



## FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MARCH 14, 2013



**I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7 PM (TIME) BY: JAMES BROWN**

**II. ROLL CALL:** PAUL ALTIMUS-PRESENT                      JAMES BROWN-PRESENT                      SOLICITOR-ABSENT  
VAUGHN TANTLINGER-**ABSENT**                      SECRETARY-PRESENT(EJB)                      CITIZENS-PRESENT(JWM)

**III. PREVIOUS MONTHS MEETING FEB 14, 2013:** APPR BY JIM, 2<sup>ND</sup> BY PAUL, UN-YES(2)

**IV. TRUE BILLS PAID AND TO BE PAID ON FINANCIAL STATEMENT DATED FEBRUARY 2013.** APPR BY JIM, 2<sup>ND</sup> BY PAUL, UN-YES(2)

**V. CORRESPONDENCE: NONE**

**VI. PERSONS PLACED ON AGENDA: NONE**

**VII. OLD BUSINESS: WESTD COUNTY CONV-LAKEVIEW IN GRNSB.** UPDATE GIVEN BY SECRETARY-EMMA BRENDLINGER. SECRETARY STATED THAT VAUGHN TANTLINGER, AUDITORS-REGINA GARLAND AND LAURA HENDERSON, EMMA BRENDLINGER ATTENDED FOR FFTWP ON MAR 8<sup>TH</sup> AND IT WAS FROM 8 AM TO 4:30 PM. **PSATS REP. CAROL HILKO**, THEY HAVE STRONG PRESENCE IN HARRISBURG LOBBYING FOR TWP RULES AND REGULATIONS. TWPS ARE NOW AUTHORIZED TO PAY ALL OR PART OF THE COST OF SUPPLEMENTAL MEDICARE INS. COVERAGE FOR EMPLOYEES 65 OR OVER AS A SAVINGS TO GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE. THE FWHA CHANGED THE SIGN COMPLIANCE DATE UNTIL JUNE 2014-REFLECTIVE SIGNS. TWPS NOW HAVE TO REPORT PLAN RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS TO THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, BUT DON'T KNOW HOW FFTWP IS GOING TO DO THIS—WE DO NOT APPROVE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT. PSATS SUPPORTS TRANSPORTATION FUNDING WHICH INCLUDES LOCAL RDS, STATE RDS, AND MASS TRANSIT; AND TO RESTORE TWPS FAIR SHARE. **CORBET'S PLAN WANTS** TO ELIMINATE CAP ON OIL COMPANIES FRANCHISE TAX OVER 5 YRS, DECREASE FLAT LIQUID FUELS TAX FROM 12 CENTS TO 10 CENTS PER GALLON OVER 2 YRS; REPLACE ANNUAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION TO A 2 YR CYCLE AND ELIMINATE STICKERS, REPLACE 4 YR DRIVERS LICENSE WITH 6 YRS. ALL IS STILL IN LOBBYING, NOTHING HAS CHANGED. **PSATS** SUPPORTS THE REFORM PACKAGE FOR PREVAILING WAGE INCREASE FROM \$25,000 TO \$185,000 AND TO EXCLUDE MAINTENANCE WORK ON RDS. PSATS SUPPORTS ADVERTISING ON TWP WEBSITES. PSATS-- LEGISLATIVE ISSUES FOR UNFUNDED MANDATES, SENATE RES # 323 DIRECTED THE LOCAL GOV. COMMISSION TO STUDY THE STATE MANDATES PLACED ON PA LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. PSATS WILL CONTINUE TO URGE STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATORS TO STOP OR AT LEAST MITIGATE EXPENSIVE UNFUNDED MANDATES AND WILL WORK ON LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR ANY MANDATES IMPOSED ON TWP GOVERNMENT. **PENN STATE ANN LAIL**— DISCUSSED YOUNG LUNGS AT PLAY. SMOKE FREE PLAYGROUNDS WANTS TWPS TO ADOPT REGULATIONS ON SMOKING IN CHILDREN AREAS--GET SIGNS AND POST ACCORDINGLY. **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**—MIKE REESE, GEORGE DUNBAR, JAMES BREWSTER, ELI EVANKOVICH, JOE PETRACA, TIM KRIEGER. PENDOT REPS—JOE SZCZUR, HAROLD WHEYL, TIM COOK, RICK SKOVENSKY. MIKE OBARTO ASKED THEM TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT DEP—MAKE DEP MORE TWP FRIENDLY. **BREWSTER** NOT IN FAVOR OF THE CURRENT WAY ACT 13 WAS WRITTEN, THE AMOUNT SHOULD HAVE BEEN HIGHER, MADE HIGHER SOME IN STATE--AT LEAST 80%. **DUNBAR** VOTED AGAINST ACT 13—HE FEELS MUNICIPALITIES KNOW BEST WHAT MUNICIPALITIES NEED. **REESE** SAID HE SUPPORTED ACT 13—SAID LIQUID FUELS GOES DOWN, AND HE SUPPORTED THE REVENUE ACT 13 BROUGHT IN. **PETRACA**—PA EMPLOYMENT IS STILL LAGGING—NEED MORE JOBS FOR PEOPLE HERE. **I (EMMA)** ASKED THE REPRESENTATIVES ABOUT THE NEW WAY PENDOT HANDLES HOP'S BY PASSING THE BURDEN ONTO TWPS TO SIGN OFF ON STATE HWY PERMITS. I FEEL IF IT IS A PENDOT ROAD, THEN IT IS A PENDOT HOP AND THEY NEED TO DO THE HOP. THE TWP DOES NOT HAVE THE FUNDING TO TAKE CARE OF HOP'S FOR THE STATE ROADS AS WELL AS TWP ROADS. STATE ALSO MAKES TWP PAY/INSTALL/MAINTAIN SIGNS ON STATE HWYS THAT THE STATE APPROVED, SUCH AS: HIDDEN DRIVEWAY, WATCH CHILDREN, ETC. IT IS AN UNFAIR MANDATE JOE SZCZUR-PENDOT WANTS ME TO GET HIM A LETTER EXPLAINING OUR SITUATION WITH THE JOHNSTOWN WATER HOP. **MIKE OBARTO** ALSO ASKED THE REPS EMMA'S QUESTION ABOUT AN INSURANCE PACKAGE FOR MUNICIPALITIES TO JOIN TOGETHER TO GET BETTER RATES, THEY SAID IT WAS NOT SOMETHING THEY DID—IT WOULD BE UP TO THE MUNICIPALITIES. **SZCZUR** POINTED OUT THAT PENDOT DOES NOT RECEIVE MONEY FROM ACT 13. **RICK SKOVENSKY** SAID THAT COSTAR CAN BE NEGOTIATED WITH THEIR PRICE, ALWAYS CHECK OTHER PLACES AND SHOW COSTAR THE LOWER PRICE, THEY CAN LOWER THE COSTAR PRICES. **SOLICITOR FORUM**—VAUGHN ATTENDED-HE WILL HAVE TO GIVE UPDATE. **TAX COLLECTOR /AUDITORS/ SECRETAIES FORUM**—MICHAEL FORMAN FROM GOV. CENTER. HE WENT OVER THE