

COLLEGE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MARCH 1, 1976

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Ziegler at 7:30 p.m. Other members present were Clarence Trotter, Donald Bailey, J. Carroll Dean, and Dolores Taricani; Elwood Williams - Manager; Robert Frederick - Treasurer; Reporters from the local newspapers - the Pennsylvania Mirror and the Centre Daily Times. Also representatives of the College-Harris Joint Authority - David Allison, Mrs. Flipse, Rodger Granlund, and their Engineer, Norman Katz.

The first part of the meeting was taken up by a public hearing held on the Oak Ridge Avenue Sewer Project. The hearing minutes will be typed separately.

Appointments to Planning Commission (2 members). Correspondence was read from K. Ronald Weis, Chairman of the College Township Planning Commission in which they submitted the names of four candidates to fill the existing two vacancies on the Commission. Those recommended in order of preference were as follows: Katharine Cowher, Susan F. Smith, Frank H. Riedinger, and Beverly Houtz. Copies of the questionnaire completed by each candidate was attached to the memo.

Mr. Trotter moved that Katharine Cowher and Frank Riedinger be appointed as members of the College Township Planning Commission. This was seconded by Mr. Dean and the motion was unanimously carried. Mrs. Cowher will replace Jay Struble. Her term will run from 3/1/76 to 12/31/78. Mr. Riedinger will replace J. Carroll Dean. His term will run from 3/1/76 to 12/31/77.

Postage Meter. Mr. Williams had contacted the Post Office for information on where to obtain the meter and was referred to a Mr. Graham, of Pitney-Bowes Co. Mr. Graham gave him literature and cost figures. (see attached sheet). A discussion of the maintenance and materials on the machine was held. The meter head has to be rented, it cannot be bought outright. Mr. Allison was present and explained some of the expenses and maintenance that is connected with the machine, such as tapes, ink, postage, etc.

Mr. Williams is to check with the Authority to obtain some figures on what it would cost if the Council rented just the meter head and used it on the Authority's machine and what it would cost otherwise. The subject of purchasing a meter has been brought about by the presence of the tax office now located in the Treasurer's office and the mailing of tax statements. This mailing could conflict with the Authority's quarterly statement mailings. Before making a final decision, it was felt by Council an investigation of the possibility of renting the meter head and using the Authority's machine should be made.

Date for Work Session. Council felt a work session should be held between themselves and the Planning Commission to review the Draft #2 of the Proposed Goals and Objectives of the Comprehensive Plan. An evening meeting is preferred sometime before April 1, 1976. After some discussion, it was decided to set March 25, 1976 at 7:30 p.m. for this session. The Planning Commission members will be notified of this meeting.

Appointment of Secondary Engineer. To avoid a possible conflict of interest, it was recommended by the Planning Commission that a secondary engineer be appointed by Council to review plans presented by the Township Engineer, Triangle Engineering Co. Mr. Stan Hoy had no objection to this, he felt it was a good idea.

Mrs. Taricani made the motion that Sweetland Engineering and Associates, Inc. be appointed as a Secondary Engineer to perform any necessary engineering functions where the Township Engineer, Triangle Engineering Inc., is involved in the preparation of the plans. Mr. Trotter seconded this motion and it was unanimously carried. This service will be on an as-needed hourly basis.

Sign Amended Tax Agreement with County Commissioners. A Tax Agreement was drafted by the Township Solicitor which was submitted to the County Commissioners, at their request. Mr. McCormick said that the fact of the agreement has been accomplished, and what is discussed here is the wording of that agreement.

Mrs. Taricani objected to the term "Home Rule Charter" in paragraph "b", page 1. She said College Township is not a Home Rule Charter municipality. Also paragraph "c", page 1, was not agreed to by Council. It was felt it should be eliminated since it refers to adoption of Home Rule Charter, which College Township does not have. They also felt paragraph 6, page 2, concerning the bonding of treasurer, should be reworded. Further discussion of the paragraphs was held. It was noted that "College of Township" should be changed to "Township of College". This appears on page 4 preceding the signature lines. Under these conditions, Council agreed the document should not be signed. This agreement will be taken back to the Commissioners with those requested changes. When these are made, the Council will sign the document.

Other Business. Mr. Dean stated he has received complaints about construction in the Dalevue area where rubbish and scraps of siding are blowing around making a mess and particularly blowing over into Limerock Park. He felt there was something in the Ordinance concerning this - that the contractor is held responsible for the debris. It was felt this was

covered under the trash law. Mr. Williams is to look into this for Council.

Mr. Dean also mentioned that the condition still exists, at the Country Club entrance road and Branch Road, where water runs down from their road across Branch Road. This has been present since the storage shed was put up among the trees near the entrance to the Country Club. Meetings with PennDOT and the State College Municipal officials have been held but to date nothing has been done to resolve this situation.

Mrs. Tomicani commented on the remarks made by a person at a Patton Township meeting reported in the newspaper that speeding is worse on Benner Pike since the State Police no longer patrol it and use radar. She felt it was extremely important that Council look into this matter. It was felt by other members of Council that there is no more speeding now than there was before; that the State Police do not patrol the Benner Pike since police services are contracted with State College because, to them, this is duplication of services which they try to avoid. Mr. Williams stated that the day the State College Police took over patrolling College Township, they received a call from the Hollidaysburg Police Barracks asking if they were officially patrolling College Township and that if they were the State Police would be pulled out, effective immediately, which was done the same day. He said they take this action all over the State.

There is a bill before the House now which will permit municipal police to use radar. It was asked that a letter be sent to the Police Commission's office in Harrisburg inquiring if radar could not be used on Benner Pike by the State Police.

Mr. Frederick, the Treasurer, brought up the matter of the collection of Earned Income Taxes. Is he to collect College Township's share and forward the School District's to Roger Johnson or what? A discussion of this subject was held. Mr. Bailey felt it would probably only be another three months and why not let it ride until then. By law and Act 511 taxes, the School Board must agree with Council on the collector. The turnover of power from one collector to another is made by the tax statement which is sent out and the Earned Income Tax is collected by the former collector until the School District Tax year ends on July 1 of each year. According to the new Administrative Code, Mr. Johnson is no longer the tax collector for College Township. The Code states that the appointed Treasurer would officially be the tax collector and his term of office begins on January 5, 1976. Mr. McCormick said that position should be taken and hold fast to it or go further and ask the Judge under a Declaratory Judgement, to determine and declare for Council legally that we are correct.

Mr. Dean felt the Council should wait for the letter from the Assistant Attorney General in Harrisburg, who is to write an opinion as to who is the tax collector. He will only give an opinion when requested by a State Legislator. In this case it has been Galen Dreibelbis. His interpretation of the Section 1262 is that there is a Grandfather's Clause which saves the District Attorneys, Sheriffs, and elected Treasurers.

It was indicated by Council that the letter meant nothing. It was just his opinion, but if he should disagree with Council then go to the Judge for a Declaratory Judgement. Mr. McCormick stated he would contact the Judge by phone within the next week to see if he could give a renderous decision. Discussion of this matter was carried on for some time. Mr. Frederick will collect taxes from now on and when a check comes in for the 511 Taxes he is to call the School Board and ask where they wanted

their half sent.

A motion was made by Mr. Trotter that the meeting adjourn.

Mrs. Taricani seconded this and the motion was unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elwood G. Williams, Sr.  
Secretary