

**COLLEGE TOWNSHIP REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, December 16, 2010**

ATTENDED BY -

COUNCIL:

David W. Koll, Chair
Mary C. Shoemaker, Vice-Chair
Forrest J. Remick, Ph.D.
David P. Fryer
Daniel D. Klees

STAFF:

Adam T. Brumbaugh, Township Manager/Secretary
Kent N. Baker, Township Engineer
Robert T. Long, Jr., Finance Director
John J. Franek, Jr., Zoning Officer
Mark Holdren, CRPA Sr. Planner
Mary E. Wilson, Asst. Township Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Koll called to order the December 16, 2010, Regular Meeting of the College Township Council at 7:06 PM following a public hearing on the 2011 College Township Budget.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Mr. Dan Wise, President of the Builders Association of Central Pennsylvania, introduced Ms. Abbie Jensen, Interim Executive Officer, before requesting Council's support of their recommendation to modify the Code application. Mr. Wise advised that the Builders Association of Central Pennsylvania supports the inclusion of permit numbers being listed on the application. Mr. Wise advised that the Builders Association also supports the inclusion of clarifying information on all code permit applications that would reflect an applicant's completion of mandatory lead paint training.

Council expressed its appreciation of the Builders Association of Pennsylvania coming before Council to explain its position on these Code matters.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Chair Koll announced that Council met in Executive Session immediately prior to this meeting in order to discuss matters of personnel and litigation.

Chair Koll altered the order of the meeting in order to meet the travel needs of various presenters.

NEW BUSINESS:

NB-4 Centre Region Insurance Cooperative (CRIC)

Messrs. A. Brumbaugh, Township Manager, and R. Long, Finance Director, advised that staff received, reviewed, and evaluated health insurance proposals from three providers and determined that the cooperative self-funded plan proposed by the Benecon Benefits and Consulting Group provided a plan superior to the fully insured proposals received from the other providers evaluated.

Ms. Shoemaker requested, and staff agreed to provide, a comparative summary of this new plan and that which the Township is leaving. Mr. Brumbaugh gave a verbal overview of the basic costs per doctor and emergency room visit, etc. Staff recommended that Council approve participation in the CRIC, which offers the employer a chance to enjoy rebates for unused premiums, cross sharing assistance, and stop loss reinsurance.

a. Ordinance O-10-12, Participation in Pennsylvania Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative

Staff advised that an ordinance is required to become a member of the PMHIC and then recommended that Council adopt Ordinance O-10-12 authorizing the Township to join with other political subdivisions as a member of the Pennsylvania Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative (PMHIC), to enter into an inter-governmental agreement for that purpose, and to participate as a member of the PMHIC.

Mr. Long introduced Ms. Kathy Cook, Asst. Vice President of Government Client Services for Benecon Benefits and Consulting Group. Ms. Cook distributed PMHIC literature generated for College Township, described how health insurance cooperatives function, gave a presentation on the benefits of the PMHIC, and answered Council's question on this self-funded health insurance plan. College Township would be considering joining the Centre Region Insurance Cooperative, which is currently comprised of numerous Centre Region municipalities and the Centre Region Council of Governments. There are 225 entities in Pennsylvania currently participating in the PMHIC.

Mr. Fryer moved to adopt Ordinance O-10-12, Participation as a Member of the Pennsylvania Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative (PMHIC), to enter into an inter-governmental agreement for the purpose of joining the PMHIC, and to participate as a member of the PMHIC.

Dr. Remick seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Pennsylvania Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative Agreement

Mr. Fryer moved to authorize College Township to enter into the Pennsylvania Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative Agreement.

Mr. Klees seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

NB-1 Bid Award – Squirrel Drive Traffic Signal

Mr. Baker, Township Engineer, described the higher-than-anticipated bid results and subsequently recommended that Council award the Squirrel Drive Signal construction contract to low-bidder Kuharchik Construction, Inc. Mr. Baker advised that staff needed to meet with W. R. Hickey's representatives to seek an increase in their contribution to the signal, due to the significantly higher signal costs.

