

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2016
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Sam Abatta called the meeting of April 4, 2016 to order at the Robinson Township Municipal Complex, 1000 Church Hill Road, Robinson Township, PA at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Present, Barefoot-Absent, Kisow-Present, Shiwarski-Present, Abatta-Present. Also in attendance were Jack Cambest, Esq., Township Manager Silka, Treasurer Kezmarsky, Planning Director Urbano, Engineer Meyer and Mrs. Merks for the purpose of taking minutes.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

The Engineers Report dated April 4, 2016 is attached.

Engineer Meyer reported:

COMMISSIONERS ACTION REQUESTED

Engineer Meyer, Keiners Lane Storm Pipe - I have listed it as having been advertised, but what we have to do is send it to the paper on Friday prior, so it will not be advertised until Wednesday. In order to meet the deadline, we have to send it in four days ahead of time. The 2016 Road Program will be advertised for bid.

Chairman Abatta, we will release the names of the roads at a later date.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Fawnvue Drive Landslide – Project has been substantially completed with the remainder of the work to be finalized in the spring.

Clever Park Pool – Architect and Manager have met to discuss various items for the pool. Costs estimates are being prepared.

Clever Park Building Addition (Bicentennial) – drawings have been submitted to Plans Examiner for the issuance of a building permit.

The Planning Commission will meet on April 20th. Guardian Self Storage site plan and the Bayer Subdivision will be on the agenda.

Vice-Chairman Shiwarski, I just want to clarify that the reason we are not naming the streets is because for the past several years we have been able to add some streets once we received the bid back. This year, we hope to be able to add some streets so we are deferring to having a complete list.

Chairman Abatta, that list will be made public in a timely fashion.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Vietmeier submitted a copy of the March Report, which is attached to the minutes.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Mgr. Silka, in regards to the comprehensive plan update, we are currently working on that. We did have a slight delay in the draft proposal from last month. We are meeting on April 22nd to go over the draft of the comprehensive plan. After that meeting, we will disseminate the plan to the Board of Commissioners and Planning Commission to get their feedback and that will culminate in a month or so with the public hearing on the document after we get all of the comments incorporated. The comprehensive plan is winding down. We should have that document within the next sixty days. We will then start working on the zoning ordinance update as that dovetails right into the comprehensive plan approval.

The National League of Cities Showcase Video Program, we have the videos on our website, which came out very well. CGI is the company that actually does those videos for the National League of Cities. They have representatives in the area right now meeting with local businesses and community organizations to offer them the opportunity to have links to their website or videos produced if you have a business to link on to our video website. When you hit on Township of Robinson, it is actually an advertising opportunity for businesses. Those people that are in the area do have the permission of the Township and they do have an introduction letter signed by myself and approved by the Board.

On the consent agenda, there is a debit ordinance for a plow truck. This is a requirement of the PA Unit Debt Act. This is an administrative procedure just to show that we have not borrowing more than our capacity to borrow. That is for the truck that was approved in February. We are hoping to have that truck by August.

Chairman Abatta, that is per the CoStars plan?

Mgr. Silka, that is correct. We did buy it off the CoStar plan, but we do a five year lease purchase. That validates our ability to engage into that lease with the State Department of Community and Economic Development.

Doug Perkey, our tax collector, wanted me to remind people that you may see two tax bills this month. The first set of tax mailings that went out had some clerical errors on them. The tax due is correct but there are a couple of control numbers that he actually needs to put into the system to get everything properly credited. If you have paid off of the first invoice, that is fine, however you will be getting a second invoice and it will be clearly marked in red "pay this bill." You are not getting taxed double, it is just the first set of mailings had some errors from the printer. We want to make sure it is all squared away and we can properly credit all tax payments that are coming in.

Chairman Abatta, where did that error occur?

Mgr. Silka, at the printers. Some things were omitted from the bills.

Just an update for the Board, I will be attending the Pennsylvania Municipal League Legislative Committee, which I was appointed to by the mayor of Philadelphia on Monday and Tuesday of the upcoming week. I will be attending the Pennsylvania Municipal League Southwest Regional Dinner at Indiana University of PA on Tuesday evening also.

TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Cambest had no report.

FINANCE REPORT

Vice-Chairman Shiwarski, just to update us through March 31st, our yearly budget was \$14,360,026 and so far for expenses we are actually at \$2,494,493. On the revenue side we have taken in about \$1.825,000. At this time of the year, revenue always lapses behind expenditures until the taxes start coming in.

A couple of items I would like to pay attention to, Mr. Meyer just gave his engineering report and his budget so far for the year we have spent \$29,644. We are actually right on the projection of the budget. As far as Solicitor, we have spent \$5,841.00. We are well below the projected expense that we have set up for the budget so far this year. Going back a few years ago, those were line items that we definitely like to pay attention to and we are on or below budget as far as expenses on them.

Mr. Kezmarsky, I just want to mention that the cash balance is very close to \$1,000,000. Foregoing the TAN loan this year did save the Township quite a bit of money in debt maintenance. That was a good decision and tax revenue should be flowing in rather soon so we are in a good, safe situation. Just a quick mention on the audit progress, just a couple of reports are still outstanding that the auditor still needs to look at from the actuary. Once those reports come in and Ms. Turnley is able to give it her final blessing, we will have a meeting on May 2nd and we should be able to wrap it up. We have the draft in hand and the draft looks good. I think we are moving right along.

Vice-Chairman Shiwarski, just a note for the people, TAN is a Tax Anticipation Note that in the past (not recently), but we had taken out a note until the revenues starting coming in to take care of expenditures. We have been fortunate for at least three years now that we have not had to go down that avenue, which in turn saves us money.

BUILDING INSPECTOR/ZONING OFFICER REPORT

A copy of the March Building Inspector/Zoning Officer Report is attached,

Mr. Urbano, we have five or six large projects that have for one reason or another, five to six months delays that are already approved. Hopefully, if the economy stays well, we will pick that money up as we run through the course of the year. I don't want this report to scare anybody. We have been very slow because of that reason. There are delays on three huge projects of over 5 months for one reason or another.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Eve Salimbene, (314 Diana Dr.) I have been a resident for 27 years. I am employed at a local shelter as a K-9 behavior specialist. I am also the president of a coalition that deals with adopting and re-homing animals. We are a non-profit organization and we have been in existence for 6 years. The reason that I am here tonight is to encourage Robinson Twp., through your direction and leadership, to take steps to become a more humane, animal friendly community by eliminating the sale of puppy mill dogs in stores in our Township. A puppy mill or commercial breeding facility is a large scale facility where profit takes priority over the welfare of the animals in their care. Animals are housed in crowded unsanitary conditions and are bred repeatedly without concern for health. They are never assessed for temperament. They lack common necessities and veterinary care, resulting in severe life threatening illnesses. These animals live horrendous lives, untouched, isolated and lonely. Most of the puppy mills are located in the Midwest, but we are not immune here in Pennsylvania. There are a large number in eastern Pennsylvania in the Lancaster area, where dogs are considered agricultural products. These mills produce approximately 2 million puppies per year and, according to the Humane Society of the United States, about 2 million animals are euthanized in shelters every year, which is rather an ironic number.

You might ask what this has to do with us in Robinson since there are no puppy mills in our area that we know of, but many of these dogs are shipped into our area and unfortunately there are pet stores in this community who sell these puppies, thereby contributing to the homelessness population and contributing to higher euthanasia rates in our shelters. These puppies come from as far as Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa and breeders use a broker to move their puppies into our area and surrounding. Many are not of solid behavior mental temperament, are physically ill or genetically unsound. Many are sick due to lack of proper medical care and many become unpredictable and aggressive with maturity due to lack of proper socialization and in breeding. Purchasing a dog with an undisclosed medical malady is emotionally and financially wrenching for our residents. Dogs of unsound temperament can be dangerous to the owner, children or the community at large. These issues range from OCD behaviors such as repetitive spinning, self mutilation, mental deficiencies, making training difficult and unpredictable dog biting and aggression. I travel to many shelters in the area to assess dogs who are considered "at risk behaviors" and many of these are adolescent dogs from puppy mills. A lot of these behaviors do not show up as a puppy until the dog is an adolescent. Most are deemed unadoptable due to the lack of their temperament and in most cases are euthanized in shelters because of this genetic pre-disposition. Rehabilitation is difficult and the dogs are dangerous. Puppies are also brokered and shipped

with parvo virus, which has a 10 day incubation period. Unsuspecting consumers buy a puppy, take it home and 10 days later it is ill and a lot of them die. They have then also put other public dogs at risk because they have been out and about in the public.

