

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2016  
7:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Sam Abatta called the meeting of June 6, 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-Present, Kisow-Present, Shiwarski-Present, Abatta-Present. Also in attendance were Jack Cambest, Esq., Township Manager Silka, Assistant Manager Susko, Planning Director Urbano, Engineer Meyer and Mrs. Merks for the purpose of taking minutes.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

The Engineers Report dated June 6, 2016 is attached.

**COMMISSIONERS ACTION REQUESTED**

- 1). The Ridge at Robinson Site Plan (Bond Reduction)
- 2). Silver Lane Estates (Approval of Earth Disturbance Permit)
- 3). Campbell's Run Business Center (Bond Reduction)

**CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Keiners Lane Storm Pike – Contractor continues to work on project

2016 Road Program – a notice to proceed will be issued on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Fawnvue Dr. Landslide – project has been substantially completed and contractor has been working on the restoration of the site.

Clever Road Park Pool – Final estimate and conceptual drawings have been prepared.

Clever Road Park Building Addition – Plans have been approved by Plans Examiners and Public Works is working on the project.

Clever Park Pool – Architect and Manager are meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss various options.

## **DEVELOPMENTAL INSPECTIONS**

Cable Property – McMichael Rd. – the developer continues to work on the grading and storm sewer.

## **DEVELOPMENTAL REVIEWS**

Silver Lane Estates – has been previously described.

Commissioner Kisow, I just wanted to bring up Moon Run Road, with the water lines going in and the material that they used to backfill the roads.

Engineer Meyer, we do not inspect if it is the Municipal Water and Sewer Authority. They would do the inspection of the roads for any of their projects. I spoke with the Authority engineer and at the time, had questioned whether they were using the right material as far as backfill. He had stated that they were. I will get together with Mr. Silka tomorrow and we will call the Authority and see what is going on. We may have to go out and do a site inspection to find out what it is. The Authority is supposed to use the same standards that we use within the Township and that we make everyone else use.

## **POLICE REPORT**

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

I would like to mention that recently we have had several retirements from the police force. Officer Scott Kost recently retired after 25 years of service. Paul Morgan retired last week after 24 years of service and Lt. Edward Krall retired today after 32 years of service with the Township. They were great assets to the community and obviously I want to wish them well. They did a great job in protecting the citizens of our community.

### ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Mgr. Silka, a few items to update the Board and the public. Our standing comprehensive plan/zoning revision update, it is getting to the end and I am very appreciative of the efforts that the Board has put in to make this comprehensive plan process a success. We did through the caucus meeting, review some of our goals and updates that our consultant has provided us. We will now be having a joint meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup> with the Planning Commission to do the final put together before it is approved to go to the county for their review and then for the public hearings and final adoption. We should have this done by September or October. At the same time, we are dovetailing into the zoning ordinance revisions. This is going right on schedule with what we hope to do.

A new update that I am going to put on every month is the Verizon Franchise Renewal Update. This is with the Cohen Law Group. It is ongoing and there is nothing new to report this month, other than they are developing their background information to start the process of evaluating our past franchise and making sure that the responsibilities and obligations were met by Verizon before we go into the new franchise negotiation.

I attended the Pennsylvania Municipal Manager's meeting. It seems the new topic, is going to be drones. It is the next frontier and is proliferating in use throughout the municipalities, however, it is very vague as to who and what can be regulated, whether it be the FAA or local. I actually had Ms. Susko, the assistant manager, attending a drone workshop last week. We will keep you up to date and we are working with the solicitor to see how best we can manage drones, also knowing that we are within the five mile radius of the Pittsburgh International Airport, which does give it some other regulations for drone operations.

The Park Alcohol Resolution is on the consent agenda. It regulates the consumption of possession of alcoholic beverages within the park and public spaces of Robinson Township. This is basically going to say that the only place that alcoholic beverages can be consumed or possessed within our parks is going to be in rented pavilions.

Regarding summer property maintenance, we are asking from the code enforcement perspective for residents to be aware of the grass and maintain their property and at the same time, not to put lawn waste trimmings in retention ponds, along stream banks or anywhere they can actually cause a hazard. The Township looks good and we want it to continue to look good, but we ask that when you deposit your lawn clippings, stay away from the retention pond sites, streams and any other storm sewer water courses.

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As our community is growing, our professional staff is growing. We have added the assistant manager. I want everyone to know that one of the roles of the assistant manager is going to be front line contact for the residents. If you call in with a complaint asking to talk to the manager, chances are it is going to be first referred to the assistant manager for a review if it is a normal operating procedure. If you get referred to the assistant manager, do not feel like you are being slighted. This is our operational policy. We are segregating the management and adding another line to hopefully be more attentive to citizen complaints and their needs. As always, if anyone needs to talk to the manager, just make it clear and we will have a conversation.

The July meeting falls on July 4<sup>th</sup>. It is on the consent agenda that we are rescheduling the meeting to July 11 at 7:00 p.m.

