the concerns will be addressed and taken care of in a timely fashion. We are hear running a streamline, transparent form of government and it will stay this way throughout my tenure. Congratulations to everyone that was appointed this evening. We realize the time and effort you will be putting in and we greatly appreciate it. Thanks to everyone for their services.

Chairman Abatta, lastly I am sitting in a seat where a genuine friend sat next to me just a few months ago, Mr. Tallon. I hope that Dan is watching. He is struggling right now. He is going to be here hopefully at next month's meeting so that we can give him some commendations. I don't have to talk for Dan, each and every one of you knows Dan and what type of individual he is. You could not ask for a better individual or a better township official. We love you, God Bless you and we will see you shortly.

Mgr. Bibro, I just want to clarify something, although I did write the first three pages of the budget, I don't want anybody to misunderstand. Barb Swearingen did the approximate 55 following pages and she deserves some credit for that.

MOTION Mapel, SECOND Forquer to continue this meeting
ROLL CALL: Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Chairman Abatta, I am looking at January 23, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.?

Board of Commissioners Continued Reorganization Meeting

January 9, 2012

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Meeting to be continued to January 23, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carol Merks". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

Dolly Cvengros/Carol Merks
Secretary