There is also deception being propagated through this business and consumers have the right to know where their puppies come from, but they will not be given that information until the paperwork is signed, citing the origin of the dog. By then, the consumer is committed to purchasing the puppy bred in one of these facilities. They have unwittingly supported the mill that is supporting higher euthasia rates in Pittsburgh area shelters and elsewhere. They are also supporting other state's economies by lining the pockets of the broker.

Wouldn't it be great if Robinson Township could be added to the list of over 130 communities across the country whose pet stores have changed their business model to promote adoption of homeless dogs from shelters and rescues in their stores? The City of Pittsburgh recently passed an ordinance banning the sale of dogs from puppy mills and pet stores. Philadelphia is in the second legislative stage to become the next city to adopt this more humane model and Boston joined the cause just last week. There are great models in Pennsylvania that we show have worked the humane model of promoting shelter dogs and it is profitable and brings in customers who want to save lives and not support the inhumane puppy mill breeders. Pets Plus Natural has several locations in eastern PA and the Petland store in East Liberty is a humane store model. I ask that you please consider a local ordinance similar to the City, which would create a happy, informed consumer, who are your constituents and ultimately less animals who tragically must be euthanized in local shelters through no fault of their own just due to over surplus. Together we hope that we can make Robinson a more humane community for everyone, human and canine.

Chairman Abatta, thank you.

Randy Santucci, it has been many years since I have appeared before this Board. It goes back to names like Bunky Blumling, Elmer Hoff, etc. Rick would remember this, Carol and Pat as well. We go back over 20 years. I would like to address a tax delinquency thing that I received from Weiss, Burkhardt and Kramer. There are a lot of people in the Township that I am not familiar with. I have not been involved much in politics and so forth. I would like to read as follows:

The Santucci family has been in Robinson since 1949. I was born in Robinson Twp., attended Holy Trinity and graduated Montour High School in 1977. I have been a resident all my life and have my business here. At one time in my younger days, I worked for the Robinson Township Parks Dept. in the summer and shortly after it was the Moon Run Volunteer Firemen. One of my early employers was Budget Gourmet on Campbells Run Rd. and again, within the Township I began my business in 1986 in a two car garage by the Brother's Grimm that was owned by my friend, who erected a pre-fab home the site of the Schon's home that burned down decades ago. In 1994 I moved my business up the street to Beaver Grade Rd., Santucci Process Development. All three of my children also went to Holy Trinity. I was involved in Robinson Baseball and managed teams for several years. My roots here are deep and I have had nothing but good relationships with all Township entities, from our police, road department, building and planning and all services in between. Robinson Twp. and my family have had a great relationship. I wanted to state this aspect because in some ways I feel uncomfortable showing up here to complain about one issue when so many others have been good. I believe there is a need to bring my concern and dismay to the Township generated by contacts that I have recently received from Weiss, Burkhardt and Kramer, the legal firm representing Robinson Twp. as a delinquent tax collector. In short, I have received two notices of delinquent tax amounts, one a township tax and one a school tax. The amounts of these alleged delinquencies are minimal, and in my case, little more than pocket change, which further exacerbated the situation. I maintain an A+ Dunn and Bradstreet rating for my business and personal credit score are the same. I do not pay any of my bills late. To receive these notices was very upsetting to me and as I read further into the demand letter, the content bordered on absurdity. I would like to think that though this firm represents the Township in this manner, the content and tone which were used obviously as a scare tactic, did not come from or was vetted by any Township official. I would like to read just a little bit from the letter and probably some of you have seen these. The letter from Weiss Burkhardt Kramer "this office now represents Robinson Township in connection with the liened tax delinquency on the above named property. " I looked into it and my property does not have a lien put against it. "Their records indicate that you owe a balance for delinquent real estate taxes for the year 2000 in the amount of \$19.67, which includes penalty and interest calculated through March 31, 2016. Payments made after that date will accrue additional interest. You are hereby notified that if the account is not paid in full within thirty days of this letter or a payment agreement has not been arranged, we may begin legal action up to and including sheriff sale, in addition to the amounts due for the delinquent real estate taxes. The school district will assess you for payment of reasonable attorney fees, plus all court costs and filing fees."

