COLLEGE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

September 27, 1984

4:00 pm

Dargitz called to order a meeting of the College Township Council on September 27, 1984 at 4:00 pm in the College Township Municipal Building.

Members present: Gale L Dargitz - Vice-Chairman, Max E Hartswick, Fred E. Smith

Members absent: Herbert W Stewart, Dolores A Taricani - Chairman

Others present: C Thomas Lechner - Manager
Beulah L Houser - Administrative Assistant

The first item on the agenda was the Parks and Recreation Committee report. Hugh Clarke and other committee members were present. Dargitz commended the Parks and Recreation Committee for the quality and completeness of the report. He stated that he would like to ask the committee back to the budget meeting in November to discuss the report further.

Lechner announced that the Township had acquired 3.27 acres of land off Squirrel Drive in exchange for .86 acres of Slab Cabin Parkland taken for the State College By-pass along Elmwood Street. PennDOT is in the process of preparing a deed for the Township. Construction will probably begin next summer and because of construction of a bridge, the park access will be blocked. Lechner advised that a temporary road may be installed to the park. He mentioned that grants are available which the Township could apply for. The grants are usually based on 75% - 25% (local) funding. Lechner stated that the Council may want to consider a matching share in the budget if the grant would go through.

Tom Harris, County Supervisor - Farmers Home Administration (FmHA), briefed the Council on what the FmHA agency represents. He stated that FmHA is an agency of the Department of Agriculture and that their mission is to provide financing in rural areas. Harris explained that when classifying an area, the character of the area is taken into consideration rather than the geographical or municipal boundaries. He said that "rural" applies to open county areas with a population of less that 10,000.

Harris mentioned that a possible area for FmHA funding in the Township might include the tract of land on the far side of Spring Creek Estates. Dargitz expressed his concern that the area in question may be in Benner Township.

Dargitz asked at what level of government the determination is made of areas that qualify for funding. Harris replied that the County Supervisor (himself) and his immediate supervisor make recommendations to the State Director of FmHA, D Elmer Hawbaker, who makes the final decision. If the Council should desire to appeal the decision of funding in the Township, they would direct it to Hawbaker.

Harris advised that although the cut-off date for funding in Spring Creek Estates is October 1, those persons who have filed an application with an option on a lot will be considered, therefore with the backlog of applications on file at FmHA, loans will be approved for about the next year. If an applicant is turned down, the lot will not be eligible for FmHA funding for anyone else. Harris also mentioned that transferable loans will be granted in Spring Creek Estates.

The next item on the agenda was the Budget Timetable. Lechner recommended to the Council that the dates be set as follows:

November 1, 1984 - Informal budget workshop
(time undecided, will consider at October 1 meeting)

November 20, 1984 - Present tentative budget for Township funds that include revenue sharing
(7:30 pm)

December 20, 1984 - Public hearing on the proposed budget and adoption of the budget
(7:30 pm)

After the budget is adopted, it must be advertised that it is available to the public for viewing. This advertising should commence January 9, 1985.

Dargitz announced that the next item to be discussed was correspondence from State College Police Services proposing the level of service and a cost for 1985 police services. The Council has until mid-October to respond to the correspondence.

The amount proposed to College Township for police service is $191,341.80. The 1984 cost was approximately $187,000. Lechner advised that the 1985 proposal is for fewer hours than what the Township received in 1984. The number of hours presented in the 1985 proposal is 9,620. The Council discussed the possibility of the Township accepting fewer that 9,620 hours in 1985. Council agreed not to take action on the matter at the present time but to receive the correspondence and consider it between now and the next meeting.

The next item discussed was the Draft of Resolution on Grievance Procedure for Handicapped Non-Discrimination Grievances as required by Federal Revenue Sharing Participants. Recent revisions to the Federal Revenue Sharing Law have added new requirements on the part of municipalities to better provide for handicapped access and handicapped non-discrimination. The Council needs to adopt a resolution naming a Handicapped Non-Discrimination Committee. Dargitz asked Lechner to present recommendations to Council at their next meeting.

Dargitz announced that the Township had received a rezoning request from Tom Songer, Uni-Tec Engineer, for the Dan Stearns property. In Songer's letter he stated that he was requesting, on behalf of Zimmerman Homes, that the zoning of the Stearns property be changed from A (Agricultural) to R-1. The land, if rezoned to R-1, would be compatible with the existing and surrounding land uses, the comprehensive plan for the area and would be served by public sewer and water systems.

Smith made a motion to refer the item to the Planning Commission for recommendation. Hartswick seconded the motion and all members voted favorably.

Council members present signed the contract for road salt for the Township.

The next item discussed was the appointment of a Council member to the Legal Committee that is looking into a Regional COG Solicitor and Engineer. The study is being done at the request of one of the State College Councilmen and its purpose is to look into the possibility of having an attorney on staff instead of each municipality having an individual solicitor. It was moved by Hartswick and seconded by Smith to appoint Fred Smith to the Legal Committee. Council members voted in favor of the motion.

Council discussed Resolution #29-B to establish a 25 mph speed limit on Boalsburg Road (Liberty Street north to the Neidigh property). The present speed limit for that area is 35 mph. It was moved by Smith to adopt Resolution #29-B to lower the speed limit on this particular section of Boalsburg Road to 25 mph. Hartswick seconded the motion and it was voted in favor of by Council members.

Lechner informed Council that Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Darlington have applied for a Temporary Access Permit from PennDOT. The Township wishes to review the application before permission is granted by PennDOT. If permission is granted, the Darlingtons must present to the Planning Commission a new subdivision plan for relocation of the road. Council has no legal basis for preventing PennDOT from granting the Darlingtons a Temporary Access Permit.

Lechner recommended that the Darlingtons and Mr. Metzger meet with a mediator to discuss the situation and try to establish a workable solution for all involved. Dargitz asked Lechner to contact the property owners and ask them to meet with him (Lechner) as the neutral mediator to help them work out a solution.

Lechner announced that at the COG General Forum on September 24 it was recommended that Trick-or-Treat night be held on Wednesday, October 31 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. It was moved by Hartswick and seconded by Smith to establish October 31, 6:00 - 8:00 pm, as Trick-or-Treat night in College Township. Council members voted in favor of the motion.

Lechner also announced that the Fall Collection for Riff-Raff will be October 9 - 12 and Brush Collection will be October 15 - 19.

It was moved by Hartswick and seconded by Smith to adjourn the meeting, Council members voted in favor of the motion. The meeting adjourned at 5:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

C Thomas Lechner
Secretary

CTL:cak:key