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COLLEGE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
Monday, January 3, 1983

An Organizational Meeting of the College Township Council was called to order by Chairman Taricani at 8:02 p.m. in the College Township Municipal Building.

Members present: Donald E. Bailey, Gale L. Dargitz, Herbert W. Stewart, Dolores A. Taricani - Chairman.

Members absent: J. Carroll Dean

Others present: C. Thomas Lechner, Manager

ELECTION OF 1983 COUNCIL CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

A motion was made by Bailey and seconded by Stewart that Gale L. Dargitz be nominated for the position of 1983 College Township Council Chairman. There was no discussion and the motion was carried unanimously.

In response to new Chairman Dargitz' call for nominations for Council Vice-Chairman, Stewart moved that Donald E. Bailey assume the position of 1983 College Township Council Vice-Chairman. Taricani seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

BUSINESS

1. COG Committee Assignments.

Chairman Dargitz stated his preference that Council Members, if they so desire, remain on the COG Committees to which they have previously been assigned. As such, the Council Members have been re-assigned to the following COG Committees:

Bailey -- Transportation Committee
Taricani -- Executive Committee (of which she is the Chairman)
Dean -- Code Enforcement; Finance (new assignment subject to his approval)
Dargitz -- Personnel Committee
Stewart -- Public Service Committee

2. Appointments and/or Reappointments to A.B.C.s.

A motion was made by Taricani and seconded by Stewart that the following appointments/re-appointments be made to the various Township Authorities, Boards, and Commissions:

Zoning Hearing Board -- Constantine Exarchos (re-appointed to a 3-year term)
Planning Commission -- David Lepro (new appointment for a 4-year term)

6. Dates and Times for 1983 Council Meetings.

It was moved by Stewart and seconded by Bailey that the College Township Council continue to conduct its Regular Meetings on the Second Thursday of each month. The motion was approved unanimously.

7. Appointment of a Voting Delegate to the State Convention.

Despite (or perhaps, because of) his absence, Dean was selected by Council, conditional to his approval, to be College Township's Voting Delegate to the State Convention to be held this coming April in Philadelphia.

8. Members who will attend Convention.

Dargitz suggested that within the next few days each Council Member inform the Manager of his/her intentions of attending the State Convention.

9. Discussion of Employee Fringe Benefits -- Administrative Code, Ordinance #53 -- Amendments.

Manager Lechner's recommendations on amending Section 707 (Employees Fringe Benefits) of the Township Administrative Code, Ordinance #53, were first outlined at the Public Hearing held on that issue on December 29, 1982.

The proposed amendment calls for an increase in vacation and holiday time for both permanent full-time and permanent part-time Township employees, and offers the employee the option of carrying over unused annual vacation leave to the following year (subject to a four-week limitation and Manager's approval).

In discussion, Taricani voiced her concern that a burden might be placed on the Township should an eligible employee opt for a four-week vacation accrual. She added, however, that since the granting of vacation time is an administrative matter, such decisions would best be left to the discretion of the Township Manager.

Dargitz concurred and noted that no additional cost to the Township would be incurred should the accrual of vacation leave be permitted.

Taricani then moved and Stewart seconded that Council adopt the amendment to the Administrative Code, Ordinance #53, as submitted at the Public Hearing on December 29, 1982 with no changes. There was no further discussion and the motion was carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Evaluation of Township Manager.

Bailey suggested that Council develop an evaluation form for the Township Manager and noted that he had obtained a copy of a form from the University which might be appropriate. The members agreed

that such a form would be beneficial, and will review several options at a work session to be held at a later date.

2. Additional Council Meetings.

The issue of the need for an additional Council Meeting per month was raised by Dargitz. Both Taricani and Lechner concurred, and the latter remarked that recently, many agenda items have been added to the Council's Public Hearings so as not to overload the already lengthy Regular Meetings.

Dargitz suggested that this proposed second monthly meeting be of an informal nature where no major action would be taken, but wherein much of the paper work and routine items could be completed.

Taricani agreed and stated her preference that this second meeting be held in the later afternoon, as opposed to another evening session.

No action was taken on Dargitz' proposal that night, but the addition of a second monthly Council Meeting will again be discussed at the next Regular Council Meeting on January 13th.

3. College Township -- The True Home of the Nittany Lions!

Noting that Beaver Stadium is located within the confines of College Township, making the Township the home of the #1 Nittany Lions, Taricani moved that Council acknowledge the success of the Penn State Football Team. Bailey seconded and the motion was carried unanimously and ENTHUSIASTICALLY!

4. Route 144 Update.

Bailey informed Council that at a meeting between the COG Transportation Committee and the people involved with Route 144, the latter group had offered its full support for the completion of the State College Bypass. In turn, the Route 144 contingent would like COG's support for its own Bypass program.

The Transportation Committee will take no action on this matter, however, until the State College Bypass is completed and until the Route 144 people "get their act together".

5. PennDOT Turn-back Program Update.

Manager Lechner reviewed for Council the status of PennDOT's turn-back of the roads to the Township program for East Branch Road from Elby's to the traffic signal in Lemont. (In a 1981 letter to PennDOT from Council, College Township had agreed to accept the area from Route 322 to Route 26 if certain conditions were met.)

Although Lechner is in favor of accepting the aforementioned portion of East Branch Road once the condition of that area is brought up to an acceptable level, he does see two problems with the turn-back program as it now stands.

First, part of the affected area is located in the State College Borough. Lechner has requested a clear delineation of the Township's line, but has not yet received PennDOT's response. Secondly, Lechner does not believe that the Township is in a financial position to accept and maintain the three bridges covered in the turn-back area. He requested Council's support of his position.

Council was in full agreement, and a motion was made by Taricani that in consideration of the turn-back of these roads, specifically Branch Road from the Township Line (Route 322 to the Intersection in Lemont), that the Township still stand by its original position to take over the road once its condition is deemed acceptable; however, the Township does not feel, due to its size and certain fiscal limitations, that it can take over and maintain the three bridges. Bailey seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The Organizational Meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:57 p.m. Taricani moved and Bailey seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
C. Thomas Lechner
Secretary

CTL:ss:bh