Mr. Santucci, first as a business owner, I could not in good conscience solicit payment from a customer, especially a good customer, further back than a few months without feeling a degree of incompetence, especially something that would after a period of time, be difficult to validate by either party. I cannot see how the Township feels comfortable soliciting a payment from a good resident after sixteen or more years. Before I go any further, Mr. Perkey is very cordial and was very accommodating in answering questions and this is not directed at him. The personal recordkeeping requirement by a resident is likely not more than 7 or 10 years for any aspect. It puts a resident in a compromising position to validate or refute the validity of the tax being requested for payment. It also puts into question the bookkeeping accuracy and competence by Township tax employees allowing any owed tax to accrue this much time between alleged delinquency and collection. I have heard that these letters are going back much further than the one that I received and mine was 16 years.

The letter states “the amount includes penalty and interest”. In a police produced proof of any notices sent to me, and confirmation of receipt of those notices by myself to validate a penalty and interest charge. Inclusion of penalty and interest considering the circumstance is bad enough and further identified in bold print is “payment after the stated payment date, will accrue additional interest.” This further extends the already over the top tone. Here is the truly bothersome part “to threaten legal action, sheriff’s sale, attorney fees, court costs” if the thirty day deadline for payment is not met.” From a demand letter, in essence, identifying poor tax collection and or bookkeeping, allowing collection to end up in arrears for this far would be laughable if it were not for the fact that legally, it could be done. In conclusion, I cannot see how the Township can allow this collection to continue to good residents considering all of which I have mentioned. There comes a time to swallow hard and move on and implement measures to not allow this type of problem to arise in the future. With proper billing and follow-up of timely tax collection, I would fully support this initiative. I have concerns of elderly, and those on fixed incomes receiving this type of letter and the stress and anxiety that would follow. I personally believe that this initiative should be re-visited.

Chairman Abatta, I appreciate your concern and this is a business meeting and we have to progress, but we will address this at the time when Commissioners speak.

Mr. Santucci, my concern when I read this, it upset me but how many people received this and were extremely upset. Mine was a minor amount, I am sure the amounts could be a lot more. People on fixed incomes, elderly and so forth receive this and with that strong of wording, it does not seem right.

