

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Samuel Abatta called the regular meeting of April 2, 2012 to order at the Municipal Complex, 1000 Church Hill Road at 6:35 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Present, Mapel-Present, Shiwarski-Present, Forquer-Present, Abatta-Present

CITIZENS COMMENTS

No citizens were signed in to speak as of 6:35 p.m.

The Board of Commissioners conducted an executive session on March 12, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., March 19, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on April 2, 2012 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. to discuss legal and personnel matters. The Board will take official action, if any, from this executive session at the regular board meeting on April 2, 2012.

FINANCE UPDATE BY COMMISSIONER FORQUER

Vice-Chairman Forquer's Report is attached.

Vice-Chairman Forquer, the balance in the general fund of this a.m. was \$3,680,432. Our balance forward in the general account given at the March 5, 2012 meeting was \$3,793,300. The market value of the police pension fund as of the close of business on March 30th was \$10,309,586. This is up from the March 2nd report which was \$10,160,660. The police pension fund is funded every year by the Township and the State. Because a portion of that account is in stock and bond funds, it is subject to market volatility. Concerning the March Treasurer's Report, EIT transfers of \$277,000 were reported for the month of March. The year to date total is \$487,365. The amounts received represent amounts received from Centax for the prior year. We don't expect to receive EIT payments from Jordan for 2012 until April. However, the year to date from Centax are keeping pace with the prior year high in 2011, which was \$493,000. LST collected in March was \$189,878, which brings the year to date total to \$322,080. Past history of this period shows that the high to date was \$238,000 and the low was \$121,000.

Real Estate taxes including interim collected for March were \$38,894. and year to date was \$134,532. Real Estate delinquent taxes collected by Jordan for March were \$30,894. and year to date is \$565,446. which is close to the budget for the year of \$75,000.

We continue to see some good signs as there are reports that the number of new hires will increase in the 4th quarter, although we still have high unemployment.

The 2011 Audit is progressing well and for the most part we are within budget. Our balance forward from last year is over \$2 million in cash, which is the best year end results seen since 2007. The principal difference between 2007 and 2011 is that our balance forward increased to \$2 million whereas in 2007 the balance forward fell from over \$3 million to \$2 million. Aaron and staff have been managing expenditures and we are trying to build a reserve.

We are still going through the process of arbitration with the police and hope to see a fair settlement soon.

Chairman Abatta thanked Vice-Chairman Forquer for his positive report and requested that the report be shared with the reporter in attendance.

BUILDING INSPECTOR/ZONING OFFICER REPORT

The Building Inspection/Zoning Officer Report dated April 2, 2012 is attached to the minutes.

Commissioner Shiwarski commented on a good job with the numbers since the first quarter of 2012 is pacing ahead of the first quarter of 2011 in both fees and construction.

MOTION Cegelski, SECOND Mapel to approve the Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes dated March 5, 2012 as submitted.

ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Y, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 5-0.

MOTION Forquer, SECOND Cegelski to approve the Board of Commissioners Caucus Meeting Minutes dated March 5, 2012 as submitted.

ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Y, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 5-0

MOTION Forquer, SECOND Shiwarski to approve the March 2012 Treasurer's Report

ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Y, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 5-0

MOTION Mapel, SECOND Forquer to approve the April 2012 List of Bills

Chairman Abatta questioned an invoice for services provided by Damion Industrial Services in the amount of \$5,487.00 to fix the pool?

Manager Bibro, we have an appointment with American Leak Detection. We have used them in the past. They helped diagnose the problem in the Fall, but we had to wait for the weather to improve. I believe the invoice from Damion was for materials. I don't believe that should be in the fixed pool line. I believe that is a mistake.

Commissioner Shiwarski, just to clarify, I was down there with Mr. Bonkowski the other day and the part on the existing leak area, that is scheduled weather permitting in the next several weeks. I believe there was a repair done closer to the larger pool area. I believe that is the company that was mentioned.

Manager Bibro, we just need to change where we charged this too. I don't believe this should be in the fixed pool line. It should be in maintenance at the pool. We will re-allocate that.

ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Y, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 5-0

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION Forquer, SECOND Mapel to adopt a 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: Cegelski-Y, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 5-0.

MOTION Cegelski, SECOND Forquer to appoint Denise Somma to the Robinson Township Parks and Recreation Board to complete a term that will expire on December 31, 2012.

ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Y, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 5-0

MOTION Cegelski, SECOND Forquer to appoint Joan Trautman to the Robinson Township Library Board to complete a term that will expire on December 31, 2012.

ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Y, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer, Abatta-Y
M/C 5-0

MOTION Mapel, SECOND Forquer to appoint Commissioner Bobbie Cegelski as the liaison between Robinson Township and the Robinson Library

Commissioner Cegelski stated she will be abstaining, however she is very much looking forward to being the liaison.

Chairman Abatta, for the record, I asked Ms. Cegelski because of her background in education, if she would be so inclined to be the liaison between the Robinson Township Library. Our library provides essential services to every one of our residents and they have things going on in the evenings and the different seasons just about daily. I think it would behoove all of us as residents if she would give a monthly report so we can apprise all of the residents about what is happening with our library and get more participation. Ms. Cegelski has agreed to be this liaison and she will be giving reports in the future concerning all of the library matters.

ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Abstain, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 5-0.

MOTION Forquer, SECOND Shiwarski to adopt Resolution No. 10 of 2012 establishing a fund balance policy for financial statement reporting in accordance with the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54.

ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Y, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 5-0

MOTION Forquer, SECOND Cegelski to confirm the hiring of Gerald Kezmarski as of March 15, 2012 as a full-time temporary finance officer at a rate of \$23.00 per hour on an as needed basis as recommended by the Township Manager.

ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Y, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 5-0

MOTION Shiwarski, SECOND Mapel to award the 2012 road program bid to El Grande for the amount of \$219,364.85 as recommended by the Township Engineer.

ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Y, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 5-0

MOTION Shiwarski, SECOND Forquer to enter into a lease agreement with Cleveland Brothers Equipment Co., Inc. for a 2012 Caterpillar 924K Wheel Loader for the Public Works Department from under the state contract 2420-02 with a down payment in the amount of \$39,500.

Commissioner Cegelski, just for public edification, this was put out for bid as per the state?

Chairman Abatta, yes that is correct. This was part of CoStars.

Commissioner Shiwarski, as we discussed in our caucus meeting, the amount of \$39,500 is not an addition to the 2012 budget. It is part of what was allocated in equipment purchases.

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ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Y, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 5-0.

MOTION Cegelski, SECOND Forquer to hire Sheri Sumpter as the Pool Manager for the 2012 pool season at a total rate of \$9,500.

ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Y, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 5-0 to approve

MOTION Cegelski, SECOND Shiwarski to hire William Black as the Assistant Pool Manager for the 2012 pool season at a total rate of \$8,000.

Commissioner Shiwarski, those rates are equal to last year's rates for both of those positions?

Chairman Abatta, there was no increase in the amount of money spent for these two positions.

Manager Bibro, that is correct.

ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Y, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 5-0.

MOTION Shiwarski, SECOND Cegelski to hire the employees on Attachment O as part-time seasonal summer employees at the Clever Park Swimming Pool and Public Works Department contingent upon providing copies of required certifications to the Township in advance of the pool opening as recommended by the Township Manager.

Commissioner Cegelski, did we do our best to hire Robinson Township residents to work at the pool this year?

Chairman Abatta, yes we did. Everybody who will be hired, be they summer laborers, concession or lifeguards are Robinson Township residents. Just to take it a step further, we have to bite the bullet a little bit here too. There were many applicants for these three positions, but of course we did not hire everyone who applied. What we had to do was cut back on the number of people who are hired.

Commissioner Shiwarski, am I correct that we did not hire everybody on the first wave? There could be as-needed applicants later on?

Chairman Abatta, from past practice, what happens sometimes is that you lose some people. They may apply for two jobs and have to make a decision. Things can happen so on an as-needed basis, we will re-open some positions.

ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Y, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 5-0.

Chairman Abatta, I have an Addendum Item:

MOTION Forquer, SECOND Shiwarski to authorize the Township solicitor to issue a letter to the Robinson Township Tax Collector directing the tax payments received by his office for tax parcels associated with the Robinson Mall Peripheral TIF be deposited into a segregated account and not transmitted for payment of Robinson Peripheral Obligation due to the existence of the contractual violation issues.

ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Y, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 5-0.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Comissioner Cegelski

Commissioner Cegelski's report is attached to the Minutes.

