

Phil Kline, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Alsace Township Board of Supervisors to order. Present were Phil Kline, Keith Blankenbiller, Michael Stump, Township Solicitor Gary Swavely, and Mary Anne Fieux. The meeting was held at the Alsace Township Municipal Building and was called to order at 7:07 p.m. Phil Kline led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: Phil Kline presented the Minutes from the October 21, 2015 and November 4, 2015 Supervisor's meeting. Keith Blankenbiller made a motion to approve the Minutes from the October 21, 2015, Michael Stump seconded the motion, and the Minutes were approved with Chairperson Kline abstaining from voting due to not being present at the meeting. Keith Blankenbiller made a motion to approve the Minutes from the November 4, 2015 Supervisor's meeting, seconded by Michael Stump, and the Minutes were unanimously approved.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Chairperson Kline asked for approval of Township payment of bills. Keith Blankenbiller made a motion to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$93,677.09 from the General Fund, \$4,071.30 from the WWTP Operations and Maintenance Fund, \$2,202.51 from the Septic Fund, and \$0.00 from the Liquid Fuels Fund, seconded by Michael Stump, and the motion was unanimously approved. Keith Blankenbiller made a motion to pay taxes, payroll and interim bills, seconded by Michael Stump, and the motion was unanimously approved.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: The Supervisors reviewed the Treasurer's financial reports for the month of November 2015. Keith Blankenbiller asked about Public Works Repair and Maintenance being higher than the 2015 budget projected number. Mike Stump responded it is due to the age of the equipment. Keith Blankenbiller asked about the pumps and controllers sales and inventory. Mike Stump stated recently there have been two (2) pumps and controllers replaced on Miller and Antietam. Vice-Chairperson Keith Blankenbiller made a motion to approve the financial reports, seconded by Mr. Stump, and the motion was unanimously approved.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Kevin Bieber from Oley Ambulance was present and gave a presentation on the BLS (Basic Life Support) services Oley Ambulance provides to the communities it serves. Vice-Chairperson Keith Blankenbiller asked for further information regarding justification regarding Alsace Township financially helping to support Oley Ambulance. Mr. Bieber explained Oley Ambulance strictly works on contributions while other ambulance services such as Muhlenberg, Fleetwood, and Blandon work on a subscription basis. Mr. Bieber stated Oley Ambulance is only looking for support for five (5) years since after that time their building mortgage will be paid off. Mr. Bieber continued and explained that the rent from the Post Office would support their operating budget at that time.

Mr. Bieber continued stating Oley Ambulance's goal is to convert their BLS ambulance to an ALS (Advanced Life Support) ambulance. The cost to convert the ambulance to an ALS ambulance is \$100,000. Kevin Bieber stated Oley and Earl have committed to contribute. Oley Ambulance is currently waiting on Pike and Ruscombmanor's response since they both are working on their budgets, according to Mr. Bieber. Mr. Bieber explained their request for \$10,000 is based upon the call volume. Kevin stated the most number of calls they respond to are in Oley, then Alsace and Ruscombmanor are tied for second.

Mr. Blankenbiller asked where the other sources of funding come for equipment. Kevin Bieber explained Oley Fair has a \$50,000 campaign pledge for five (5) years, Earl Township dedicated \$20,000 in their 2016 budget, and Oley Township dedicated \$35,000 in their 2016 budget. Mr. Bieber stated they are also approaching businesses such as Deka and others. Mr. Bieber continued stating they conduct fundraising events such as Bingo, Comedy Night, Fair parking, and other events. Mr. Bieber added they will continue to send out donation letters to the areas served by Oley Ambulance. Supervisor Stump stated the Township will take their proposal under serious consideration and thanked Mr. Bieber for his presentation. Mr. Kline opened the discussion to the public. Ruth Ann Moyer asked if the resident will get billed. Marie Haas from Oley Ambulance stated the insurance company gets billed.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Swavely reported he had nothing to report at this time.

SEWER REPORT: Chairperson Kline directed the Supervisor's to review the Datte report on delinquent sewer payments and asked if there were any questions on the report. Keith Blankenbiller had a question about liens. Mike Stump pointed out four (4) of properties with liens are vacant. Mr. Blankenbiller asked about what happens when a lien has been paid off and removed and the resident becomes delinquent again. Ruth Ann Moyer explained another lien would go onto the property.

Following was a discussion about payment plans. Mr. Kline explained if a resident stops paying the agreement becomes null and void. Chairperson Kline added interest continues to accrue on the money owed.

Chairperson Kline asked the Supervisors to review the LTL SEO Report for October 2015. Mr. Blankenbiller went over the report with the Supervisors stating one (1) permit was issued and two (2) septic systems have been installed.