FORMS FOR PUC, UNCONVENTIONAL GAS WELL FUND USAGE REPORT WHICH IS DUE ON APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup> EACH YEAR. HE WENT OVER THE DCED FORMS EFILING IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND WHEN EACH AREA HAD TO BEGIN AND WHAT FORMS ARE REQUIRED TO BE EFILED. DISCUSSED THE PAYMENT PLANS FOR SCHOOL TAX AND HOW IT TRIPLES THE TAX COLLECTORS WORKING TIME, SOME SCHOOL DISTRICTS HAVE INCREASED PAYS PRIOR TO THIS ELECTION. HE ALSO EXPLAINED THAT NO PAYMENTS CAN BE MISSED. DISCUSSED MEDICAL INSURANCE FOR SUPVRS., HE SAID ALL TWPS SHOULD HAVE A RESOLUTION ON HOW THEY HANDLE INSURANCE FOR NON WORKING SUPERVS. IF IT IS IN PLACE THAT YOU DO NOT GIVE MEDICAL INSURANCE TO NON WORKING SUPERVS., THEN IT IS TO BE IN A RESOLUTION -SINCE IT IS UP TO THE SUPERVISORS TO APPROVE THAT AND NOT THE AUDITORS. IT SHOULD BE WRITTEN FOR A GUIDELINE FOR NOW AND FOR THE FUTURE—IF TWP DOESN'T HAVE ONE, CONTACT YOUR SOLICITOR AND GET ONE IN PLACE. **COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**—**CHARLES ANDERSON, TED KOPAS, TYLER COURTNEY**—**JASON RIGONE** GAVE A PRESENTATION ON PROJECTS FUNDED BY COUNTY. ALL THEIR FUNDING PROJECTS WERE IN THEIR AREA—GREENSBURG, ETC. THEY DISCUSSED THE WESTMORELAND TRANSIT. I (EMMA) ASKED WHAT THEY ARE DOING FOR THE DOING FOR THE TOWNSHIPS IN OUR AREA—SEWARD, BOLIVAR, FAIRFIELD, NEW FLORENCE---ALL THE PROJECTS WHERE IN GREENSBURG OR CLOSE PROXIMITY TO GRNSBG. I ASKED WHY THE BUS DOES NOT GO THRU BOLIVAR AND WEST BOLIVAR. I AM TO GET BACK TO THEM ON SOME OF THIS, THEY WILL CHECK ON THE NEED. THEY GAVE UPDATE ON WHAT THEY ARE INVESTING IN THE ARNOLD PALMER AIRPORT AND THE NEW IMPROVED FLIGHTS OUT OF THERE. EMMA ASKED WHY THEIR WESTD CTY BUS DID NOT GO THRU BOLIVAR AND WEST BOLIVAR? SO THAT PEOPLE IN THIS AREA CAN USE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PAID FOR BY THE COUNTY, THEY ARE ALSO PART OF WESTMORELAND. **WPX ENERGY** REPRESENTATIVES WERE WITH THE SOLICITORS REPRESENTING THE MARCELLUS GAS WELL INDUSTRIES. GAVE A PRESENTATION ON MARCELLUS SHALE. THEY ARE HERE TO STAY WITH ALL THE GASES IN THIS AREA. NO ONE ASKED ANY QUESTIONS, THEY WERE RUNNING OVER ON THEIR TIME.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS: 1. DIESEL AND SALT BID** FOR OPENING IN APRIL 2013 WITH THE I-W COG. MOT BY PAUL TO ADVERTISE FOR DIESEL & SALT THRU INDIANA WESTMORELAND COG FOR APRIL; 2<sup>ND</sup> BY JIM, UNAN-YES(2)