Commissioner Cegelski once again extended her sincere thanks to her fellow Commissioners for their continued support, as well as the Township's professional staff.

Commissioner Cegelski and Commissioner Mapel attended the March MATR meeting and were recognized and cordially welcomed by Dr. Charles Blocksidge and the board members. She also attended the March meeting of the COG with Vice-Chairman Forquer.

Commissioner Cegelski stated that she is very much looking forward to serving as Commissioner to be the liaison to the Robinson Township Library and hopes to showcase all of what the Robinson Township Library has to offer its residents at future meetings.

Commissioner Mapel

Commissioner Mapel, I had some things prepared for this evening, but I am going to abbreviate them because I know that Commissioner Forquer has a lengthy report for us. Concluding my comments from last month's meeting, I asked if we could all work together to make Robinson Township the best that it could be. With some of the most recent developments concerning our Township business discussed here this evening, I can say with confidence that our determination as a Board to work efficiently together, seems to be paying off. Keeping focused on our objectives, investing the time and working toward the goals and issues that were brought to my attention as a candidate, gives me the confidence to say that we are making good progress. I am not going to promote, or even address the subjects that are counter-productive. If something needs to be clarified or corrected for the public record, so be it. To spend the people's time for any other reason than to conduct their business with efficiency and professionalism, I will leave to others. From time to time, it is gratifying to receive encouragement from our residents, so I would like to read this short note that was actually addressed to our

Township Manager, Aaron Bibro from Ms. Noreen Parker, President of the local chapter of the AARP.

“On behalf of the executive board and membership of the Montour/Robinson AARP, we would like to thank you and your team of workers for the kind consideration in keeping our meeting place in such pristine condition. Your recent repair of the heating system was very timely and the repair crew was courteous and professional as always. We are truly blessed to be able to use this beautiful facility and to have you maintain it. In our experience, it is not often that one hears of the good in their job. We wanted you to know that all that you do for us is greatly appreciated.” Sincerely, Noreen Parker (President)

Commissioner Mapel, thank you. It is really good to hear positive things coming from our residents.

Commissioner Shiwarski

Commissioner Shiwarski, I would like to recognize the enthusiasm and the different perspective from both Mr. Mapel and Ms. Cegelski since they are new to the Board. I appreciate them and it is very good to see. I am saying that as a resident and not as a Commissioner. I want to thank Denise Somma and Joan Trautman for their willingness to volunteer. I think that is what makes Robinson Township sort of unique. We have so many people that volunteer for various activities and functions throughout the year. Also, just a little clarification for the 2011 road program, which we did not finish in 2011, but extended to 2012. The date that we can start on the road program I believe is May 15th. It is projected that somewhere around June 1st, the 2011 part of the road program will begin. Also, we are three months into 2012 and the numbers are all on or above pace for collection of revenue. Good job to all of those involved and to those who put together the budget. The numbers were realistic and achievable. Every year at this time around April, we see the sign-ups for the different activities. I think it behooves everyone to attend one of the softball or baseball games just to see what makes our Township first class. So many of our residents utilize Burkett Field during the summertime. It really is a great place.

Commissioner Shiwarski reminded everyone that primary election day is April 24th and it is both a privilege and honor to vote. He also encouraged everyone to get involved in clean-up day, which will be held on April 21st.

Vice-Chairman Forquer

Vice-Chairman Forquer, unfortunately the sound is not working on our television broadcast tonight, but I am going to give my report anyway because I think it is very important that we get this information out there. What I am going to do is give a TIF update as far as where we are on both of our TIF contracts. They have been very troublesome issues to our Township for a long time. Before I get into this TIF report, it is

important that you understand that we appreciate all of our businesses in Robinson Township. Many of our businesses sponsor and participate in community events and activities. However, we are the guardians of the gate concerning enforcement of contracts and ensuring that our businesses pay their fair share of property taxes. It is with regret that I must report to you tonight that we have found some serious issues relating to the two Tax Increment Financing Contracts in Robinson Township. Those Contracts are with the Robinson Mall JCP Associates Contract and the Peripheral District Contract.

