Elizabeth Township Board of Commissioners Monday, March 6, 2017 Commissioners' Meeting

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence

Roll Call - All Present

Executive Session Acknowledgement: President Beckowitz states that there was an executive session held to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

Reports:

Code Enforcement – John Snelson states that he provided the Commissioners with a request to hold an event at the Boston Ballfield for feedback on any other possible requirements. President Beckowitz states that John Snelson and Chief Kerestes should meet with the applicant and think about putting a bond on the field and get back to the Board.

Engineer – Bryan Churilla states that the 2017 Paving Project Contracts will be ready to be put out for bid soon.

Plant Operations/Veolia Water - Dennis Ottaviani explains the highlights of his report.

Police – Chief Kerestes states that for the month of February there were 434 events logged by Allegheny County 911 for our Department. There were 16 adult arrests and 13 juvenile arrests for a total of 19. Officers conducted 42 traffic stops and issued 8 traffic citations. Officers investigated 18 motor vehicle crashes, 7 reportable, 11 non-reportable with 4 injuries as a result of these crashes.

Public Works – John Castine states that the Road Department will be working on getting roads ready that are on the 2017 Paving Project list. The Boyds Hollow Road rapid bridge replacement project will begin on March 20th. Once utility work is completed on Rock Run Road, bridge replacement will begin there as well.

Solicitor - Solicitor Racunas states that he has nothing outside of items that were discussed in executive session.

Citizens to address AGENDA items only:

Resolutions:

Motion to adopt a resolution approving the acquisition and subsequent disposition of numerous parcels of vacant property known as block and lot numbers; 1413-N-326 would be in accord with the comprehensive plan of the municipality. (Beechview Street)

1st Motion Commissioner Saxon

Second Commissioner Blake

No Roll Call: All in Favor: Motion Carries

Motion to adopt a resolution for Elizabeth Township to enter into agreement with PENNDOT for sidewalk maintenance of the new bridge to be installed over Wildcat Run.

1st Motion Commissioner Blake

Second Commissioner

No Roll Call: All in Favor: Motion Carries

Motion to adopt a resolution for Elizabeth Township to enter into an interceptor trunk line rental agreement with the Borough of Versailles.

1st Motion Commissioner Saxon

Second Commissioner Evans

No Roll Call: All in Favor: Motion Carries

Motion to adopt a resolution to close the Sanitary Certificate of Deposit Account at KeyBank and move the balance of \$5,957.51 to the Sanitary General Operating Account at Northwest Savings Bank.

1st Motion Commissioner Blake

Second Commissioner Similo

All in Favor: Motion Carries

Items for Consideration:

1. Motion to approve the February 20, 2017 Commissioner Meeting Minutes.

1st Motion Commissioner Rhoderick

Second Commissioner Similo

No Roll Call: All in Favor: Motion Carries

2. Motion to approve the General Fund Bill Warrant dated March 6, 2017 in the amount of \$173,857.78.

1st Motion Commissioner Similo

Second Commissioner Blake

All in Favor: Motion Carries

3. Motion to approve the Sanitary Fund Bill Warrant dated March 6, 2017 in the amount of \$110,657.99.

1st Motion Commissioner Similo

Second Commissioner Blake

All in Favor: Motion Carries

4. Motion to authorize payment in the amount of \$33,629.40 to Waste Management for the Household Hazardous Waste Collection for the period of July 2016 to December 2016.

1st Motion Commissioner Similo

Second Commissioner Saxon

All in Favor: Motion Carries

5. Motion to authorize payment in the amount of \$16,080.03 to EFYA for 2017 Field Maintenance.

1st Motion Commissioner Saxon -

Second Commissioner Blake

All in Favor: Motion Carries

6. Motion to approve the quote provided by Squibb It Printing in the amount of \$4,850.00 for the printing, mailing, postage and preparation of the 2017 Real Estate Tax Bills. (Approved 2017 Budget allows for \$3,300 postage, \$600 office supplies, \$150 other)

**PULLED

7. Motion to approve the Proposal for Professional Services submitted by KLH Engineers for the Year 2017 Road Paving Program.

