

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

Board of Supervisors

September 14, 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, August 10, 2015 – After the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors to discuss personnel matters.

Monday, August 24, 2015 – Planning meeting for the September 11th Ceremony.

Monday, August 31, 2015 – Interviews for the position of Library Director.

Friday, September 11, 2015 – 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at Sunny Slope.

Monday, September 14, 2015 – At 9:14 a.m. and 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.

Call on the People

Cindy Atchison, 3121 Southern Drive – Mrs. Atchison mentioned that she was pleased with the work done on Triphammer Road and Sebolt Road. Mr. Buchewicz added that there is more work to be done on Triphammer Road.

Mrs. Atchison reported that the grass is overgrown at 3119 Southern

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Drive. Mr. Wargo responded that he has inspected the property recently and stated that the grass is less than 12" and is not a code violation. He will, however, contact the owners and remind them that the property needs to be continually maintained.

Mrs. Atchison mentioned that 3125 Southern Drive has been vacated for approximately six weeks, and the grass is overgrown in the rear of the property. The owner, Mr. Gallagher, is living in Monongahela.

Mrs. Atchison mentioned that 3127 Southern Drive is still causing traffic. She mentioned a car in the driveway without a license plate, and Mr. Wargo informed Mrs. Atchison that he has sent a Code Enforcement Notice to the owner which gives him 30 days to comply with the Township Code. Mr. Snee asked that Mrs. Atchison contact the police if she sees any suspicious activity.

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 August 10, 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 August, 2015. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Action on Land Development Agreement – James and Karen Bittner, Allen and Jamie Lynch, Scott Merlina, and South Park Township – Sanitary Sewer Extension – Amanda Avenue

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to approve the Land Development Agreement by and between James and Karen Bittner, Allen and Jamie Lynch, Scott Merlina and South Park Township which defines the terms and conditions for the completion of the extension of the public improvements, being a sanitary sewer located on Amanda Avenue, and authorizing the appropriate Township officials to execute said Agreement. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Action on Non-Exclusive License Agreement – James & Karen Bittner – 1649 Amanda Avenue

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 James and Karen Bittner (Grantees), to permit the location of an above-ground pool within a proposed sanitary sewer easement located on Lot Nos. 27 and 28 of the Library Heights Plan DD, Lot and Block No. 00062-0772-S, being 1649 Amanda Avenue, and authorizing the appropriate Township officials to execute said Agreement. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Action on Grading Permit Bond Refund – 937 Hurl Drive – Anthony and Renee Nolla

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to approve the cash bond in the amount of \$630.00 posted by Anthony and Renee Nolla to guarantee the completion of the grading permit activities at the property located at 937 Hurl Drive, as recommended by the Code Enforcement Officer. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Action on Resignation from Sewer Authority – George Smith

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to ratify the resignation of George Smith from his position on the Bethel Park Municipal Authority, retroactive to August 1, 2015. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Action to Ratify Appointment to Bethel Park Municipal Authority – Bruce Beaver

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to ratify the appointment of Bruce Beaver to fill the vacancy on the Bethel Park Municipal Authority, on a temporary basis, with a term to expire the first Monday of the year 2019. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Hold Harmless Agreement by and between the South Park Township and South Park School District – Recreation Basketball Program

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to approve the Hold Harmless Agreement by and between South Park Township and South Park School District with regard to South Park Township's Recreation Basketball Program which is held at South Park Middle School, and further authorizing the appropriate Township official to execute said Agreement. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

2016 Minimum Municipal Obligation

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to approve the Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the year 2016, as prepared by Mockenhaupt Benefits Group relative to the Service Employees' Pension Plan and the Police Pension Plan, and to authorize the certification of said documents by the Chief Administrative Officer. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Action on Training Request – Heavy Equipment Identification and Theft Training Program – Officer Joshua Indof

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to authorize the attendance of Officer Joshua Indof to a training session entitled, "Heavy Equipment Identification and Theft Training Program," which will be held at the Cranberry Township Public Safety Training Complex on October 2, 2015, at no cost to the Township. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Action on Training Request – Advanced Active Shooter Training – Sgt. Shannon Henrich

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to authorize the attendance of Sgt. Shannon Henrich to a training session entitled, "Advanced Active Shooter Training," which will be held in Findlay Township on October 5-9, 2015 at a total cost to the Township of \$30.00.