The Tax Increment Financing Act was passed by the state of Pennsylvania on July 11th 1990. This act empowers Authorities, in our case the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny Co., to set up Tax Increment Financing Districts. The act allows for the formation of contracts with local governments who agree to fund infrastructure intended to promote development and provide jobs. The Contracts are written by the local Authority and they are responsible for the bonding of each district. The taxing bodies in the two Robinson Township Tax Increment Finance contracts are: the Montour School District, Allegheny County and Robinson Township. All of the taxing bodies involved do divert a portion of their property taxes in the TIF Districts to fund the bonds. The following TIF problems were found with the Robinson Mall JCP Associates Contract:

The core issues of the problems with the Robinson Mall JCP Associates contract disputes are with: The Robinson Mall JCP Associates Lawyers, the Allegheny County Assessor's Office and the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County. I want everyone to know that our Township made every effort to resolve the problems. I am about to describe with all parties in the contract including: the Montour School District, the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County and the Robinson Mall JCP Associates Lawyers, before we took action on our own.

In January of last year the Allegheny Co. Assessor's Office granted an appeal for a major parcel of the Mall at Robinson owned by the Robinson Mall and JCP Associates. That parcel was assessed before the appeal at \$104,742,900 and after the appeal at \$93,500,000. To make matters worse, the Allegheny County Assessor's office granted the appeal retroactive to 2010. At that point I discussed this issue with our Township Manager Aaron Bibro and requested that our Financial Manager do an accounting of the tax dollars being directed toward TIF payments, and to determine lost taxes due to the appeal. We were later informed that the appeal was granted in error because the Assessor's Office didn't know that the Robinson Mall and JCP Associates parcel was in a TIF District and there were restrictions to filing appeals in the TIF District filed by developers. We were also informed that this was a problem in other TIF Districts in Allegheny County. Sadly we were told that we would have to go through the court to correct their mistake. The contract states that the taxing bodies are to directly set percentages of property taxes at the prevailing rates set by the taxing bodies to fund the bonds designated for the Robinson Mall JCP Associates TIF contract. The Montour

School District pledged 61 % based on 16.4 Mills excluding Dicks Building, Robinson Twp 55% excluding Dick's building and Allegheny Co. 55% including Dick's Building.

It was found that appeals filed by the Robinson Mall and JCP Associates attorneys, and granted by the Allegheny Co. Assessor's office, were in breach of contract. Further, as a result of the appeals granted in breach of contract, the taxing bodies had lost over 1 Million Dollars in lost tax revenue because of previous appeals. During the investigation of lost revenue we became aware that we were not being provided with detailed financial reports. Our requests for financial reports were not being denied by the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County, they were just being ignored. I then requested that our Solicitor Bob Garvin issue a "Right to Know Request "to Allegheny Co. and we started to receive financial reports. Given what we already knew this was just another red flag for me.

As some of you may have seen, our Township Solicitor Robert Garvin on March 9th entered a motion in the Court of Common Pleas asking why the last appeal granted by the Allegheny County Assessor's Office to the Robinson Mall and JCP Associate's concerning Parcel No. 336-D-150 shouldn't be overturned because it is in violation of a no contest covenant in the TIF agreement. That protection was put in the contract to insure that the TIF Bonds were adequately funded. As long as the Robinson Mall and JCP Associates TIF District property valuation was below \$127,055,000 after 2007 the no contest coven was in effect and they had no right to file an appeal. Bob Garvin did a masterful job of presenting our position to Judge Stanton Wittick and the Robinson Mall JCP associates lawyers were given thirty days to respond to the motion filed, so we won round one! It is clear that as participants in this TIF contract we must be vigilant and fight appeals that put the Robinson Mall JCP Associates properties in the TIF District at assessed valuations that will not provide enough tax revenue to fund the bonds.

Concerning the deal that we turned down, what we were being offered was an early disbursement from a Reserve Fund. The fund was an " Excess Tax Increment Fund", which was funded by the taxing bodies at the beginning of the contract. The amount of money offered from the " Excess Tax Increment Fund", was: \$993,477 to the school district, 284,101 to Allegheny Co. and 184,756 to the Township. In 2017 at the end of the contract the money in this " Excess Tax Increment Fund", was going to be paid back to the taxing bodies under the terms of the contract. So the deal we were being offered was early payment of our own money! I didn't like that we were still being pressured to accept a lower property valuation to receive the early distribution. I also didn't like that if we accepted that deal we were conceding the no contest coven in the contract and there was nothing offered to cover any of our losses from past appeals that were granted in breach of contract. Nor was there any agreement that Robinson Mall JCP Associates lawyers won't file more appeals in the future in breach of contract. At one point we were being told if we accepted a settlement below the 104,700,000 valuation for the Robinson Mall JCP Associates parcel the bonds could be refinanced and the savings would be passed along to the taxing bodies.

