

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
of the South Park Township**

**Board of Supervisors**

**October 12, 2015**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

Dave Buchewicz presiding. Board members Walt Sackinsky and Ed Snee were present. Also in attendance were: Karen Fosbaugh, Township Manager, Chief Dennis McDonough, and Paul J. Gitnik, Esq., Township Solicitor.

Two or more members of the Board of Supervisors were together on the following occasions which may or may not qualify as an administrative action(s), conference(s) and/or executive sessions(s):

Monday, September 14, 2015 – Meeting with Library Volunteer Fire Company.

Monday, September 14, 2015 – After the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors to discuss personnel matters.

Saturday, September 19, 2015 – Possibly during the Community Day celebration.

Thursday, October 8, 2015 – Possibly during the Senior Fair by Representative Bill Kortz.

Monday, October 12, 2015 – Prior to the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors to discuss personnel matters.

**PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT ANY ACTION APPROVED AND/OR DECISION RENDERED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AT THIS MEETING CAN BE APPEALED TO THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER THE DATE AND/OR THE DECISION IS RENDERED.**

**Presentation of  
Proclamation – Eagle  
Scout Matthew T.  
Gwynn**

Mr. Sackinsky read and presented the Proclamation to Eagle Scout Matthew T. Gwynn. Pictures were taken following the presentation.

**Call on the People**

**Richard Hogya, 6607 Springvale Drive** – Mr. Hogya expressed his

appreciation to the Board of Supervisors, Gary Wargo, the Planning Commission, and Mrs. Fosbaugh, relative to his minor subdivision.

**Cindy Atchison, 3121 Southern Drive** – Mrs. Atchison stated that she has issued complaints regarding her neighbor for nine months, and the situation has not been resolved. She stated that she does not feel safe in her neighborhood. She expressed her frustration regarding an unused, wrecked vehicle parked in her neighborhood for over 50 days. Mr. Wargo explained that the vehicle was parked on the street and was then moved onto the driveway. Mr. Wargo sent a Notice of Enforcement to the property owner giving him 10 days to comply with the Township Code. After the 10 day period, Mr. Wargo sent a certified Notice of Enforcement to the property owner giving him an additional 30 days. After the 30 day period, Mr. Wargo will issue a citation to the property owner. Mr. Buchewicz asked if the car could be towed away, and Mr. Wargo replied that he does not have the authority to tow any vehicle from private property. Mr. Snee added that after the owner is cited, he will have to go through the court process. Mr. Wargo stated that it is difficult to get the owner to sign for the certified Notice of Enforcement, therefore, making it difficult to prove to the District Court that the owner received the notice, per the Township ordinance. Mr. Gitnik inquired as to how the notice was sent, and Mr. Wargo replied that it was sent both regular first class mail and certified mail. Mr. Gitnik explained that if the owner refuses the certified mail, there is still an assumption that he has received the notice sent via first class mail, if the first class mail is not returned to the Township. Mr. Wargo added that the property is a rental property, therefore, a Notice of Enforcement was also sent to the owner of the property. Mr. Buchewicz asked if the owner of the property has acknowledged receipt of the notice. Mr. Wargo stated that he was not sure but would check with the post office tomorrow. Mr. Sackinsky asked that Mr. Wargo update Mrs. Atchison tomorrow of the current situation relative to the Notice of Enforcement. Mr. Wargo stated that Mrs. Atchison has never contacted him, like many of her neighbors, and seems to prefer addressing her complaints at the Board of Supervisors meetings. Mr. Buchewicz suggested that Mrs. Atchison contact Mr. Wargo next week for an update on the matter. Mrs. Atchison commented on the questionable activity occurring on the property, and asked how long the process will take. Mr. Sackinsky asked Chief McDonough to comment on the matter. Chief McDonough replied that there is no specific amount of time for the process. Mr. Buchewicz inquired about placing a patrol car in the area. Mrs. Atchison stated that there are 15 to 20 cars coming and going within a 1-1/2 hour period of time. Mr. Sackinsky asked if Mrs. Atchison provided the police with the times that most of the activity occurred. Chief McDonough replied that she has given him the times and the

plate numbers. Mrs. Atchison stated that most of the activity occurs from 4:30 p.m. until midnight. Mr. Sackinsky asked about a patrol car being placed in the area. Mrs. Atchison mentioned that a patrol car was posted nearby every day, but that it no longer the case. Mr. Sackinsky commented that if we placed a patrol car in the area during the time that most of the activity occurs, it could possibly be a deterrent. Mr. Buchewicz inquired about the use of cameras. Chief McDonough stated that they have a plan in place, and he is not able to discuss the matter at this time.

Mrs. Atchison inquired about when Triphammer Road will be completed. Mr. Beaver stated that the work has been completed. Mr. Buchewicz mentioned that there are potholes on the left side, which he saw this afternoon. Bruce responded that they were working on some potholes today. Bruce commented that money is an issue. Mrs. Atchison asked why only a small portion of the road was left unfinished. Mr. Sackinsky replied that that portion is just a small overlay and not the reconstructed road. He stated that they will meet with Bruce to determine the cost of repairing that portion.