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS: 1. DIESEL AND SALT BID** FOR OPENING IN APRIL 2013 WITH THE I-W COG. MOT BY PAUL TO ADVERTISE FOR DIESEL & SALT THRU INDIANA WESTMORELAND COG FOR APRIL; 2<sup>ND</sup> BY JIM, UNAN-YES(2)

**2. ROAD BOND RELEASE** FOR D & D WOOD SALES—STIFFLER ROAD.; JIM SAID THEY HAVE ALREADY MADE SOME REPAIRS AND ARE TO BERMING WORK WHEN WEATHER PERMITS. PAUL SAID THEIR LETTER STATED UPON TWPS DIRECTION THEY WILL RETURN WEATHER PERMITTING THEY WILL FINISH REPAIR ON A SMALL SECTION OF DIRT/GRAVEL ROAD. MOT BY JIM, TO RELEASE D & D ROAD BOND FOR STIFFLER RD; 2<sup>ND</sup> BY PAUL, UNAN-YES(2)

**3. MAWC-CURT FONTAINE**—INFORMATION ON STUDY OF POSSIBLE SERVICE AREA POTENTIAL WATER LINE PROJECTS IN FFTWP SINCE LTMA FAILED TO FOLLOW THRU WITH THEIR WATER PROJECT. TWP SUPERVISORS APPROACHED MAWC TO TAKE A LOOK AT IT DUE TO THE INTEREST IN PUBLIC WATER. COST FOR STRATFORD—2220 FEET, COUNTING 10 HOMES IN THE CIRCLE AND 2 HOMES AT THE ENTRANCE OFF 271. TOTAL OF 12 HOMES, AND 17 PROPERTIES (INCLUDES THE 10 AND 2 HOMES) EXCLUDING THE CONSERVANCY PROPERTY. FOR 2220 FT OF 8 INCH PLASTIC PIPE, TOTAL COST WAS \$144, 500. MAWC WOULD PURSUE A LOW INTEREST PENVEST LOAN(PENNSYLVANIA INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AUTHORITY) REPRESENTED BY LARRY GASPERADO. THE CURRENT INTEREST RATES FOR WESTD CTY FIRST 5 YR PERIOD IS 1.516% AND THE REMAINING 15 YR PERIOD 2.159%. WHEN YOU AMORTIZE THE \$144,300 IT COMES OUT TO \$175,168.00—AT 5% WITH COMMERCIAL INSTITUTION IT WOULD COME OUT TO \$228,555. ALICE WHITE ASKED IS IT \$144,500 OR \$144, 300? THE ACTUAL COST IS \$144,300. BREAKING DOWN TO MONTHLY PENVEST PAYMENTS IT WOULD BE AROUND \$730/MONTH FOR 20 YR—THEY SURCHARGE THE PROPERTY OWNERS THAT BENEFIT FROM THE PROJECT ON A MONTHLY BASIS. DEPENDS ON NUMBER OF PROPERTIES INCLUDED; IF IT WAS THE 10 HOMES IT WOULD BE \$73 PER MONTH/ 15 PROPERTIES-\$49 PER MONTH, ALL 17 PROPERTIES WOULD BE \$43 PER MONTH; MEANING THOSE WITH A DOUBLE LOT WOULD PAY ON EACH LOT. SECRETARY ASKED IF THAT SURCHARGE WAS ON TOP OF THE WATER BILL, CURT SAID YES. CURT SAID THE TYPICAL WATER BILL FOR THE FIRST 3000 GAL WOULD BE \$43.18 PLUS A \$1 EACH MONTH ON EVERYONE'S BILL DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND FOR MAINTENANCE. CURT SAID IT WOULD BE MONTHLY SURCHARGE PLUS QUARTERLY PAYMENT OF \$44.18 PLUS EVERY ADDITIONAL 1000 GAL WOULD BE \$5.99 EACH; AVERAGE 3 MONTH USAGE IS 12,000 GAL. SO A QUARTERLY BILL FOR 12,000 GAL WOULD BE \$98.05 PLUS EVERY MONTH SURCHARGE OF \$73 (REMEMBER THIS CAN BE LOWER DEPENDING ON THE # OF HOMES 10-15-17). WHEN THEY PUT THESE ESTIMATES TOGETHER, THEY TRY TO BEEF THEM UP SO THERE ARE NO SURPRISES. PENVEST TAKES AWHILE TO GET THRU THE PROCESS, COULD BE 9 TO 12 MONTHS. CURT SAID HOME OWNER RESPONSIBLE FOR SERVICE LINE FROM HOUSE