



FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 31, 2017 -3PM



I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 3:00 PM (TIME) BY VAUGHN TANTLINGER, CHAIRMAN

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL: PAUL ALTIMUS-PRESENT JAME BROWN-PRESENT SOLICITOR-PRESENT(JWM)
VAUGHN TANTLINGER-PRESENT SECRETARY-PRESENT CITIZENS-2

III: BUSINESS: WAS ADVERTISED IN LATROBE BULLETIN FOR THE PURPOSE OF ANY AND ALL GENERAL BUSINESS OF THE TOWNSHIP WHICH MAY COME BEFORE THE BOARD.

1. BLACKSON LLC--ROAD BOND RELEASE OF ORCHARD HOLLOW ROAD IN AMOUNT OF \$4,200.00; VAUGHN STATED THAT HE AND DAN SOWERS LOOKED AT THE ROAD AND FOUND NO PROBLEMS. HE RECOMMENDS THEY RELEASE THE ROAD BOND. APPR BY VAUGHN; 2ND BY JAMES; UN-YES (3YES/ 0-NO) (V. TANTLINGER-YES / P. ALTIMUS- YES/ J. BROWN-YES)

2. VAUGHN ANNOUNCED THAT THE NEXT ITEM FOR DISCUSSION—THE BOARD WAS PRESENTED WITH A LETTER DATED AUG. 28, 2017 FROM DANIEL SOWERS TO THE 3 SUPERVISORS. IT WAS HIS LETTER OF RESIGNATION OF HIS POSITION AS LABORER / ASSISTANT SEC-TR FOR THE TOWNSHIP. HIS FINAL DAY OF EMPLOYMENT WILL BE SEPT. 8, 2017. HE THANKED THE BOARD FOR HIS 6 YR EMPLOYMENT, HE WILL DO WHATEVER IS NEEDED FOR THIS TRANSITION. HE WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR FOR FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP. (LETTER ON FILE IN D. SOWERS FOLDER) VAUGHN ASKED SOLICITOR IF TWP HAS TO TAKE A VOTE TO ACCEPT. SOLICITOR INDICATED YES. VAUGHN THANKED DAN FOR HIS WORK THE LAST 6 YRS. THEY ENJOYED WORKING WITH HIM. JAMES AND PAUL FELT THE SAME AND THEY ALL WISHED HIM THE BEST OF LUCK. PAUL STATED THAT HIS EMPLOYMENT WILL TERMINATE ON SEPT. 8, 2017. APPR BY VAUGHN; 2ND BY PAUL WITH REGRETS; UN-YES (3-YES/ 0-NO) (V. TANTLINGER-YES/P. ALTIMUS-YES/J. BROWN-YES)