Mrs. Atchison mentioned that she had heard that the Township demolishes two houses each year. She asked if the house on Edgewood Street had been demolished. Mrs. Fosbaugh replied that it had, and it cost the Township over \$10,000, which was not in the budget. Mrs. Fosbaugh added that on this evening's agenda are two houses being scheduled for nuisance hearings. The process is lengthy, and the Township did not budget for their demolition this year; therefore, these projects will extend into 2016. Mrs. Atchison inquired about the house on Sebolt Road. Mrs. Fosbaugh explained that the two houses on this evening's agenda are a threat to the health and welfare of the people, much more so than the house on Sebolt Road.

Mrs. Atchison mentioned a Township in Georgia where the state or the township was taking over the abandoned properties. Mrs. Fosbaugh stated that the Township is working with Allegheny County relative to the Vacant Property Program. Mrs. Atchison commented that she did not want to see numerous arsons as was recently reported in Beaver Falls.

Mr. Buchewicz expressed his appreciation to Mrs. Atchison for continually bringing various incidents to the Board of Supervisors' attention. Mr. Sackinsky added that the process of removing abandoned structures is a very lengthy and expensive process, which involves establishing ownership and having the property appraised. Mrs. Fosbaugh stated that the Township must have a structural engineer to determine if the house is deemed structurally unsafe. She added that if the house is safe, you cannot have it arbitrarily

demolished. Also, in many cases, deceased owners did not probate their estates. Therefore, their heirs do not legally own the house, and the Township cannot hold them liable. Mr. Wargo commented that a house on Brownsville Road was to be demolished this year; however, the engineer's report declared it structurally sound. Mrs. Fosbaugh commented that the process is in place to protect the property owner and their rights. Mrs. Atchison commented that the house on Sebolt Road has been vacant for two years. Mrs. Fosbaugh mentioned two other houses in the Township, one on Amy Drive and one on Cedaridge Drive, which both took over two years for the legal process to determine ownership. Unfortunately, it is a time element that the Township cannot control. Currently, both houses are being restored. Mr. Wargo mentioned the vacant house next door to Mrs. Atchison's house. He stated that he contacted the owner regarding the high grass, and the owner immediately had the grass cut. Mrs. Atchison replied that the owner has not been to the house since the last Board of Supervisors' Meeting. Mr. Wargo responded that the owner was at the property two weeks ago and cut the grass that Friday. Mrs. Atchison commented that she must have been away that week. She stated that her neighborhood has drastically changed within the past 26 years. Mr. Sackinsky replied that the Township is doing what they can, but we also need to take into consideration the financial aspect of the situation. Mr. Buchewicz added that blight is a problem that the Township is trying to remedy.

**Shane Ribco, ED3 Consultants, Inc. (representing Richard Hogya)** – Mr. Ribco stated that they are on the agenda to seek approval for the proposed subdivision located at 6607 Springvale Drive.

**Action on Minutes**

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors held on September 14, 2015. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Action on Invoices**

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to approve the invoices for the month of September, 2015. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Action on Non-Exclusive License Agreement – 1016 Ajay Drive – Linda and Paul Rohar**

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to approve the Non-Exclusive License Agreement by and between the Township of South Park (Grantor), and Linda H. and Paul C. Rohar (Grantees), to permit construction of a fence over a sanitary sewer easement located on Lot No. 13 of the Ajay Plan of Lots, Lot and Block No. 1009-G-34, being 1016 Ajay Drive, and authorizing the appropriate Township officials to execute said Agreement. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Action on Preliminary and Final Approval – Hogya Minor Subdivision – 6607 Springvale Drive**

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to approve granting preliminary and final approval to the minor subdivision identified as the Hogya Minor Subdivision located at 6607 Springvale Drive, as recommended by the Planning Commission, Township Engineer and Planning Consultant. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Action to Schedule Nuisance Hearing – 2910 and 2910A Highland Avenue**

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to schedule a Public Hearing on November 9, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of determining if the following property should be declared a public nuisance and subject to the appropriate abatement procedures and/or fines and penalties as outlined in the Code of the Township of South Park:

Owner(s):  
Mary Alice Ross

Location:  
2910 Highland Avenue  
South Park, PA 15129  
Lot/Block No. 1009-B-240

Mary Ross

2910A Highland Avenue  
South Park, PA 15129  
Lot/Block No. 1009-B-242

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Action to Schedule Nuisance Hearing – 2503 Grove Road**

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to schedule a Public Hearing on November 9, 2015, at 6:45 p.m. for the purpose of determining if the following property should be declared a public nuisance and subject to the appropriate abatement procedures and/or fines and penalties as outlined in the Code of the Township of South Park:

Owner(s):  
Josephine Butler

Location:  
2503 Grove Road  
South Park, PA 15129  
Lot/Block No. 886-E-36

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Action on Agreement – SHACOG and the Township of South Park – Grove Road Storm Sewer Phase 3 – CD Year 41**