TO MAIN LINE. THE COST FOR THE TAP IS \$2700, IT IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE LOAN, COULD ROLL IT INTO THE LOAN. MAWC DOES NOT INSPECT THE LINES. IF YOUR HOME SITS OFF MORE THAN 100 FT OFF ROADWAY, YOU WOULD HAVE TO PUT IN A METER PIT, IF YOU SIT WITHIN 100 FT AND YOU HAVE A WARM CLIMATE CONTROLLED AREA YOU CAN PUT INSIDE HOUSE, BASEMENT, GARAGE- JUST SO IT DOES NOT FREEZE. THERE ARE SPECS FOR SETTING UP METER PIT—AT LEAST 10 FT COPPER. THAT EXPENSE IS TO THE PROPERTY OWNER, BUT THE METER COMES WITH THE TAP, BUT THE PIPING AND PLUMBING IS PROPERTY OWNERS EXPENSE. CURT SAID THEY REQUIRE THE TWP TO PASS A MANDATORY TAP IN ORDINANCE AND DEPENDS ON HOW IT IS WRITTEN. EXAMPLE IF YOU HAVE ROAD FRONTAGE ON STRATFORD—THEN YOU WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROJECT. THEY WILL NOT APPLY TO PENVEST UNLESS THERE IS A MANDATORY TAP ORDINANCE. **MARY LaMANTIA**—MANDATORY TAP IN ORDINANCE. IT IS GREAT FOR THOSE THAT WANT WATER, BUT IF YOU DON'T WANT PUBLIC WATER AND YOUR GETTING WATER FREE NOW; WHY SHOULD SHE HAVE A MANDATORY TAP IN. CURT SAID YOU HAVE TO TAP IN BUT DON'T HAVE TO USE WATER, STILL HAVE TO PAY TAP FEE AND PUT IN METER PIT, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO RUN LINE TO YOUR HOUSE. BENEFITS OF PUBLIC WATER—EASIER TO SELL YOUR REAL ESTATE. SOLICITOR SAID SUPVS SENT OUT SURVEYS AND ABOUT 66% WANTED IT, COMES DOWN TO MAJORITY. PAUL SAID IT IS PROJECT SPECIFIC. PAUL SAID HE WANTS TO SEE ONE RESIDENT IN FFTWP SAY THEY HAVE FREE WATER. **LAURA HENDERSON** SAID SHE HAS FREE WATER FROM SPRING, PAUL FEES INCLUDE PIPE, PRESSURE TANKS, ELECTRICITY. MARY SAID SHE MEANS SHE HAS NO MONTHLY BILL. SECRETARY ASKED IF THE PROPERTY DOES NOT CONNECT TO THEIR HOUSE, DO THEY STILL PAY THE MONTHLY SURCHARGE? CURT SAID YES THEY STILL HAVE TO PAY THE SURCHARGE; THEY STILL HAVE TO PUT IN THE TAP AND METER PIT, AND NO FLAT WATER BILL. BUT THEY HAVE TO REQUEST IT BE SHUT OFF SO THEY DON'T GET A QUARTERLY WATER BILL. CURT SAYS IT HELPS WITH FIRE PROTECTION, BRING DOWN COST WITH HIGHER ISO RATING IN THAT AREA. SECRETARY SAID IF SURCHARGE IS \$73 A MONTH IN 10 MONTHS IT WILL BE \$730—IT WILL NOT BRING FIRE INSURANCE DOWN THAT MUCH. SECRETARY SAID THAN WHEN PUBLIC WATER IS AVAILABLE OUT THERE THEN IT SHOULD BE REASSESSED FOR TWP TO COLLECT MORE TAX DOLLARS BECAUSE THEIR PROPERTY VALUE HAS INCREASED. CURT SAID THEY HAVE LOOKED AT THE OTHER AREAS AND HAVE NOT COMPLETED THEIR ASSESSMENT OF THAT AREA TO SEE WHERE THEY GET THE MOST BENEFIT FOR THE COST. PAUL ASKED FOR A GUESS IF IT WOULD BE MUCH DIFFERENT FROM STRATFORD. CURT SAID IT COULD BE BECAUSE OF THE DISTANCE BECAUSE HOW FAR DO YOU HAVE TO GO BEFORE ADDING DOLLARS PER CUSTOMER. **GRETCHEN MILLER**-WANTS WATER, ASKED IF THERE WAS SOME WAYS THEY COULD SAVE MONEY LIKE IF THEY PLANTED THE GRASS, PAVE