#### **TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Solicitor Cambest had no report.

#### **FINANCE REPORT**

Vice-Chairman Shiwarski, Mr. Kezmarsky had a personal matter come up today so he is not here. He has already started working on some things for our budget.

#### **BUILDING INSPECTOR/ZONING OFFICER REPORT**

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

#### **CITIZENS COMMENTS**

No comments.

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CONDUCTED EXECUTIVE SESSIONS ON MAY 27, 2016 FROM 2:00 P.M. TO 5:30 P.M. AND ON JUNE 6, 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 SESSIONS DURING THIS MEETING.**

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Discussion to approve Items #12 through #27 listed on the Consent Agenda.

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MOTION: Shiwarski, SECOND Barefoot to approve Items #12 through #27 listed on the Consent Agenda.

ROLL CALL: Mancini, Barefoot, Kisow, Shiwarski, Abatta.  
M/C 5-0

Discussion to approve the May, 2016 Treasurer's Report.

MOTION Mancini, SECOND Shiwarski to approve the May, 2016 Treasurer's Report.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Barefoot-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.  
M/C 5-0

MOTION Barefoot, SECOND Mancini to approve the May, 2016 List of Bills.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Barefoot-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.  
M/C 5-0

Discussion to approve the 2015 Audit as presented by Mark A. Turnley, CPA

MOTION Shiwarski, SECOND Mancini to approve the 2015 Audit as presented by Mark A. Turnley, CPA

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Barefoot-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.  
M/C 5-0

### COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

**Commissioner Mancini**, I have no comments.

**Commissioner Barefoot**, no comments.

**Commissioner Kisow**, no comments.

**Vice-Chairman Shiwarski**, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Father's Day.

**Chairman Abatta**, I just have a few items I would like to refer to before we close out the meeting. Chief Vietmeier, I would like to express congratulations to the officers who are or will be retiring. They have served the community in high regard, so please pass that message along to them.

At the last meeting I heard from a resident by the name of Ruth Winstel on Diana Drive concerning the puppy mill situation and how it relates to Robinson Township.

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I prepared a response that I would like to make public. This is in response to the puppy mill question that has been rampant in the past couple of months and our meetings.

The Commissioners appreciate the time that you and your colleagues have dedicated to the cause of commercially bred animals and making sure that all animals are treated humanely. At this time, your request to have a local ordinance regulating the sale of commercially bred dogs in the Township and requiring that only animals who are obtained from animal care facilities or rescue organizations by legal for sale in the Township cannot be acted upon. Through your own presentations you have clarified that commercial breeders fall under the jurisdiction of the United States Department of Agriculture under the Animal Welfare Act of 1965. Whether this is sufficient, is a matter that should be addressed with your Congressmen and Senators at the federal level. Local government does not have the resources to regulate such a policy. The Township of Robinson does not feel that it should enact any legislation that would limit consumer choice for any legal business that operates within the Township. The Township does support however, animal rescue and shelters by sponsoring its animal pets on parade event and providing a donation from these proceeds. While our efforts are commended, at this time, the Board will not act upon your request.

I also have a short Parks Report. The pool is open for the season today, June 6<sup>th</sup>. It is not too late to get those season passes so you may still apply. Robinson Township Parks and Recreation Board presents Pets on Parade on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Come out for a morning with family and friends for fun. The Mall at Robinson will host Pets on Parade and proceeds will benefit Pittsburgh Aviation Animal Rescue Team. The registration begins at 8:30 a.m. at Entrance C near Macy's. The parade will begin at 9:00 a.m. The first 50 pets registered will receive a goody bag and Pets on Parade t-shirt. Visit the [townshipofrobinson.ticketleap.com](http://townshipofrobinson.ticketleap.com) for your tickets today. Tickets will also be available the day of the event. If you would like to become a vendor at this event, please email Jane Tallon at [jtallon@townshipofrobinson.com](mailto:jtallon@townshipofrobinson.com).

Lastly, coming your way this summer is "Chase your Dreams with Health and Fitness Classes." We are happy to announce that we will be offering a P90X Live and Insanity Live classes, 5 days a week starting June 27<sup>th</sup> thru July 26<sup>th</sup> at the Daniel P. Tallon Memorial Field, which is the upper soccer field at the Burkett Sports and Recreation Complex. For more information, please contact [sammybo314dt@gmail.com](mailto:sammybo314dt@gmail.com) or visit the website at [samanthablodgett.com](http://samanthablodgett.com) and click on the Chase your Dreams tab.

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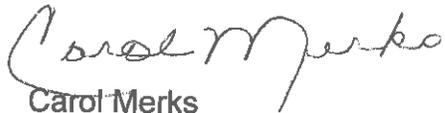
**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

MOTION Barefoot, SECOND Mancini to adjourn the meeting.

ROLL CALL: Mancini-Y, Barefoot-Y, Kisow-Y, Shiwarski-Y, Abatta-Y.  
M/C 5-0

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carol Merks  
Township Secretary