Rebecca Cindrich Haggerty, I have lived in Robinson Twp. for 33 years. I am the parent of two Montour graduates and a member of the Holy Trinity Parish. I have always been proud to be a Robinson resident, but there is one source of sorrow and shame and that is that Robinson Township is home to a pet store that sells commercially bred dogs. A 2008 investigation on the Petland Pet Stores conducted by the United States Humane Society, revealed that Petland stores marketed puppy mill puppies to unsuspecting consumers and misled them about where they came from. While Petland claims to never deal with puppy mills, the investigation revealed that they do. In 2012, Mr. Corey of Petland Robinson testified that he sold more than 5000 puppies for the Hunt Corporation, an online puppy mill broker from Missouri, who is the largest puppy dealer in the world. According to the United States Humane Society, Petland Robinson was still buying from Hunt Corporation in 2015. A Hunt veterinarian estimated that dead dogs were disposed at the volume of about 100 lbs., which is 50 to 100 dead dogs per month at the Hunt facility. The Better Business Bureau reported in 2010 that they received 657 complaints against Petland stores in a three year period. Petland Robinson claims that their puppies come from breeders who meet or exceed the requirements of the United States Department of Agriculture. The USDA is severely overburdened. In 2015, there were only 120 inspectors for 7,300 breeding facilities, 1700 of those breed dogs. Even if they were not overburdened, the standards just are not sufficient. The standards are according to the Animal Welfare Act that was passed in Congress in 1965. Among other inhumane standards, dogs may be confined in spaces of only 6 inches larger than their bodies and that is not including their tails. They may be caged for 24 hours a day for their entire lives. Breeding parents are typically caged for their entire lives and they may be killed when they are no longer wanted. It would be wonderful if Robinson Twp. could emulate the City of Pittsburgh, who passed two ordinances in 2015, one banning the sale of commercially raised dogs and cats in pet stores in the City and making it legal to obtain them only from animal care facilities or rescue organizations and requiring those that do have a license to sell, show that the license number is in any form of their media advertising. Pet stores do not have to sell puppies to be successful, but if they insist, they can at least convert to a humane model to help save the sickening amount of dogs that are annually euthanized. It is estimated that 64% of the animals who go in to a shelter and 25% of those are full bred, are euthanized. As Eve mentioned, the Pets Plus chain in eastern PA and New Jersey has successfully converted to this model. They have puppies transported from the south, where there is less animal advocacy and lower sterilization rates. In the 4 1/2 month period when they first converted in 2014, they sold 133 rescue dogs at \$350.00 versus 13 commercially bred dogs in the same period at \$1000 each.

Robinson Township would be addressing the pet over-population program, as well as helping to end inhumane puppy mills by passing an ordinance banning the sale of commercially bred dogs in our Township. It is the right decision for our highly respected community and would take Robinson Twp. off of the map for the dubious distinction of being the home of any pet store who sells puppy mill dogs.

Chairman Abatta, I would like to thank both you and Eve for your concern.

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONDUCTED AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON MARCH 11, 2016 FROM 1:00 P.M. TO 4:30 P.M. AND MARCH 30, 2016 FROM 7:00 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M. TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS. THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ALSO CONDUCTED AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON APRIL 4, 2016 FROM 5:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M. TO DISCUSS LEGAL AND PERSONNEL MATTERS. THE BOARD WILL TAKE OFFICIAL ACTION, IF ANY, FROM THESE EXECUTIVE SESSIONS DURING THIS MEETING.

CONSENT AGENDA

Discussion to approve Items #12 through #22 listed on the Consent Agenda.

Chairman Abatta, Mgr. Silka, can you explain what we are talking about when we consider consent agenda items and why we have chosen to go this route.

Mgr. Silka, the consent agenda is set up to take care of non-monetary/ housekeeping issues with one motion. Basically they are items that have been discussed prior or are referenced in other meetings or even a simple mundane task such as minutes that can be done as one motion without discussion.

Chairman Abatta, and it saves me from reading every blessed item and number. All of the consent items are legal and transparent correct?

Mgr. Silka, that is correct.

Solicitor Cambest, agreed.

MOTION: Mancini, SECOND Shiwarski to approve Items #12 thru #22 listed on the Consent Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0

MOTIONS

Discussion/Motion to approve the March 7, 2016 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes as submitted.

MOTION Shiwarski, SECOND Kisow to approve the March 7, 2016 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0

Discussion/Motion to approve the March, 2016 Treasurer's Report

MOTION Shiwarski, SECOND Kisow to approve the March, 2016 Treasurer's Report.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0

Discussion/Motion to approve the March, 2016 List of Bills.

MOTION Shiwarski, SECOND Mancini to approve the March, 2016 List of Bills.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0

Discussion/Motion to advertise for a public hearing for a rezoning request by the Earlin Equipment Co., Inc., Phillips Family Partnership/Jake Phillips, Jr. as recommended by the Planning Commission. The applicant wishes to rezone Lot and Block No. 267-G-290 from R-2 to R-3 and Lot and Block No. 267-A-71 from R-4 to R-3. The hearing will be held on May 2, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION Shiwarski, SECOND Mancini to advertise for a public hearing for a rezoning request by the Earlin Equipment Co., Inc., Phillips Family Partnership/Jake Phillips, Jr. as recommended by the Planning Commission. The applicant wishes to rezone Lot and Block No. 267-G-290 from R-2 to R-3 and Lot and Block No. 267-A-71 from R-4 to R-3. The hearing will be held on May 2, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0