THE ROAD. CURT SAID THEY HAVE TO GIVE THEM A RIGHT OF WAY, ONE OF STIPULATIONS WOULD BE RIGHT OF WAY FOR \$1—IF SOMEONE CHARGES FOR THE RIGHT OF WAY WOULD BE PASSED ONTO THE NEIGHBORS. CURT SAID THE ONLY WAY HE SEES THEY COULD SAVE MONEY IS IF THEY COME UP WITH ANOTHER SOURCE OF FUNDING THAT ALLOWED YOU TO COME IN AND ALLOW YOU TO HIRE YOUR OWN CONTRACTOR. PENVEST REQUIRES PREVAILING STATE WAGES AND IF THEY BID AS MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY OR TWP, THEY ARE REQUIRED TO PAY STATE PREVAILING WAGES ANYTHING OVER \$25,000. IF THEY GOT WAIVERS SIGNED BY EVERYONE THAT THEY WOULD RESTORE THEIR OWN PROPERTY IF ANYTHING IS DUG UP OR IF THEY GET OFF THE RIGHT OF WAY, ETC. CURT SAID PENVEST ONLY HAS CERTAIN MEETING AND DEADLINE DATES. MARY LaMANTIA ASKED IF LTMA BACKED OUT, CURT SAID YES. THAT IS WHY MAWC IS NOW TAKING A LOOK AT IT. MAWC ONLY PASSES THE SURCHARGE ONTO THE CUSTOMER BENEFITING FROM THE PROJECT. SINCE THEY BROUGHT THE WATER DOWN 271, HOMES CAN TAP IN ALONG THERE WITHOUT THE SURCHARGE. PAUL ASKED IF STRATFORD COULD BE A STAND ALONE PROJECT. CURT SAID YES OR COULD BUNDLE WITH OTHER AREAS TO MAYBE GET THE COSTS DOWN FOR EVERYONE INVOLVED. PAUL ASKED HOW SOON FOR THE OTHER AREAS. CURT SAID BY END OF THIS MONTH AND HE IS TWEAKING THE AREAS THEY LOOKED AT. CURT WILL SEND A SET OF STRATFORD INFO TO TWP. SUPERVS. HAVE CURT'S CONTACT NUMBER IF ANYONE WANTS TO CALL HIM. **4. PARTICIPATE IN SHACOG STATE CONTRACT AND COSTARS CONTRACT 025-026 AND/OR COSTARS CONTRACT 025-021.** PAUL SAID THESE ARE STATE CONTRACTS ALREADY IN PLACE AND THESE CONTRACTS REPRESENT A VEHICLE PURCHASE AND EQUIPMENT ATTACHED TO THAT VEHICLE. THE ONE IS A FORD AND ONE IS A DODGE CONTRACT AND ONE IS THE DUMP BODY AND EVERYTHING ELSE THAT GOES ON THOSE TWO TRUCKS. IT IS THE SUPERVISORS INTENTIONS TO POSSIBLY PARTICIPATE IN THESE CONTRACTS WHICH REQUIRES THE TWP TO SPEND A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF MONEY. PAUL MADE A MOTION PARTICIPATE IN THESE CONTRACTS, 2<sup>ND</sup> BY JIM, UN-YES(2)

**FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MARCH 14, 2013 PAGE 3**

**IX. PUBLIC COMMENT: JIM ASKED ANYONE HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY. 1. ERN HENDERSON-EMERG. MANAGEMENT MEETING ON MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup>, HE WILL ATTEND AND MAYBE MIKE BARTLEY. ELECTED OFFICIALS MEETING IS SET FOR MAY 8 AT WCCC—ALL DAY.**

**2. MAUREEN BLON 3. TOM BLON 4. ALICE WHITE 5. MARY LaMANTIA 6. GRETCHEN MILLER 7. CURT FONTAINE 8. LAURA HENDERSON 9. MARISA HENDERSON 10. DAN BRENDLINGER 11. PAULA BROWN**

**X. ADJOURNMENT: MOTION BY PAUL; 2<sup>ND</sup> BY JIM, UN-YES(2) TIME (7:55 PM)**

**Fairfield Twp.-- 159 Midget Camp Rd. -- Bolivar, PA 15923 – 724-235-2140 – FAX 724-235-2752  
[www.fairfieldtp.com](http://www.fairfieldtp.com)**