3. VAUGHN STATED NEXT BUSINESS IS TO OPEN THE BOARD TO POSSIBLY FILL THE POSITION. VAUGHN TURNED IT OVER TO PAUL. PAUL STATED THAT AFTER DISCUSSING WITH TWP.. SOLICITOR IT IS UP TO THE BOARD TO APPOINT AT THEIR DISGRESSION. IN NON COMMITTED TALKS, PEOPLE HAVE ASKED ABOUT THE POSITIONS THRU THE GRAPEVINE. AND ONE CANDIDATE HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE POSITION—ERNEST F. HENDERSON. PAUL’S POSITION ON THIS MATTER IS THAT DAN WAS ALREADY BUDGETED TO BE ON THE PAYROLL TO THE END OF THE YEAR AT THE CURRENT RATE AND ENROLLMENT ON HEALTHCARE BENEFITS, THAT WAS RECOGNIZED BY THE BOARD EARLIER THIS YEAR. PAUL MADE A MOTION THAT THEY OFFER MR. HENDERSON THE SAME— OTHER THAN SICK DAYS AND VACATION DAYS, THERE WILL BE NONE AVAILABLE TO HIM FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE CALENDAR YEAR. BUT HE WILL BE RECOGNIZED ON HOLIDAY PAY. AND THIS IS ALL IF HE ACCEPTS THIS POSITION. VAUGHN STATED THERE WAS ANOTHER INTERESTED IN THE POSITION. VAUGHN STATED THAT ERNEST F. HENDERSON ALREADY HAS CDL LICENSING AND MEETS ALL THE DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING REQUIREMENTS—WHICH IS VERY IMPORTANT. JAMES STATED THAT ERNEST HENDERSON ALREADY WORKED AT THE TWP. BEFORE. PAUL STATED HE HAS TENURE HERE. VAUGHN SAID HE HAS THE EXPERIENCE OF PLOWING SNOW AND PAUL STATED HE ALREADY KNOWS THE ROAD SYSTEM. PAUL’S MOTION WAS 2ND BY VAUGHN; UN-YES (3-YES/ 0-NO) (V. TANTLINGER-YES/P. ALTIMUS-YES/J. BROWN-YES) PAUL SAID THEY WILL COMMUNICATE WITH ERNIE HENDERSON VERY SHORTLY AND LET HIM DECIDE IF HE IS INTERESTED IN THE TERMS THE BOARD HAS PRESENTED TO HIM. IF HE ACCEPTS, HE WILL HAVE TO DO SEPARATION OF HIS CURRENT EMPLOYER SO THE START DATE IS NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME. VAUGHN ANNOUNCED THAT PAUL WILL HAVE TO MAKE CONTACT TO BONDING COMPANY FOR DAN AND GET NEW SIGNATURE CARDS. VAUGHN SAID ONE THING THAT WILL BE MISSED IS THAT DAN ALSO SERVED AS SEC/TRES WHEN EMMA WASN’T HERE DUE TO HEALTH FOR A PERIOD OF TIME. PAUL STATED THAT AT THIS POINT AND TIME THERE IS AN ASSISTANT SEC/TRES APPOINTMENT AVAILABLE IF THE BOARD CHOOSES.

4. SOLICITOR JEFF MILLER GAVE UPDATE ON ANTIOCH IAN VILLAGE. MR. MILLER RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM THE ATTORNEY FOR ANTIOCHIAN VILLAGE. AND THEY WANT TO KNOW IF THE TWP WOULD CONSIDER A SETTLEMENT—BY NEGOTIATING A PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXATION. A PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXATION CAN WORK A NUMBER OF WAYS, BASICALLY HE HAS SEEN IT THAT IT IS AN AMOUNT PAID ON A YEARLY BASIS WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT REFLECT THE AMOUNT OF TAXES. IT COULD BE NEGOTIATED INDIVIDUALLY, MEANS IF THE BOARD IS INTERESTED—AND THEY REACH SOME SETTLEMENT—IT WOULD BE MADE TO THE TWP. AND THE APPEAL WOULD CONTINUE FOR THE COUNTY AND SCHOOL DISTRICT AND OUT PART WOULD BE DONE. VAUGHN SAID IF TWP NEGOTIATES AND THEY THROW SMALL AMOUNT ARE WE DONE. SOLICITOR SAID NO, IF TWP IS NOT SATISFIED, THEY DO NOT GIVE UP THEIR RIGHT TO APPEAL. SOLICITOR ENCOURAGES THE BOARD IF THEY DECIDE TO GO THAT ROUTE, TO GO INTO IT WITH GOOD FAITH. WITH AN HONEST ATTEMPT TO SETTLE THE LAWSUIT, COMPROMISE MAY NOT BE EVERYTHING THEY WANT. AND NOT KNOWING THE NEGOTIATED AMOUNT—IT MAY EVEN BE BETTER THAN WHAT THE COURTS DECIDE. PAUL ASKED AT THIS TIME, HOW MUCH CALENDAR DOES THE TWP. HAVE BEFORE THEY CAN STOP THE LAWSUIT. SOLICITOR STATED HE FEELS 40 OR 5 MONTHS. THERE IS A STATUS CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER, AND THE TRIAL HE WOULD EXPECT TO START A FEW MONTHS LATER. SECRETARY ASKED IF IT GOES BACK RETROACTIVE, SOLICITOR SAID IT WOULD BE WHATEVER THE NEGOTIATION YIELDS. SOLICITOR SAID IF THEY GET THE APPEAL, IT WOULD GO BACK RETROACTIVE FROM 2016. SECRETARY ASKED IF SOLICITOR HAS AN AMOUNT OF WHAT WOULD BE EQUITABLE. SOLICITOR SAID HE DOES AND THOUGHT THAT IF THEY COME UP WITH EVERYTHING THEY THOUGHT IT WAS SLIGHTLY UNDER \$8,000. PAUL ASKED HOW NEGOTIATIONS BE, BETWEEN ATTORNEYS ONLY