Mr. Blankenbiller reported on the Septic Pumping Status Report that all properties have been pumped for 2014. Mr. Blankenbiller reported reminder post cards were sent to 17 property owners who did not pump in the first quarter of 2015, 15 post cards sent to property owners who did not pump during the second quarter, and 26 post cards were mailed to property owners who did not pump during the third quarter. Vice-Chairperson added fourth quarter notices will be mailed January 2016. Mr. Kline asked Mrs. Moyer how this report compares to other years. Mrs. Moyer reported it is much better.

Mr. Blankenbiller reported on a sworn affidavit submitted by a resident on a sewage discharge complaint about a resident disconnected their sewer line from the Alsace Manor Sewer. Mr. Blankenbiller made a motion to authorize LTL Consultants to apply for and obtain an administrative search warrant to determine if the sewer has been disconnected from the Alsace Manor Sewer, Michael Stump seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved. Keith Blankenbiller added LTL should bring the address into compliance.

ADMINISTRATION: Chairperson Kline said the Township is required to change health care providers due not meeting the current provider's minimum employee mandate for 2016. Mr. Kline stated quotes have been obtained and the PSATS health care plan has been chosen as the health insurance provider for the Township. Chairperson Kline added the PSATS plan is less expensive than the previous provider's 2016 rates. Mr. Stump made a motion to authorize

the Township to join the PSATS health insurance plan and for Chairperson Kline execute the PSATS Election of Participation form, Keith Blankenbiller seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Solicitor Swavely asked the Supervisors to make a motion for him to advertise the ordinance for the Township to participate in the PSATS Pennsylvania Health Insurance Cooperative Trust. Keith Blankenbiller made a motion for Solicitor Swavely to advertise the ordinance for the Township to participate in the PSATS Pennsylvania Health Insurance Cooperative Trust, Mike Stump seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Chairperson Kline asked for a motion to officially terminate the Township's relationship with the Township's current health care provider. Keith Blankenbiller made a motion for Chairperson Kline to execute the Pennsylvania Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative Termination Agreement Memorandum of Understanding and such Agreement is authorized, Michael Stump seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Chairperson Kline asked for authorization to execute the Municipal Finance Application for purchase of the Ford 350 which the purchase of has been previously authorized by the Supervisors. Keith Blankenbiller made a motion for the execution of the Municipal Finance Application for the purchase of the Ford 350, seconded by Mike Stump, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Chairperson Kline suggested the discussion for the 2016 Budget be moved to the end of the meeting.

BUILDING AND ZONING REPORT: Vice-Chairperson Blankenbiller reported on various properties included in the Kraft Code Services report for November 2015. Mr. Blankenbiller stated a Notice of Violation (NOV) has been issued to 196 Skyline Drive by Kraft Code Services. Mr. Blankenbiller stated the accessory structure on the property is uninhabitable and Kraft Code Services started code enforcement during April of this year. Vice-Chairperson Blankenbiller made a motion authorizing Kraft Code Services to post the accessory structure as uninhabitable and to issue a citation for failure to comply with previous requests and notices, Michael Stump seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Following was a discussion about the Barrett property. Gary Swavely stated the hearing is scheduled for next Tuesday, December 8, 2015. Solicitor Swavely stated Mr. Neidert has reported the paving has been completed. Solicitor Swavely recommended a continuance be requested at the hearing. Keith Blankenbiller made a motion to authorized Solicitor Swavely or Joe Neidert to request a continuance at the hearing is scheduled for next Tuesday, December 8, 2015, Phillip Kline seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved with Michael Stump abstaining from voting.

Keith Blankenbiller reported well at the property at 3139 Pricetown Road and has requested a waiver for the setback distance. Mr. Blankenbiller explained the surrounding properties are connected to sewer and therefore setbacks are no longer an issue as before sewer service was provided in the area. Keith Blankenbiller made a motion to authorize the well permit application be approved for 3139 Pricetown Road, Mike Stump seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Keith Blankenbiller reported on the Reserve at Spring Pointe – Phase 2. Mr. Blankenbiller stated Buildings F and G have been issued temporary CO's pending accessibility deficiencies. Mr. Kline added that Building I cannot be issued a CO until the emergency access road is built. Fire Chief Wendy Becker added she will have to check the clearance with the fire trucks for the upper level buildings.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Supervisor–Road Master Mike Stump reported he has spoken with Oley Township regarding Reiff Road and more information will be provided at the next meeting. Mr. Stump also reported leaf collection is still underway and will soon be completed. Supervisor Stump explained the leaf truck needs to be converted into a salt truck.

Mr. Stump reported the Anode bags at the sewer plant need to be replaced this year. Mr. Stump stated the bags should be replaced every five (5) years and they are past that point. Mr. Blankenbiller stated he would like to see the bags replaced every four (4) years. Mr. Stump informed the Supervisors the bags cost \$140 per bag and a total of \$3,500 will be spent on bags.

