

## FINAL BUDGET / END OF YEAR MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2017 @ 6:00 P.M.

- 110208
1. CALL TO ORDER– Chairman Bermingham called the meeting to order AT 6:40 P.M. as the Board was waiting for a Quorum to be present. Present in addition to Chairman Bermingham were Supervisor De Franco, Supervisor Due, Township Manager Rick Fisher & Solicitor Ron Karasek. Supervisor Hallett arrived at 7:10 p.m. Supervisor Geake was absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
  2. APPROVE AGENDA – Manager Fisher asked the agenda be amended to include an Executive Session for Personnel & Legal. **MOTION** by Supervisor De Franco, seconded by Supervisor Due to approve the amended agenda Vote: 3-0.
  3. PUBLIC COMMENT – Chairman Bermingham said citizens have reached out to him regarding the formation of a neighborhood watch program. John said he is meeting with them on Friday and their duties would include a neighborhood watch for burglaries, fire prevention first aid training, clean up days and children safety calls. John invited the Supervisors and Supervisors elect if they would like to attend.
  4. Adopt 2018 Budget – Manager Fisher said there needs to be one correction on the estimated fund balance which should say 2018 and will make that change; also change \$419,362 from the Holiday Lights and additionally take \$5,000 from that line item and put it in civil and military celebrations to help the committee pay for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities. Chairman Bermingham said they are planning on having the 1<sup>st</sup> ever fireworks show in Upper Mt. Bethel. **MOTION** by Supervisor Due, seconded by Supervisor De Franco to adopt the budget with changes as specified by the Township Manager. Vote: 4-0.
  5. 2017 Final Bill List – Manager Fisher read the bill list. **MOTION** by Supervisor Due, seconded by Supervisor De Franco to approve the bill list in the amount of \$125,752.11. Vote: 4-0.
  6. Teamsters Local 773 Road Crew Contract. Chairman Bermingham thanked Mark Laubach and the Road Department for all their hard work rectifying the contract. **MOTION** by Supervisor Due, seconded by Supervisor Hallett to approve the Teamsters Local 773 Road Crew Contract. Vote: 4-0.
  7. Resolution #2017-26 - Use of EIT funds to pay off Eastern Industries Property debt. Chairman Bermingham read the Resolution. **MOTION** by Supervisor Hallett, seconded by Supervisor Due to adopt the Resolution to place a restrictive covenant on 113 Million Dollar Highway “Eastern Industries Property”. Public Comment by Judy Henckel – asked where the list of restrictions are. Solicitor Karasek explained Page. 4 & 5 has detailed language similar to language used in the Ziegafuse agreement. **MOTION** amended by Supervisor Hallett, seconded by Supervisor Due that we adopt the Resolution based upon Solicitor Karasek language and the covenants will run with the land. Vote: 4-0.
  8. Resolution # 2017- 27 - Tax Levy Resolution – 2018. **MOTION** by Supervisor De Franco, seconded by Supervisor Hallett to approve the Resolution for Tax Levy 2018 with the following rates: 6.55 mills = 65.0 cents, General Fund 4.8 mills = 48.0 cents, Fire tax fund – 1.0 mills = 10.0 cents, Road machinery – 0.7 mills = 7.0 cents.

9. Resolution #2017-28 - Cell Tower Resolution - Chairman Bermingham read the Resolution. MOTION by Supervisor Due, seconded by Supervisor De Franco to approve the Resolution in opposition to House Bill 1620 entitled "Wireless Deployment Bill". Vote approving: 3-1.

10. Grader – Manager Fisher said it's on Municibid and asked it be tabled. **MOTION** by Chairman Bermingham, seconded by Supervisor De Franco to table to the 1/8/18 meeting. Vote: 4-0.

11. Silo Demolition – Manager Fisher said he received 2 estimates and waiting for 1 more and asked it be tabled. **MOTION** by Supervisor De Franco, seconded by Supervisor Due to table to the 1/8/18 meeting. Vote: 4-0.

12. Trail – UMBT / PORTLAND – Supervisor Due gave an update on the trail. He went to the LWG meeting and asked the Park service to give us a letter of support. LWG trail is designated already and explained the 911 trail which goes from Jersey City all the way to Cherry Valley. Supervisor Due indicated the trail was originally Walnutport to Portland but started here instead. Brian Cope would like to see it go to Wind Gap, start here and go west – 32 mile radius. Supervisor Due said he would like to get letters of support from the Slate Belt and eventually the other side of the mountain – such as Hamilton and Stroud. Twp. Smithfield & Middle Smithfield and is asking the Boards permission to allow him to get those letters. **MOTION** by Supervisor De Franco, seconded by Supervisor Hallett to allow Supervisor Due to get letters of support in working towards the 32 mile loop.

13. Executive Session – a. Personnel. The Board recessed for Executive Session from 7:55 p.m. to 8:25 p.m. to discuss Personnel and Legal. **MOTION** by Supervisor De Franco, seconded by Supervisor Hallett that Tom Abbott receive double time for Christmas day and regular time for Christmas Eve. No other motion made. Solicitor Karasek confirmed the Board is not moving forward with the casino Resolution to be passed. The Board said they are not. Chairman Bermingham thanked Supervisor Hallett for his many years of service and was honored to work with him.

14. Adjournment - **MOTION** by Supervisor De Franco, seconded by Supervisor Hallett to adjourn the Public Meeting at 8:30 p.m. Vote: 4-0.

Respectfully submitted - Melissa Mastrogiovanni, Recording Secretary, Upper Mount Bethel Township