OR ATTORNEYS AND PARTIES. SOLICITOR SAID IT COULD BE EITHER WAY. HE CAN ARRANGE EITHER WAY. PAUL SAID THAT THEY SHOULD TALK WITH THEM. VAUGHN AND JAMES AGREED. VAUGHN SAID THAT WE HAVE THE TIME AND IF DON'T AGREE THEY STILL CAN LET THE COURT APPEAL GO ONE. SECRETARY ASKED WHAT ANTIOCHIAN HAD A BOARD OF DIRECTORS THAT WOULD SIT AT THIS DISCUSSION, THE TWP HAS 3 AND WHEN THIS WAS FIRST STARTED, ANTIOCHIAN HAD MANY LETTERS WRITTEN TO THE TAX ASSESSMENT BOARD. SO WOULD THERE BE MANY DIRECTORS TO DEAL WITH. SOLICITOR SAID HE CAN'T TELL US WHO IT WOULD BE, BUT HE BELIEVES IT WOULD BE THE ARCH BISHOP. VAUGHN ASKED IF THEY NEED A MOTION. SOLICITOR SAID NOT AT THIS TIME, BUT IF THEY MAKE A DECISION THEN IT WOULD HAVE TO BE VOTED ON AT A PUBLIC MEETING. PAUL ASKED IF AT THIS MEETING WILL SOLICITOR ASK THEM TO COME WITH A NUMBER. SOLICITOR STATED THAT IT IS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT THE MEETING WOULD BE TO ARRIVE AT A SETTLEMENT FIGURE. SECRETARY ASKED IF IT WOULD BE AN AGREEMENT THAT WOULD EXPIRE IN SO MANY YEARS WHEN MAKING MONETARY DONATIONS, HOW DO I RECORD IT. PAUL STATED IT WOULD BE SOMETHING LIKE THE GAME COMMISSION CHECK WE GET EVERY YEAR. VAUGHN SAID THEY HAVE TALKED AMONGST THEMSELVES ABOUT A FIGURE FOR DOING THAT ROAD AND GIVING IT TO THEM. SOLICITOR SAID THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM; BECAUSE THE TWP HAS NOT GOTTEN ANY TAX MONEY FROM THEM. VAUGHN WILL COME UP WITH A FIGURE TO PRESENT ALSO. VAUGHN ASKED PAUL AND JAMES IF ANY OTHER BUSINESS, THEY HAD NONE.

PUBLIC COMMENT: 1. DAN SOWERS 2. DAN BRENDLINGER 3. EMMA BRENDLINGER

ADJOURNMENT—TIME: 3:20 PM MOTION BY VAUGHN; 2ND BY JAMES; UN-YES (3YES/ 0-NO) (V. TANTLINGER-YES / P. ALTIMUS- YES/ J. BROWN-YES)

**Fairfield Twp.-- 159 Midget Camp Rd. -- Bolivar, PA 15923 – 724-235-2140 – FAX 724-235-2752
Fairfield Website: www.fairfieldtpw.com Email fairfield1773@verizon.net
Emma J. Brendlinger, Sec-Tres**