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to approve the Agreement by and between the South Hills Area Council of Governments (SHACOG) and the Township of South Park, the purpose of which is to define the terms and conditions for the administration of the Community Development grant funds for the project identified as Grove Road Storm Sewer Phase 3, being CD Year 41, and authorizing the appropriate Township officials to execute said Agreement. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Action on Payment Request No. 1 and Final – 2015 Road Program – Youngblood Paving**

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to approve Payment No. 1 and Final in the amount of \$390,974.48 as submitted by the Contractor, Youngblood Paving, for the project identified as the 2015 Road Program, as recommended by the Project Engineer. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Action on Payment Request No. 1 and Final – Painting of Municipal Complex – Saint's Painting Company, Inc.**

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to approve Payment Request No. 1 and Final in the amount of \$61,508.50 as submitted by the Contractor, Saint's Painting Company, Inc., for the project identified as the Painting of the Municipal Complex, as recommended by the Project Engineer. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Action to Hire Monitor for Basketball Program – Cindy Klein**

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to authorize the employment of Cindy Klein, Queens Drive, as the Basketball Monitor for the 2015-2016 season of South Park Township's Recreation Basketball Program, at the rate of \$10.00 per hour. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Action on Disbursement of Volunteer Fire Relief Association Funds – 2015 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Allocation**

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to authorize the equal distribution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Allocation in the amount of \$75,245.00 designated to support the two (2) Volunteer Fire Relief Associations located within the confines of South Park Township: Broughton Volunteer Fire Department (\$37,622.50) and Library Volunteer Fire Company (\$37,622.50). All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Resolution No. 5-15**

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to approve Resolution No. 5-15: A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH PARK, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, SETTING FORTH IN FORMAL RESOLUTION FORM THE ALLOCATION OF STATE AID PENSION FUNDS RECEIVED UNDER ACT 205, THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL PENSION SYSTEM STATE AID PROGRAM, AND AUTHORIZING OTHER AND FURTHER ACTION THERETO.

All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Action on Waiver Request – Design Standards – Scioto Construction Company – Hidden Ridge Detention Pond**

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to approve the request submitted by Scioto Construction to waive the following design standards with regard to the detention pond located at 400 Hidden Ridge Court:

A. Waive the 4" PVC perforated drain pipe entering the outlet control box at inverted elevation @ 919 which appears to serve no function, and

B. Waive the required 2” trash rack spacing and allow for 6” spacing to minimize the possibility of leaf debris clogging the orifice due to the heavy concentration of trees in the area;

as recommended by the Township Engineer. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Action to Establish Halloween**

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to establish Saturday, October 31, 2015, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. as the official date and time of the Halloween Celebration throughout the Township of South Park. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Police Chief's Reports**

Police Chief's Report for the month of September 2015:

Calls for Service	807
Arrests	14
Traffic Citations	16
Warnings Issued	103
Reportable Accidents	4
Non-Reportable Accidents	2
Fire Calls	8
Emergency Medical Assists to Tri-Community EMS	67
Deer Struck by Vehicles	2

Chief McDonough mentioned that last month two of our officers attended a Precious Metals Class, instructing them on a data base which tracks stolen jewelry. Recently, our officers made two separate burglary arrests by using the data base.

Chief McDonough informed the audience that the Safewise report for 2015, ranked South Park Township 7<sup>th</sup> out of the 50 safest communities in Pennsylvania. Nationwide, out of the top 100 safest communities of our size, South Park Township ranked at number 5. Chief McDonough provided the website, Statewise.com, for verification and to view all of the communities listed on the site. He added that the website is used primarily by realtors.

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee, to accept the Police Chief's monthly report for September 2015. All members voted aye. Motion was carried.

**Supervisors' Comments**

**Mr. Snee** – Mr. Snee mentioned that on October 25<sup>th</sup>, the South Park Lions Club will be having their annual Halloween Parade, starting at 1:00 p.m., at Bavarian Village, and the annual Township Halloween Party will be held at the Community Center immediately after the parade.

**Mr. Sackinsky** – Mr. Sackinsky commented on the Kids Fishing Day Event, held on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Seventy-one children signed up for the event. Mr. Sackinsky expressed his appreciation to all of the volunteers and to everyone who donated used fishing equipment, which included over 75 rods and reels, nets, tackle boxes, a canoe, and two motors. A flea market was held to sell some of the larger items that would not be used during the event. Hot dogs, potato chips and drinks were provided to all the children in attendance. The Township stocked the creek with \$2,000.00 worth of fish. Donations and membership fees totaled approximately \$800+, which paid a large portion of the cost to hold the event. The event was very successful.

**Mr. Buchewicz** – Mr. Buchewicz mentioned the notice published in the Park News each month providing residents with a phone number to call regarding unsafe conditions, potholes, etc, and encouraged residents not to hesitate to call the number provided.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to adjourn the meeting. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Time: 7:34 p.m.**