Discussion/Motion to advertise for a public hearing for a rezoning request by Bernard Buranosky as recommended by the Planning Commission. The applicant wishes to rezone Lot and Block No. 267-A-370 from R-4 to R-3. The hearing will be held on May 2, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

MOTION Kisow, SECOND Mancini to advertise for a public hearing for a rezoning request by Bernard Buranosky as recommended by the Planning Commission. The applicant wishes to rezone Lot and Block No. 267-A-370 from R-4 to R-3. The hearing will be held on May 2, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0

Discussion/Motion to award a bid for the 2006 RVM Hot Patcher – Model 3TDR to James Millerscheon in the amount of \$200.00.

MOTION Mancini, SECOND Shiwarski to award a bid for the 2006 RVM Hot Patcher – Model 3TDR to James Millerscheon in the amount of \$200.00.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y
M/C 4-0

Vice-Chairman Shiwarski, just for clarification on this item. These were surplus machinery that we had in the Township inventory. It was put out for public bid.

Mgr. Silka, that is correct and we only received one bid for each item. It was advertised in the Suburban Gazette.

Discussion/Motion to award a bid for the 2009 Ford Explorer AWD to Mark Gaudino in the amount of \$665.00.

MOTION Shiwarski, SECOND Mancini to award a bid for the 2009 Ford Explorer AWD to Mark Gaudino in the amount of \$665.00.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0

Discussion/Motion to authorize the Township Manager to purchase a 2015 (new) JLG Industries, T500J, trailer mounted boom lift with drive and set options for \$45,520.00 from Cleveland Brothers. This item is on COSTARS Contract No. 4400011420.

MOTION Kisow, SECOND Shiwarski to authorize the Township Manager to purchase a 2015 (new) JLG Industries, T500J, trailer mounted boom lift with drive and set options for \$45,520.00 from Cleveland Brothers. This item is on COSTARS Contract No. 4400011420.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0

Discussion/Motion to adopt Resolution No. 6-2016 confirming the entry into an Employment Agreement between the Township of Robinson and Rachel J. Susko for the position of Assistant Township Manager.

MOTION Mancini, SECOND Shiwarski to adopt Resolution No. 6-2016 confirming the entry into an Employment Agreement between the Township of Robinson and Rachel J. Susko for the position of Assistant Township Manager.
ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0

Chairman Abatta offered congratulations to Rachel Susko in her new position.

Discussion/Motion to offer conditional employment to Erin Bigger for the position of Police Clerk

MOTION Kisow, SECOND Mancini to offer conditional employment to Erin Bigger for the position of Police Clerk.
ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0

Chairman Abatta, these next three items that I am going to read into the record, numbers 32, 33 and 34, are for hiring part-time seasonal employees for our pool and for our road department. In following procedure, what we always have done and will continue to do is to have two hirings for all of these positions. The first hiring will take place very shortly. I am not going to read in the extensive list of names as to who will be hired right now, but Mr. Silka will inform these people who you are and set up a time schedule for interviews and testings for these procedures.

Mgr. Silka, we generally do not test for these positions, it involves getting certifications for the lifeguards, etc.

Discussion/Motion to hire part-time seasonal lifeguards on an “as needed basis” at the Clever Park Swimming Pool contingent upon providing copies of required certifications to the Township in advance of the pool opening as recommended by the Township Manager.

MOTION Shiwarski, SECOND Mancini to to hire part-time seasonal lifeguards on an “as needed basis” at the Clever Park Swimming Pool contingent upon providing copies of required certifications to the Township in advance of the pool opening as recommended by the Township Manager.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.

M/C 4-0

Discussion to hire part-time seasonal summer concession and front desk workers on an “as needed basis” at the Clever Park swimming pool as recommended by the Township Manager.

MOTION Kisow, SECOND Mancini to hire part-time seasonal summer concession and front desk workers on an “as needed basis” at the Clever Park swimming pool as recommended by the Township Manager.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.