Mr. Sackinsky inquired as to overtime pay to the officers attending

the training sessions. Chief McDonough replied that there will be no overtime pay. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Action on Training Request – Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response – Officer Joseph Leonetti

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to authorize the attendance of Officer Joseph Leonetti to a training session entitled, “Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response,” which will be held at the FAA Training Facility in Imperial, PA on October 5-9, 2015, at a total cost to the Township of \$30.00. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Buchewicz discussed an incident where a Chief of Police shot himself while cleaning his gun. Mr. Buchewicz inquired as to whether our police officers are trained on how to properly clean their weapons. Chief McDonough replied that the officers are trained; however, accidents occasionally happen.

Action on Training Request – Criminal Investigations – Officer Brian Rucienski

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to authorize the attendance of Officer Brian Rucienski to a training session entitled, “Criminal Investigations,” which will be held at the Allegheny County Police Academy on October 12-16, 2015, at a total cost to the Township of \$30.00. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Action on Training Request – Internet Crimes Investigation – Officer Brian Rucienski

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee to authorize the attendance of Officer Brian Rucienski to a training session entitled, “Internet Crimes Investigation” which will be held at the Pennsylvania State Police Southwestern Training Center on October 20-21, 2015, at a total cost to the Township of \$12.00. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Action on Training Request – Felony Sexual Assault Investigations – Officers Joseph Leonetti, Joshua Indof, and Brian Jesionowski

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee, to authorize the attendance of Officer Joseph Leonetti, Officer Joshua Indof and Officer Brian Jesionowski to a training session entitled, “Felony Sex Assault Investigations,” which will be held at the Allegheny County Police Academy on October 29, 2015, at no cost to the Township.

Mr. Sackinsky, again, inquired as to overtime pay, since there are four officers attending the session at the same time. Chief McDonough replied that there will be no overtime pay. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Action on Training Request – Felony Sexual Assault and Child Abuse – Officer Richard Griffith

Motion by Mr. Sackinsky, seconded by Mr. Snee, to authorize the attendance of Officer Richard Griffith to a training session entitled, “Felony Sexual Assault and Child Abuse,” which will be held at the Allegheny County Police Academy on November 2, 2015, at no cost to the Township.

Mr. Sackinsky commented that in order to keep our officers highly trained and advanced, we continually enroll our officers in various

training sessions. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Police Chief's
Reports**

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

Calls for Service	819
Arrests	17
Traffic Citations	22
Parking Citations	4
Warnings Issued	94
Reportable Accidents	3
Non-Reportable Accidents	11
Fire Calls	12
Emergency Medical Assists to Tri-Community EMS	73
Deer Struck by Vehicles	6

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Mr. Buchewicz discussed the various incidents throughout the country where police officers are fatally shot. He inquired as to how our police department prevents these types of incidents from happening to our police officers. Chief McDonough explained that training helps to prevent injuries and fatalities; however, every Chief of Police has had to cope with the recent tragedies. When the incident happened in Ferguson, South Park officers were doubled up in cars for added safety. Chief McDonough added that he has to weigh every situation. Walt Sackinsky asked if it is standard procedure when a police officer is pulling someone over, the other officer on duty backs him up. Chief McDonough replied that that is standard procedure, as long as the second officer is not already on another call. Mr. Snee added that at times, a County police officer will back up the South Park Township police.

