

**COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 26, 2012**

In attendance:

Council

Mark McCouch
Andrew Santacroce
Deborah Tustin

Staff

William T. Walker, Township Manager
Richard Sabol – Director of Finance
Mary Eberle, Esq. - Solicitor
Erik Garton, PE - Engineer

Absent: W. William Whiteside, III
Gregory S. Nesbitt

Mr. McCouch called the Council Meeting to order at 7:00 PM, and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked for questions or comments from the public. Jeff Fread, 538 Exeter Court, stated that there is a problem with the local deer population, and questioned whether or not the municipality monitors and regulates it. Mr. Walker stated that the deer population seems to be increasing and that, in the near future the Township may need to research options for deer control. The Solicitor identified the Commonwealth's involvement with the issue, and Mr. Walker answered the extent to which the municipality is aware of vehicle accidents caused by deer.

Mr. McCouch asked for the will of Council concerning the List of Checks. It was moved by Mr. Santacroce, seconded by Ms. Tustin, to approve the List of Checks in all funds in the amount of \$73,657.59, and authorize payment of same. Motion passed unanimously.

Township Council did not take any action on a second List of Checks for communications. The list will be placed on the agenda of an upcoming meeting.

Council reviewed a Zoning Hearing Board application to be heard in December: Richard W. Fabrizio (HTZHB 12-17). The applicant requests zoning relief for a rear-yard setback requirement on their property located at 712 Presidential Drive. Council stated that it was neutral on the application.

Mr. Walker identified the history of a sanitary sewer line in the Chestnut Creek Development, and explained the proposed ordinance granting a sanitary sewer easement. Mrs. Tustin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Santacroce, authorizing the grant of a sanitary sewer easement in favor of the Horsham Water and Sewer Authority on a portion of property owned by the Township in the Chestnut Creek Development.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. McCouch - Aye Mrs. Tustin – Aye Mr. Santacroce - Aye

Motion passed unanimously

Mr. Walker identified the delinquent real estate tax collection process, and explained an ordinance to revise the costs associated with it. Ms. Tustin made a motion, seconded by

Mr. Santacroce, to pass an ordinance approving penalty, interest, and a fee schedule for the collection of delinquent real estate taxes.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. McCouch - Aye Mrs. Tustin – Aye Mr. Santacroce - Aye

Motion passed unanimously

Mr. Walker reviewed the 2013 Budget. The proposed budget is comprised of a \$14,195,854 General Fund, with no tax increase, and a 5% increase from the prior year. Tax rates for real estate tax purposes will remain at 1 mill, and constitute the following allocations: library .47 mills, fire .31 mills, and parks .22 mills. Other taxes will also remain at prior year rates and these include: the Earned Income Tax at 1%, a Local Services Tax of \$52, a fire hydrant assessment of .03 mills, and a street light assessment of .59 per linear foot. Highlights of budgeted expenditures for 2013 include the following purchases and projects: three new police vehicles, paving of the Oak Hill Development, a new Highway pick-up truck, a new Highway one ton dump truck, a storm sewer project in the Horsham Terrace Development, repairs to the Carpenter Park tennis courts, a new Parks one ton dump truck, Kohler Park renovations, Clearbrook Park creek bank stabilization project, Power Line Trail improvements, a traffic signal upgrade at Limekiln Pike & Welsh Road, replacing old streetlights with energy efficient lighting, website renovations, zoning ordinance updates, bridge and storm inlet maintenance, and installing pedestrian crossing lights at Horsham Road and Babylon Road.

Mr. Walker explained a separation of employment and retirement agreement for a retiring full-time employee. The purpose of the agreement is to retain the post-retirement employee - on a part-time basis - in order to provide training for the position's replacement. Mr. Santacroce made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tustin, to approve a separation of employment and retirement agreement with Mr. Leonard Jennings. Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

William T. Walker