M/C 4-0

Discussion/Motion to hire part-time seasonal workers for the Public Works Department on an “as needed basis” as recommended by the Township Manager.

MOTION Shiwarski, SECOND Mancini to hire part-time seasonal workers for the Public Works Department on an “as needed basis” as recommended by the Township Manager.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.

M/C 4-0

Chairman Abatta, as I said earlier, this is a first hiring, there is an additional hiring to take place.

Discussion/Motion to authorize the Township Manager to enter into an Agreement with Facilities Management Systems for a feasibility study of the municipal building at a cost not to exceed \$8,500.00

MOTION Shiwarski, SECOND Mancini to authorize the Township Manager to enter into an Agreement with Facilities Management Systems for a feasibility study of the municipal building at a cost not to exceed \$8,500.00
ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0

Discussion/Motion to appoint Jason Sparkenbaugh to the Library Board for a term that will expire on December 31, 2015.

MOTION Mancini, SECOND Kisow to appoint Jason Sparkenbaugh to the Library Board for a term that will expire on December 31, 2018.
ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0

Chairman Abatta, I have three addendum items that I would like to read into the record.

Discussion/Motion to offer conditional employment for the position of laborer in the Public Works Department at the current rate and benefits as provided in the current collective bargaining agreement to Charles Totten.

MOTION Shiwarski, SECOND Mancini to offer conditional employment for the position of laborer in the Public Works Department at the current rate and benefits as provided in the current collective bargaining agreement to Charles Totten.
ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0

Discussion/Motion to offer conditional employment for the position of laborer in the Public Works Department at the current rate and benefits as provided in the current collective bargaining agreement to John Bane.

MOTION Shiwarski, SECOND Kisow to offer conditional employment for the position of laborer in the Public Works Department at the current rate and benefits as provided in the current collective bargaining agreement to John Bane.
ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0

Discussion/Motion to offer conditional employment for the position of laborer in the Public Works Department at the current rate and benefits as provided in the current collective bargaining agreement to Ronald Maracini.

MOTION Shiwarski, SECOND Kisow to offer conditional employment for the position of laborer in the Public Works Department at the current rate and benefits as provided in the current collective bargaining agreement to Ronald Maracini.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0

Discussion/Motion to consider a Letter of Agreement with Forest City for the donation of real estate, subject to the execution of an agreement.

MOTION Shiwarski, SECOND Kisow to consider a Letter of Agreement with Forest City for the donation of real estate, subject to the execution of an agreement.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Mancini, I just have a quick question for Mgr. Silka. Who was it that appointed you to that Board?

Mgr. Silka, the Mayor of Philadelphia, who was the President of the Pennsylvania Municipal League at the time.

Commissioner Kisow, I would just like to say that I am sorry if I look like I am fumbling around up here but me and computers do not get along. I am not ignoring anybody, I just get lost.

Vice-Chairman Shiwarski, I would just like to congratulate all of the people that were voted on this evening, whether part-time or full time with the Township, especially R.J. Susko. Again, I am looking forward to your continued enthusiasm. Just as a note, I have had a chance to interview a lot of people in my career in business over 35 years and I can say this that she was one of the top two or three interviews that I have experienced in my career. You really represented yourself well and looking forward to tapping into some of that talent. Congratulations!

Chairman Abatta, I would also like to congratulate you Rachel. We are looking forward to bringing you on board. We are a progressive Township here in Robinson and welcome aboard.

With the new hires that we hired this evening for the road department, police clerk, summer help, library appointment, congratulations and welcome into the fold here at Robinson Township.

Parks Report

Chairman Abatta, I attended the Easter event at the Clever Rd. Park and it was fantastic. There were lots of people and good prizes. Everything worked out very well. We always try to do things in the community with our Parks Board to keep everyone involved. I would like to commend my Parks Board people for the job that they do.