Mr. Michael Pratt, Keller Engineers, described the analysis of the bids and explained that the cost of the signal alone was \$100,000 higher than the Township's estimates. The pavement and concrete amounts were also over estimates, but analyses of those items are missing from the report.

Dr. Remick moved to award the Construction Contract for State Route 26, E. College Avenue, W. R. Hickey Driveway Approach Improvements, and Squirrel Drive Intersection Signalization to Kuharchik Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$666,373.25.

Mr. Klees seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

OB-1 2011 College Township Budget

A duly advertised public hearing being held this date, Council took action to approve resolutions for the 2011 College Township Budget and for the setting of the 2011 tax millage.

a. Resolution R-10-23, 2011 Tax Millage

Resolution R-10-23, Fixing the Tax Rate for the Year 2011, which sets the mills on each dollar of assessed valuation at 4.40 Mills for 2011, or \$0.44 on each one-hundred dollars of assessed valuation.

Dr. Remick moved to approve Resolution R-10-23, Fixing the Tax Rate for the Year 2011 at 4.40 Mills.

Mr. Fryer seconded the motion.

Mr. Brumbaugh, Township Manager, briefly discussed the budgetary impacts of Council's consideration and presented a draft of Policy P-021, which would approve a fee-in-lieu of health insurance for Township employees. Following brief dialogue, Council requested that this policy be put into a final draft form and returned to Council for its more in-depth review.

Mr. Klees suggested that the policy distinguish between married/family and single plans.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Resolution R-10-24, 2011 College Township Budget

Resolution R-10-24, 2011 College Township Budget, provides for \$5,515,239 in total revenues and \$6,939,338 in total expenditures. An amount of \$1,424,099 will be utilized from reserves to balance the 2011 Budget, providing an ending combined balance of \$1,896,706.

Mr. Klees moved to approve Resolution R-10-24, 2011 College Township Budget.

Ms. Shoemaker seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

OB-2 Resolution R-10-25, 2011 COG Budget

Council took action to approve the 2011 Centre Region Council of Governments Budget in the amount of \$14,594,981 with the local shares equaling \$5,316,017. College Township's share is set not to exceed \$952,695.

Mr. Fryer moved to approve Resolution R-10-25, 2011 Centre Region Council of Governments (COG) Budget in the amount of \$14,594,981 with College Township's share not to exceed \$952,695.

Mr. Klees seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

MANAGER'S UPDATE:

Mr. Brumbaugh, Township Manager, presented the December 16, 2010, Manager's Update, briefly discussing the Squirrel Drive traffic signal design work and the Country Inn and Suites' overall project status.

Mr. Klees suggested that a letter be sent to representatives with a copy to PennDOT on the subject of the extremely high costs of traffic signals and the need for the extra, costly installation standards. This matter should be returned to Council in June or July.

NEW BUSINESS: (Cont'd)

NB-2 Resolution R-10-26, 2011 EIT Collection Services Agreement

Mr. Brumbaugh, Township Manager, stated that, in accordance with Act 32, Pennsylvania municipalities and other state entities are now mandated to go to a single earned income tax collector by district. College Township belongs to the Centre County Tax Collection District, which appointed the Borough of State College as the exclusive Earned Income Tax Collector beginning January 1, 2012. However, the Borough of State College has offered members of the Centre Tax Collection District early implementation of their collection services beginning January 1, 2011. College Township has determined that it is advantageous to appoint the Borough of State College as the Township's EIT Collector beginning January 1, 2011, and, therefore, must approve a resolution for this purpose.

