

Oldmans Township Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
March 7, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the Oldmans Township Committee was held on March 7, 2012. Meeting was called to order by Mayor Miller at 7:30 PM. This meeting was held in compliance with the Sunshine Law. All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: William Miller, Harry Moore and George Bradford.

On motion by Mr. Bradford, seconded by Mr. Moore, all agreed to approve the minutes from:  
February 1, 2012 Regular Meeting  
February 1, 2012 Executive Meeting

Ordinance 2012-03      Calendar Year 2012 Ordinance to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank. Mr. Hackett stated that this ordinance is typically adopted every year. The Township hasn't had to use the ordinance in the past but adopts it to protect the Township going forward. The cap is currently 2.5% and with this ordinance, the cap can increase to 3.5%.

Resolution 2012-54      Introduction of Ordinance 2012-03.  
Mr. Bradford made a motion to approve, Mr. Moore seconded and all agreed.

Introduction of 2012 Municipal Budget

Mr. Hackett explained that there will be a 1.5 cent increase this year. Since 2009 there has not been an increase. The increase is due to the tax collection rate which dropped 1%. This is only the introduction and public hearing will be held April 4<sup>th</sup>.

Resolution 2012-55      Introduction of 2012 Municipal Budget  
Mr. Bradford made a motion to approve, Mr. Moore seconded and all agreed.  
Roll call vote:    Mr. Bradford-    Yes  
                              Mr. Miller-        Yes  
                              Mr. Moore-        Yes

Ordinance 2012-02      Authorizing that Court Costs be Imposed for Voluntary Dismissal of Matters Before the Municipal Court. Mr. Hoffman explained the need for this ordinance; in case a complaint is withdrawn, court costs can be imposed to cover the cost of processing the complaint. The court determines who pays for the complaint.

Resolution 2012-51      Introduction of Ordinance 2012-02  
Mr. Bradford made a motion to approve, Mr. Moore seconded and all agreed.

Resolution 2012-52      Transfer of Funds  
Mr. Hackett explained that funds had to be transferred from two line items totaling \$650.00 to pay 2011 invoices.  
Mr. Moore made a motion to approve, Mr. Bradford seconded and all agreed.

Resolution 2012-53      Refund of Tax Payment – Trident Land Transfer  
Ms. Taylor explained that the property went to settlement through a title company and there was an overpayment in taxes.  
Mr. Bradford made a motion to approve, Mr. Moore seconded and all agreed.

#### Kay Gardens Flooding Issues

Mr. Tedesco has visited the site. There is a pond of water on Lot 8. The County has also visited the site and both Mr. Tedesco and the County believe the water is not coming from Pennsville-Pedricktown Rd. The water that is pooling onto Lot 8 has nowhere to go; 80% of Lot 8 is flooded. Mr. Hoffman explained that since this is private property the Township is not legally liable to correct. It was concluded that the owners of the surrounding properties would have to resolve the matter among themselves.

#### Coah: 2008 Affordable Housing Fund

Mr. Hackett stated that at the end of 2008 there was \$288,000 in the COAH fund, but during 2009 much of that money was refunded to Goya and Mullica Hill Cold Storage per court order. The remaining money, approximately \$4,500, was used for engineering and legal fees for COAH. Both 2008 and 2009 funds have been expended. In 2010 there was \$26,000 and in 2011 there was \$67,000 available. The Township needs to plan to use the money in the future or the State could claim the money. The Township could use the money to purchase property and sell with a deed restriction for affordable housing. The Master Plan may need to be revised to allow for municipal owned property. A Plan in Place may be required by July 2012. Mr. Hoffman will follow up on timeline of Plan in Place.

#### Provident Accident & Health Policy for Volunteer Organizations: Renewal of Policy

Ms. Taylor stated that this policy is for the three volunteer organizations. It covers junior members, ladies auxiliaries and care to family members as secondary insurance and becomes primary insurance if no primary insurance is available. Three options were presented. The Township could lock-in on a three year term and receive a discount for any of the three options. Mr. Moore motioned that the Township should keep the current coverage with a three year lock-in, Mr. Bradford seconded and all agreed.

#### JIF Safety Incentive Program Earnings

The Township received \$1,755 for participating in the JIF Safety Incentive Program; this is the same amount as the previous year. The Township has to option to take the full amount up front or partial payments. Mr. Hackett stated that last year the Township also received an additional \$500.00 from JIF which has not yet been received for 2012. Mr. Bradford made a motion to take the full \$1,755 up front, Mr. Moore seconded and all agreed.

### Auburn Water Well Painting

Two proposals were received to paint the interior, pipes and tanks: DDS \$2,800 and W. C. Painting \$3,400. Mr. Lynch recommended awarding DDS the job. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve, Mr. Bradford seconded and all agreed.

### Pedricktown Fire and Rescue Squad Membership Application

Gary Cuchta II - Mr. Bradford made a motion to approve, Mr. Moore seconded and all agreed.  
John Hofbauer – Mr. Bradford made a motion to approve, Mr. Moore seconded and all agreed.

