

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING  
JULY 2, 2012  
6:45 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Samuel Abatta called the special meeting of July 2, 2012 to order at the Municipal Complex, 1000 Church Hill Road at 6:45 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Abatta, before we go to Item #4, I would like to enter something into the record. The first item on tonight's agenda is a Resolution of the Board of Commissioners adopting amended and restated rules of order and decorum to govern the manner and conduct of public comment by residents and/or taxpayers at public meetings. According to Section 710 of the Sunshine Law, a public agency may adopt reasonable rules and regulations to govern the conduct of public meetings and maintenance of order. Section 710.1 of the Sunshine Act requires that a public agency take comment from residents and taxpayers on any matter of concern, official action or deliberation, which appears on the agenda. In a continuing effort to streamline our meetings and in keeping with our goals of professionalism and transparency for our government, we made some changes. We will no longer have an agenda setting meeting, instead we have streamlined our meetings to one meeting, which will be held on the 1st Monday of every month commencing at 7:00 p.m. The public will hear the Board's discussion of agenda items and will be provided an opportunity to comment on agenda items prior to official action on them. We feel that this will provide for a more meaningful understanding of agenda items by the public and also provide the public with the ability to comment on the agenda item prior to any action on it. In addition, public comment on non-agenda items will occur prior to the adjournment of the meeting. All public comment will be subject to the rules of decorum, which we have established that requires that all attendees present at any Board of Commissioners meeting, shall conduct themselves with appropriate decorum and no shouting, cursing, foul language, personal insults and/or defamatory statements shall be permitted. It is the strong desire and intent of this Board of Commissioners to operate Robinson Township government in a professional, efficient and transparent manner. This amended Resolution accomplishes this goal by providing residents and taxpayers the ability to comment on matters upon which we will be taking official action upon and non-agenda items, while maintaining an efficient and orderly meeting for the conduct of the business of the Township.

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

Michael Malinsky voiced an objection from the audience.

Chairman Abatta, I appreciate your comments and you will have an ample amount of time to speak. This is a business meeting that we are conducting in its entirety without interference. Would you please let me speak?

Mr. Malinsky continued to interrupt from the audience.

Chairman Abatta, you are not going to talk over me. Let me go through this agenda and you will have an ample amount of time to say whatever you would like to say, whether it is an agenda item or non-agenda item. If you have been paying attention to the Resolution that I just read, we have made some viable adjustments as far as the starting time is concerned and also as far as comments to non-agenda items. With that said, will you please grant me the courtesy to run the business and affairs of the Township? I would greatly appreciate it.

Mr. Malinsky continued to object and to question Solicitor Garvin.

Chairman Abatta, he is the solicitor, but I am the Chairman and I am running this meeting. This is exactly the way it is intended to be conducted, in a business fashion. Please take a seat and you will have an opportunity to speak at some point.

Mgr. Bibro, If I may make a comment. There was one issue with this agenda that was my fault. I wrote the agenda up. We need to have a citizens comment portion in this meeting. I apologize.

Chairman Abatta, if you will allow me to finish Mr. Malinsky, that was going to be addressed. There will be a portion to speak on this Resolution.

MOTION Mapel, SECOND Shiwarski to adopt Resolution No. 16 Of 2012 amending and revising Resolution No. 11 of 2012 establishing the rules of order and decorum to govern the manner and conduct of public comment by the residents and/or taxpayers at public meetings.

Chairman Abatta, do we have any public comments?

Michael Malinsky, I would like to say that I am a little disappointed in the Commissioners in passing the initial Resolution in May and then having to backtrack on the decision. Again, I hope that the Commissioners abide by the rules and regulations of the Sunshine Act and the First Class Township Code.

Chairman Abatta, with that said I would like to make one more comment to you and I appreciate your concern. The Resolution that we passed was in accordance with the Sunshine Law, with the exception of a couple of amended items of which the governing body realized that we may have erred slightly. Those two items are addressed tonight as far as the meeting starting time and as far as speaking to agenda and non-agenda items. I

am sure if we were totally dishonest and illegal, there would be representation from a group of people saying that we did something totally wrong, but we did not. Be it as it may, you can speak to specific agenda items and non-agenda items. There are two chances to speak here. As far as some of the accusations that we received regarding transparency and some of the other comments coming from some dissident individuals, that is all clarified now.

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

Chairman Abatta, this Resolution will be available for any of the public if they would wish to have a copy of it.

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