**Mr. Fryer moved to approve Resolution R-10-26 authorizing the Township Manager/Secretary to execute an Earned income Tax Collection Services Agreement with the Borough of State College.
Dr. Remick seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.**

NB-3 Thompson Woods Preserve Conservation Easement Baseline Documentation Report

Mr. Brumbaugh, Township Manager, introduced Mr. William A. Hilshey, ClearWater Conservancy's Conservation Easement Manager, and explained that ClearWater Conservancy, as management entity for Thompson Woods Preserve's Conservation Easement, wished to procure Council's authorization of and signatures on the revised, referenced report. The report is a requirement of the Land Trust Alliance and the Accreditation Commission of the Land Trust Alliance that each conservation easement have a completed baseline documentation report. This report provides the baseline for measuring future changes in the conservation values of the property and is used as the basis for monitoring and enforcement.

Ms. Shoemaker inquired about the current conservation value compared to the original conservation value; and Mr. Hilshey replied that ClearWater Conservancy feels that they are starting to increase the values.

**Mr. Fryer moved to authorize the Council Chair to execute the *Conservation Easement Baseline Documentation Report* for Thompson Woods Preserve.
Mr. Klees seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

CA-1 Minutes:

December 2, 2010 Regular Council Meeting.

- CA-2 Incoming Correspondence:** /1: Letter from Penn. Dept. of Transportation, dtd Nov. 24, 2010, Re: Squirrel Drive Signalization.
/2: Memo from Comcast, dtd Nov. 30, 2010, re: Equipment & Installation Pricing.
/3: Penn. Dept. of Ag., dtd Nov. 29, 2010, regarding Public Officials Day Luncheon at Farm Show.
/4: Centre County Solid Waste Authority, dtd Dec. 1, 2010, regarding 2011 Rates.

Mr. Klees moved to approve the December 16, 2010

Consent Agenda.

Mr. Fryer seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF AND ABC INFORMATIVES:

SI-1, November 2010 Ordinance Enforcement Report: Ms. Shoemaker talked about Marcellus shale impacts.

SI-6, Tips for Handling NIMBY Town Hall Meetings: Ms. Shoemaker asked for the identification of the person who authorized the inclusion of this article in Council's packet and their justification. Mr. Brumbaugh advised that he sometimes comes across noteworthy articles that he feels Council may not have seen elsewhere and, therefore, included it for Council's general knowledge.

OTHER MATTERS:

1. Mr. Brumbaugh, Township Manager, discussed the need for Council to approve several documents related to the Township's adherence to Act 32 and the County-wide EIT collections. The first document is a separation agreement and general release for the current senior tax specialist to authorize that employee to remain in the active role during the transition to the single tax collector.

Mr. Fryer moved to approve the Separation Agreement, as presented.

Ms. Shoemaker seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brumbaugh then requested Council's authorization for the Tax Collection Services Agreement.

Mr. Fryer moved to approve the Tax Collection Services Agreement.

Ms. Shoemaker seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Dr. Remick asked whether or not staff had been able to contact Mr. Jim Palmer at S&A Homes regarding recommendations for Brandywine Drive sidewalks. Mr. Brumbaugh advised that some issues were still being resolved prior to contacting Mr. Palmer.

3. Mr. Fryer commended the Public Works crew for good work done at Mountainside Park.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Transportation/Land Use (TLU) Committee, Dec. 6, 2010: Mr. Klees reported that the TLU Committee held a joint meeting with the Centre Region Planning Commission, discussed an economic development study and subsequent report along with its the recommendations. The final study will eventually be forwarded to the municipalities.

Parks Capital Committee, December 16, 2010: Mr. Klees reported that the Parks Capital Committee changed their regular meeting dates for 2011, discussed Hess Softball Fields Complex master plan, considered modifying the Oak Hall Regional Park plan to add a fourth playing field, and discussed the timing of financing for parks development projects.

In a departure from standard meeting protocol, Mr. Klees recognized the number of regular viewers of C-NET broadcasts of local government meeting and specifically recognized and thanked the Fredericks family in Harris Township for their dedication.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other business brought forward, Chair Koll adjourned the December 16, 2010, Regular Council Meeting at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam T. Brumbaugh

Adam T. Brumbaugh
Township Manager/Secretary