When I saw the result of the 2013 court mandated reassessment of the Robinson Mall JCP Associates parcel that lowered the property assessment from \$93,500,000 to \$76,274,000, any possibility of refinancing went out of the window. It's not complicated that any responsible lending institution wouldn't lend money to fund TIF debt in a district that has a history of under-funding in Fitch Reports and where Robinson Mall JCP lawyers are constantly filing appeals. Considering that the homes in our Township have for the most part gone up in the 2013 reassessment and we are likely going to need to lower our millage next year to get to near revenue neutral, that means we adjust down the millage so that there is effectively no tax increase due to the reassessment. Lowering the millage on top of the lowered property tax assessments on the Robinson Mall JCP Associates parcel will create yet another bond funding headache.

Why in light of battles over the valuation of the Robinson Mall JCP Associates parcel the Montour School District never commissioned an appraisal, I find unbelievable. In 2010 alone the school district paid \$1,344,070 into this TIF District per the 2010 Annual Report from Integra Realty.

Concerning another matter there is a minimum payment agreement in the contract but it is unclear if it has been enforced since there were Fitch reports of under-funding. The minimum payment agreement states that the developers will make payments if there is inadequate tax dollars to fund the bonds in this district.

The Second TIF District which includes property around the Mall at Robinson is called the "Peripheral District."

The investigation of the bonds in this district revealed the following:

There were three bonds issued in this district and they are drawn-down bonds as follows:

- Series A for 3,370,000 at a dividend rate of 9 %
- Series B for 4,000,000 at a dividend rate of 12 %
- Series C for 1,045,000 at a dividend rate of 16 %

All of the Bonds were issued privately. They are not negotiable and we have been told that they are being held by the developers. We have been informed that the TIF payments being generated in this district are being sent to Forest City's office in Cleveland.

Only the A bond has been funded since 2002. There has never been enough property tax revenue to fund the bonds in this district. In 2010 the district generated \$430,413, which is not enough money to fund even the A Bond and it will not be paid off in 2017. The other two bonds continue to accrue dividends at 12% & 16 % on the full principle annually and may never be paid off. In 2017 the accrued dividends and principle will reach approx. \$20,000,000. Our findings indicate that this contract was never solvent. We have informed the "Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny Co.", the Montour School

District and The Robinson Mall JCP Associates attorneys that we are stopping future payments on this contract. The Township will be placing taxes collected for the Peripheral District in an escrow account until we review our legal options. A rough estimate of the overhanging debt that will accrue by 2017 is \$20 Million with approximately \$13.6 Million owned by the School District, \$4.2 Million by Allegheny Co. and \$2.2 M by Robinson Township.

To make matters worse there is no minimum payment agreement in this contract, which means that the taxing bodies could be held responsible for the unfunded balance in 2017 and beyond!

I have seen enough red flags in both of the TIF District contracts that I believe a fraud audit is necessary. When we have a complete accurate accounting of how the TIF taxes have been collected and disbursed, then we will be able to decide how to resolve the troubling issues we are facing concerning the Robinson Mall JCP Associates Contract Bonds and the Peripheral District Bond Contract.

On September 15th of 2011 we had a meeting with the Montour School District Staff, Dr. Boyer and their forensic auditor. They were given a report from me that outlined all of the issues we are currently trying to resolve. Their auditor was to investigate the issues in my report concerning both TIF Contracts and advise the School Board concerning what action to take. We let them copy our TIF Contracts so they could make copies of their own following that meeting. After that meeting I made attempts to call Dr. Boyer to find out what action the school board was going to take concerning the TIF contract issues and he never returned my calls. We then attempted to set up a joint meeting with the Montour School Board and were unsuccessful. We did not want to act alone to resolve these issues, but we were forced to. You can form your own conclusions! This has been a tough issue to deal with because we need the support of Allegheny County. and there are serious issues involving both the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County and the Allegheny County Assessor's Office who are at the core of our problem. The bottom line is that this is a legal and financial mess that needs to be resolved as soon as possible. We made yet another move tonight to pass a motion to put the Peripheral District TIF taxes collected in an escrow account until we resolve these issues.