### Logan Volunteer Fire Company Membership Application

John Hofbauer – Mr. Moore made a motion to approve, Mr. Bradford seconded and all agreed.

### New Municipal Complex

Atlantic City Electric requested an easement to place a telephone pole in the area for the new municipal complex. Mr. Tedesco should review the agreement and plans. Mr. Bradford made a motion to approve the signing of the easement subject to Mr. Tedesco's review, Mr. Moore seconded and all agreed.

The connection fee for Atlantic City Electric to connect to the new municipal building was received - \$13,280.97. This amount was below the Township's estimated cost. Mr. Moore made a motion for the Mayor to sign the agreement, Mr. Bradford seconded and all agreed.

A change order was necessary for the continued construction of the new municipal complex since some of the dirt under the footprint of the foundation was found to be unstable. The bearing capacity of the foundation could not be certified. Previously a soil expert had been hired to test the soil using bore testing but the "spongy" spots did not show up on the testing. Material must be put in the soil to allow for compression. There is no additional cost to the actual project as the money for the change order came out of "contingency."

### Public Comments:

- Jon Evans- Wanted to know the status of Auburn Fire Company.
- Mr. Miller- Mr. Miller read his proposal of one command center to the audience.
- Bob DelPercio- Based on Mr. Miller's proposal, why does the Chief have to be a member of the fire company.
- Mr. Miler- Commander is similar to military structure. Needed for the respect of the fireman. The Township liaison is not head of the fire companies. Current system not working, needs to be fixed.
- Susan Marple- Wanted to know if the current two chiefs are accountable to the Committee.
- Jon Evans- How many people are qualified for the Fire Chief position?
- Mr. Miller- Don't know how many are currently qualified.
- Jon Evans- Commends Casworth for trash removal and also the mail postal carrier.

- Melody Reese- To her knowledge there have been no issues at the scene of a fire under her command. Her company allows Logan to take command on Logan's calls and Auburn serves as backup. Equipment purchases are reviewed by the Committee so duplication should not occur. Station 2 is responsible for Turnpike calls.
- Mr. Miller- He has the utmost respect for Melody and the work she does.
- Bob DelPercio- Questioned budget for Auburn and Logan in regard to fuel costs and electric.
- Mr. Hackett- Stated that for the year 2012 all volunteer organizations are receiving the same percentage of reimbursement for fuel and electric costs.
- Susan Marple- Believes that both companies have to work together.
- Mr. Hackett- Still trying to obtain information from companies. He recommends the one command structure, but not his decision. For 2012 there is one line items in budget for fire protection.
- Ken Hildreth- Believes there is too much confrontation and that Mr. Miller doesn't appear objective.
- Mr. Miller- The possibility of removing funding from the fire companies is the only option available to the Township Committee to make things happen.
- Melody Reese- Companies now have a combined vendor list and are training together.
- Mr. Miler- He is willing to join Auburn Fire Company as a member to their company.
- Anthony Jackson- In regard to the single SOP, will there be procedures for when the Chief is on vacation or absent? Who's in charge?
- Mr. Miller- Working under one SOP for both companies will be good. Bridgeport now working under one command structure and its working.
- Jon Evans- Wanted to know the amount of the Change Order for the new municipal building.
- Mr. Miller- There is \$10,000 available in the contingency and that money will be used to pay for the change order.
- Dolores Bradford- Believes there is too much personal bias.
- Susan Marple- Both chiefs should be accountable to the Committee and both companies have to work together.
- Dolores Bradford- If the Committee wants 100% response, the Township would have to pay people rather than volunteers.
- Bob DelPercio- Membership recruitment should be for Oldmans Township, not for each fire company.
- Mr. Miller- The fire companies would have to train for one SOP structure.

Public Session Closed

#### Payment of Bills

Mr. Miller read the list of additional bills. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the bill list, Mr. Bradford seconded and all agreed.

- Mr. Moore- He has spoken with Casworth about Auburn's trash removal to make things run more smoothly. He also attended a seminar at PSE&G regarding their new unit coming within five years.

Mr. Bradford- Wanted to make sure that Mr. Lynch was contacted regarding the awarding of the painting bid.

Mr. Miller- Ms. Taylor requested one week's vacation for the end of March but is not due vacation until May. It was decided that the March vacation was allowed to be used as one week taken for the year 2012.

The public also has the opportunity to vote on the color scheme of the new municipal complex.

Also, there is a free paper shredding event on March 10<sup>th</sup> 9:00 – 12:00 to be held at the Salem County Landfill in Alloway.

Would like direction from the rest of the Committee in regard to his proposal for One Command Center and a single Chief.

Mr. Moore- Would like to proceed with the proposal with some tweaking.

Mr. Bradford- Would like a copy of the proposal.

There being no further business, on motion by Mr. Bradford, seconded by Mr. Moore, all agreed to adjourn meeting at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully,

Melinda Taylor  
Acting Municipal Clerk