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

**Supervisors'
Comments**

Mr. Snee – Mr. Snee thanked Mrs. Fosbaugh for a successful 9/11 Ceremony. There were over 200 people in attendance. Mr. Snee reminded the audience that South Park Community Day will be held on Saturday, September 19th, from 12:00 noon until 4:30 p.m., and the parade starts at 12:00 noon.

Mr. Sackinsky – Mr. Sackinsky informed the audience that there will be a Creek Cleanup prior to the Community Day events. Interested participants will be meeting at the Snowden bridge at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 19th. Mr. Sackinsky reported that last year's Creek Cleanup had the most participants since the inception of the event.

Mr. Buchewicz – Mr. Buchewicz commented that Mr. Sackinsky

has a program in place, whereby people donate unused fishing equipment, and Mr. Sackinsky repairs the broken equipment. Mr. Sackinsky added that he has received donations of 55+ fishing rods and reels; 10 to 12 tackle boxes, miscellaneous nets, a Coleman camping stove, and a canoe. All of the equipment is for the benefit of the kids, and last year, there were approximately 100 kids who attended the "Kids Fish for Fun" day. This year it will be held on Saturday, September 26th, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Peters Creek Road. Any heavy duty equipment, not suitable for the children, is sold at a flea market held on the same day, place, and time. Last year, the flea market raised \$350.00 which was donated to the kids fund.

Anthony Nolla -937 Hurl Drive: Mr. Nolla asked if the event was sponsored by South Park or by the TCAA. Mr. Sackinsky replied that it is sponsored by the TCAA, which he has been a member for 20 years, and he is the South Park representative for the event. He explained that in the beginning there were three communities involved: Jefferson Hills, South Park Township, and Clairton. Recently, most of the children attending the event are from Jefferson Hills and South Park Township, but there are also children from all over who attend. It is a catch and release type of program, not a fishing contest. The Township pays \$4.00 per fish when stocking the creek. The Township has a limited budget, and Tri-Community Anglers is funded by their membership which is approximately 80 members who pay \$20.00/each. Currently, they are working off of the reserve from the spill, when the water company line broke into the salt tunnel and killed all the fish in the creek. That fund is diminishing and state grants, which were very generous in the past, are no longer available. Mr. Sackinsky stated that he is concerned about what will happen when that fund is depleted. He encourages people who want to fish to take advantage of our creeks. Mr. Nolla stated that he is a member of the TCAA, and he and his son have been to a few of the Creek Cleanups. He was not aware of the Kids Fish for Fun Day. Mr. Sackinsky clarified that the Creek Cleanup Day is Saturday, September 19th, and the Kids Fish for Fun Day is Saturday September 26th. Mr. Sackinsky added that these events are held in the Fall and in the Spring. Last year there were over 50 people helping to clean the creek, which included boy scouts, cub scouts, men, and women. The Township pays an individual on a part-time basis to help clean-up the roads. The corridor from Gill Hall Road to Paliotta's Construction Company is where the Creek Cleanup is held, which takes approximately 1-1/2 hours.

Mr. Snee inquired about a collection being held on the Montour Trail.

Dave Oyler, 3321 Brownsville Road Ext. – Mr. Oyler stated that

he is a member of the Montour Trail Council and a member of the South Hills Friends. He explained that they have an annual fundraiser which is called Penny Day. There are three different locations throughout the trail, between Library and Clairton, to place a donation. The Penny Day will be held on October 10th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. It is always the second Saturday in October. Mr. Buchewicz asked if there was an address where donations could be sent. Mr. Oyler explained that he is the Treasurer, and any donations can be sent to his address. Mr. Snee inquired as to the locations along the trail. Mr. Oyler replied that there is one at Brownsville Road Ext., near Cogo's; a second location is where the trail crosses Gill Hall Road, in Jefferson Borough; and the third location is the terminus of the Montour Trail, the Clairton Trailhead in Clairton.

Mr. Buchewicz commented that the Township is doing well, with good leadership and good teamwork.

Adjournment

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

Time: 7:23 p.m.