From day one of my term of office I have enjoyed the support of the Board of Commissioners to implement all of the financial changes that has enabled us to build our balance forward in 2011 to \$2 million dollars as reported in my finance report tonight. The board has also been supportive of the actions we have taken moving forward in resolving the contentious TIF contract issues we are currently facing. We believed that the public had a right to know about what the deal was that we turned down concerning the Robinson Mall JCP Associates appeals settlement and concerning the fact that the peripheral district bonds may never be paid off unless we take action now! Our Board understands that we work for the people. With us,, Robinson Township is first!

Given the management of the TIF Districts in Robinson Township by the Redevelopment Authority, I would caution any other municipalities about entering into a TIF agreement!

Good evening and God Bless America!

Chairman Abatta

Chairman Abatta, that report was very enlightening. I have just a few short comments. On March 21, 2012 I attended the Allegheny County Intergovernmental Cooperation Vision Team. I was selected to be on that particular team by Mr. Fitzgerald and his office in Allegheny County. I promised to bring you updates as to what goes on at those particular meetings and how Robinson Township may benefit from that. Basically, there will be twelve different vision teams that will be setup to discuss and rectify the issues that we all face in Allegheny County. A total of twelve vision teams will be formed, which will include a chairperson, and each team will be given a specific challenge and asked to focus on the appropriate role for the county to serve its residents. Each team will be asked to specifically address diversity, sustainability and intergovernmental relations as part of the discussions and recommendations. As we have stated before, we are going to do anything we can to make Robinson Township maintain its first class codes and we are always working on something. It may not be so much at the state level, but definitely within the county. In that same vein, we very recently setup a program and it was a huge success. What I am talking about, we have posted on our website and announced at a press release that we have scheduled one on one appointments for assistance with reassessment appeals, including filling out forms, obtaining appraisals and obtaining legal advice. It has been very successful. At this point in time, we basically had legal services donated by our Township Solicitor, the offices of Goldberg, Kamin & Garvin. There were over fifty residents that came to these appointments to obtain legal advice. Today was the last day for people to file formal appeals with Allegheny County. The reassessment has been a very stressful and confusing topic for all of our residents and we thought this would be the least we could do to help our residents in a time of need. Township staff heard great feedback from all of the residents and that everyone found it useful.

Easter in the Park is this Saturday, April 7th. The Easter Bunny will arrive via the Forest Grove Fire Truck to Clever Park on Saturday at 1:00 p.m. Photos will be offered with the Bunny at a cost of \$2.00. We will have an assortment of decorations for you to personalize and frame. There will be a variety of games and light refreshments for all of the children. The event will wrap up around 3:00 p.m., so come early and enjoy the first holiday celebration of the 2012 season.

Robinson Township Community Flea Market is set for Saturday, May 19th. It will take place at the Burkett Sports and Recreation Complex. Start your Spring cleaning early. Make a profit from items you may never use again. Take part in the second annual flea market for \$15.00. It will buy you a 10 x 10 space. You will need to provide your own

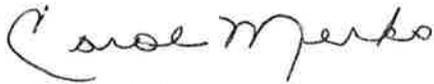
table. For more information you can visit the Township website or you can contact the Township. All proceeds benefit the Robinson Township Autumn Festival.

Our Township newsletter will be in your mailbox sometime in late April or early May. You will find an abundance of information on our parks events, swimming pool registration and lesson dates, as well as summer camp information. Included will be a wide variety of information on all of our Township departments. Please watch for your copy. Also, clean-up day in the Township is Saturday, April 21st rain or shine. We will meet at the Giant Eagle Market District at 8:30 a.m.

In closing, I would like to congratulate Denise Somma and Joan Trautman for volunteering their services for Parks Board and Library Board. We are always interested in getting people involved in the Township to do service projects. If the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc. are out there and need some ways to earn merit badges, please come see us. We will provide you with all of the information.

MOTION Forquer, SECOND Mapel to adjourn the meeting
ROLL CALL: Cegelski-Y, Mapel-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Forquer-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 5-0

Respectfully submitted,



Carol Merks
Secretary