Chairperson Kline asked about the VFD's for the sewer plant. Mr. Stump responded stating all information is in place for the VFD project to move forward.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: Due to Planning Commission Chairperson Ned Brumbach not being present, Chairperson Kline asked Mary Anne Fieux to report on the Planning Commission's November 5, 2015 meeting. Ms. Fieux reported the Planning Commission gave Mr. Erdlitz, property owner of 14 Wanshop Road advice on his proposed Minor Subdivision prior to his formal submission. Ms. Fieux explained Mr. Erdlitz's proposal was to divide one (1) lot into two (2) lots. Mr. Kline asked for a copies of the Planning Commission minutes and they should be considered draft, for information purposes only.

RECREATION BOARD REPORT: There was no report.

ALSACE MANOR FIRE COMPANY REPORT: Fire Chief Wendy Becker stated she had no report. Chairperson Kline asked Chief Becker about the request from Oley Ambulance. Chief Becker expressed her concern about when other municipalities change their ambulance from a BLS ambulance to an ALS ambulance if they will be seeking money from Alsace Township. Chief Becker added Lower Alsace Township changed to ALS and never requested money from Alsace Township. Mr. Kline said he believes Lower Alsace has a subscription service rather than a donation service. Mr. Kline added it is in the best interest of the Township to support Oley Ambulance, but was unsure as to the amount the Township would contribute.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Darlene Bartsch reported are no meetings in November or December. Ms. Bartsch expressed her disappointment with Alsace Township residents regarding their donations to the Alsace Manor Fire Company.

SUPERVISORS REPORT: Chairperson Kline asked if any of the Supervisors had any additional information to report. Solicitor Swavely reported the Reserve at Spring Point – Phase 2 has requested partial release of the Improvements escrow. Township Engineer Gary Kraft has approved the release of \$381,426.99, and leaving a balance of \$272,544.20. Mr. Blankenbiller

asked about the billboard. Mr. Kline stated it is an existing billboard. Mrs. Moyer stated the billboard has no permit. Keith Blankenbiller stated he would like to discuss the escrow release with Gary Kraft. After discussion, Keith Blankenbiller made a motion to table the partial release of escrow until the next meeting, Mike Stump seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Chairperson Kline asked to the Supervisors to review the 2016 tentative budget. Mr. Kline asked if there were any questions on the summary page of the budget and there were none. Mr. Kline explained the 2016 budget represents an increase in Real Estate Tax from 1 mil to 1.5 mils which represents an increase an addition of \$50 per \$100,000 of assessed value. Phillip Kline reported the 2016 expenditures of \$1,638,792.42 and projected income of \$1,617,583.11. Mr. Kline reported the 2016 General Fund has \$1,102,612.42 anticipated in expenditures and projected income of \$1,166,255.02, leaving a balance of \$63,642.60. Mr. Kline reported the 2016 O & M Fund has \$241,650.00 in anticipated expenditures and projected income of \$283,230.00, leaving a balance of \$41,580.00. Mr. Kline continued and reported the 2016 Sewer Fund has \$25,530.00 in anticipated expenditures and projected income of \$22,080.00, leaving a negative balance of \$(3,450.00). Lastly Mr. Kline reported the 2016 Liquid Fuels Fund has \$269,000.00 in anticipated expenditures and projected income of \$146,018.09. Mr. Kline went on to explain the Township is looking to acquire a \$250,000 loan to pay for the road work primarily in the Manor. Mr. Kline stated the \$250,000 loan is required to be paid back in five (5) years.

Chairperson Kline asked the Supervisors to review the individual line items in the all four (4) fund accounts. Mr. Kline asked Fire Chief Wendy Becker to work with the Township to create similar line items to coincide with the Township's line items. Mr. Kline explained there is still further work to be done on the budget to firm up the numbers. Chief Becker explained she is appreciative of the Township paying the Alsace Manor Fire Company bills. Ms. Becker continued to explain the problem there is no reserve at the end of year to replace fire vehicles. Mr. Kline stated the policy in the past was to contribute Township funds to compliment a long term loan obtained by the Fire Company for the purchase of equipment. Mr. Kline said he believes this policy should be continued. Fire Chief Becker stated the tanker is the next piece of equipment needed to be purchased. Ms. Becker reported the Fire Company applied for a grant for the tanker truck and the grant was denied. Ms. Becker said the Fire Company is looking to hire a grant writer to assist with their grants.

Mr. Kline asked if there were any further questions on the 2016 tentative budget. Michael Stump made a motion to approve the 2016 tentative budget to expend \$1,638,792.42 with an anticipated tax increase of 0.5 mil bringing the total millage to 1.5 mil in taxes. Keith Blankenbiller seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: – Chairperson Kline asked if there were any further comments from the public and there were none.

Phillip Kline asked if there was any additional business and as there was none he asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Keith Blankenbiller made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Michael Stump, the motion was unanimously approved. Adjournment was at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Anne Fieux
Secretary – Treasurer