Robinson Township Community Clean-up Day, this earth day, let's get really big stuff done for our planet. Robinson Township would like you to do just that. Help create change right here in your home town. Join us for cleanup day 2016. We will travel through our town to gather unsightly trash and litter left behind by those less intuned to nature. Community groups and individuals are encouraged to join our efforts to pick up the trash and litter that has accumulated after the long winter months. The event will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Robinson Township will provide gloves, reflective vests and trash bags. Giant Eagle has partnered with us by providing a location to gather at. Please meet around 9:00 a.m. on the second floor of the food court area. There will be coffee and donuts and a light snack to get your started. Giant Eagle Market District is located at Settlers Ridge. If you or your group are interested in participating, please contact Jane Tallon at jtallon@townshipofrobinson.com. We will have letters available upon request for those who are looking for community service.

Along with the upcoming spring season, our pool pass sign-ups are on Saturdays in May from 10:00 to 4:00 p.m. Robinson residents only will be serviced on May 4th and 14th. The residents and non-residents can purchase passes May 21st and 28th. Swim lessons fill up fast, so please do not delay in signing up.

Lastly, spring leaf collection will be held for one week only. The collection will be the week of April 18th thru April 22nd. Robinson Township is collecting leaves at curbside for one week only this spring. The day before your pickup is scheduled, please rake leaves to the curb unless you are one of the busier streets that require biodegradable bag collection. All of this information can be viewed on our website at www.townshipofrobinson.com.

Chairman Abatta, Mr. Santucci, I am going to have Mr. Cambest address your issues. I know exactly what you are talking about and I want to get you the legal interpretation.

Solicitor Cambest, we understand the type of letter that you received Mr. Santucci, because we received the same type of letter as a municipality. I don't want to make any excuses for anybody, but I will say that Mr. Weiss' firm is the newly appointed delinquent tax collector for this year. In the past we had Jordan Tax Service. When we received the letter, which was about \$52,000 penalty and interest included, I did contact Mr. Weiss' office to find out what was going on because obviously as a municipality, we should be tax exempt. Sometimes when you have a changeover of delinquent tax collectors and they attempt to change over the information, whether it was good or bad information, I think incidents like yours and ours do occur. I did speak with Mr. Weiss and hopefully we will be getting better coordination of that tax information so those types of items don't happen. Even for homeowners with title changes and we get requests for lien letters, sometimes individuals do pay their taxes and for some reason or other, it does not get satisfied. Usually you find that when you have the smaller liens like you have, it is not cost effective to go in and do that, although it should be done and there is no excuse if the lien holder does not satisfy that lien once it gets paid. I can only tell you that they are in the process of looking at those and we will probably have a number of those from the municipal end because when we take over a piece of property for a municipal purpose, you generally have to file a tax exempt application and sometimes that gets lost in the shuffle.

Mr. Santucci, do you have any idea how many of these went out?

Solicitor Cambest, I do not. I did speak with Mr. Weiss because it happened to us this past month. I will try to get some idea now that you have brought it to our attention that it is obviously more instances than the municipality alone. We will try to find out what is going on so we can bring the Commissioners up to speed on that.

Chairman Abatta, what I would like you to do since you have brought this to our attention and it is a viable subject, you check in with our Township Manager, Mr. Silka because he will be up on this.

Mr. Santucci, I want to stress that for me it was not the amount of money, it became very offensive in the wording and I am picturing somebody elderly receiving this. It could have been several hundred dollars for people with potentially limited income or fixed income and it was very threatening. That is the part that I found being very unusual and trying to reach back that far, nobody would have documentation whether they owed it or did not owe it. How do you justify putting someone in that position?

Solicitor Cambest, unfortunately in these types of collections, you do get standard form letters. If this had been a delinquent tax for 2015, there is a standard number of letters they go through. Because yours was so old and ours as well, you get that kind of letter.

Mr. Santucci, again, I just wanted to bring it to someone's attention because I thought it was something you needed to know. I have had a good relationship with the Township for many years and this seemed out of character.

Chairman Abatta, we piggyback off of the school for the most part. The lions share of the monies goes to the school and then the county. There are some kinks in the process. Touch base with Mr. Silka and he will jump into it further and hopefully we will get it clarified.

MOTION Mancini, SECOND Kisow to adjourn the Meeting.
ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.
M/C 4-0 to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carol Merks
Township Secretary