1st Motion Commissioner Saxon

Second Commissioner Blake

No Roll Call: All in Favor: Motion Carries

8. Motion to accept the proposal from ______ for the 2017 Grass Cutting Services of Vacant Property. **PULLED

Citizens to address items:

Beth Tedrow: States her concern for Invenergy's interest in the property for the power plant in Smithdale and what will happen to the property values in Smithdale if property gets zone industrial for the power plant use.

Claire Bryce: States that during heavy rainstorms, the Greenawald farm floods and her driveway floods and water gets in to her basement. The Greenawald brothers ask only that the Township pay for the piping needed to solve this flooding problem, not pay for or perform the work that needs done. Bryan Churilla states that he will take a look at it.

Diane Lemley: Reads 3 Bible verses.

Bill Styche: Speaks in regards to Ordinance 926 vacating Highland Avenue and states that he should have received notice that the Township was planning to vacate Highland Avenue and he did not. Bill Styche states that he can only assume that a public hearing was not held. Public hearings allow decision makers to make the most educated decisions. Solicitor Racunas responds that if a street is not paved or made public after 21 years, the owners of the land abutting the center of

the street take new ownership. After 21 years, the paper street is already vacated. A public hearing is only required if the Township still has the legal ability to vacate it, which after 21 years they do not.

Theresa Schzerba: States her concerns for the vacating of Highland Avenue in regards to her property and property that was once owned by her parents.

Sandy Hearn: States that she believes the current oil & gas ordinance should be sent to the Planning Commission.

Corrin Colhane: States her concern for Hoffman Kennels how she does not believe that they treat the animals they pick up well. States that the owner of Sable Kennels is the best in the area and that the Township should reconsider

Laurie Marraccini: Agrees with Corrin Colhane that Sable Kennels would be a much better choice for Animal Control in the Township than Hoffman Kennels.

Larry Coccia: Discusses the Act 537 Plan.

Terry Livingston: States that he would like opportunities for residents from Smithdale & Elizabeth Township to have input on the proposed power plant. Terry Livingston asked for a contact person to call, Solicitor Racunas states that all Commissioners have public phone numbers & the Elizabeth Township Administrative offices would be able to assist also.

Dawn Weichler: Owner of Sable Kennels. Explains the difference in the treatment between her own kennel & Hoffman Kennels. Asks the Township to reconsider hiring Sable Kennels.

Motion to send a notice to Hoffman Kennels that in 30 days they will be terminated.
 1st Motion Commissioner Similo
 No Roll Call: All in Favor: Motion Carries

Second Commissioner Saxon

Jill Erny: Animal Control Agent for Sable Kennels.

John Salopek: Asks if there have been any permits issues for any type of construction in Smithdale. John Snelson states that he has not received anything. John Salopek states that he hears trucks, beeping, and explosions every night. The Board states that this is the first they've heard about noise on the site at night and will have Code Enforcement Officer John Snelson check it out. Chief Kerestes states that if an explosion is heard at any time of the day to immediately call the police.

Alaina Breakrion: Mayor of Suttersville. Alaina Breakrion states that Suttersville was never made aware of the power plant by the Energy Company and asks that the Commissioners give the residents in Smithdale the same consideration as they did to the residents of Mt. Vernon.

Jamie Dubinsky: Resident of Sewickley Township. States that many neighboring communities will be impacted if the power plant does get built. Jamie Dubinsky believes that as a small business owner, small businesses will be impacted negatively because tourists and bikers who travel to this area specifically for the bike trail will skip over this area because they will not want to ride past a power plant. Jamie Dubinsky also mentions the possible destruction of the bald eagle's habitat and other wildlife.

Danielle Miele: States that a power plant would negatively impact all of the residents who love the river and that there is no need to rezone the area in Smithedale as industrial because there are plenty of areas already zoned industrial in the Township that Invenergy could use.

Megan McDonough: Megan McDonough uses a personal story to present her opposition of the power plant.

Patty Hoffman: States that there is a meeting in South Versailles Township because EQT wants to put a fracking well on top of the hill across the river, affecting Mt. Vernon once again.

Motion to Adjourn:

1st **Motion** Commissioner Saxon

Second Commissioner Blake

Lauren Zang, Finance Specialist/Office Manager

President, Board of Commissioners