



**FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MAY 8, 2008**



**I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7 PM BY PAUL ALTIMUS, CHAIRMAN.**

**II. ROLL CALL:** PAUL ALTIMUS-PRESENT    JAMES BROWN-PRESENT    SOLICITOR-PRESENT  
VAUGHN TANTLINGER-PRESENT    SECRETARY-PRESENT    CITIZENS-5

**III. PREVIOUS MONTHS MEETING ON APRIL 10, 2008:** APPR BY PAUL, 2<sup>ND</sup> BY VAUGHN, UNAN-YES.

**IV. TRUE BILLS PAID AND TO BE PAID ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT DATED APRIL 2008:** APPR BY VAUGHN, 2<sup>ND</sup> BY JIM, UNAN-YES.

**V. CORRESPONDENCE:** **1. IW COG**—REGARDING BIDS—OPENED THEIR COG BIDS ON 3/31/08. THE BID THE TWP IS INTERESTED IN WAS FOR OIL FOR TAR/CHIP/ASPHALT AND WAS BID ON BY RUSSELL STANDARD. PAUL SAID ACCORDING TO THE COG, THE TWP MUST ACCEPT ANY BIDS THEY WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN AT A PUBLIC MEETING. PAUL MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT COG BID FROM RUSSELL STANDARD FOR THE OIL, 2<sup>ND</sup> BY VAUGHN, UNAN-YES. **2. RELIANT ENERGY-DOWNSTREAM NOTIFICATION**—SEWARD POWER PLANT, HAVE A LIST OF STORAGE SUBSTANCES ON THEIRS SITE. IN THE EVENT OF A RELEASE, FAIRFIELD TWP WOULD BE NOTIFIED. **3. CITIZENS AMBULANCE SERVICE** SENT THE TOWNSHIP A PROCLAMATION TO RECOGNIZE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK MAY 18-24, 2008. PAUL ASKED SOLICITOR IF THERE WAS ANYTHING SPECIAL TO MAKE A PROCLAMATION? SOLICITOR ASKED IF IT WAS RECOGNIZING FIRST RESPONDERS, ETC. PAUL SAID NO, IT ACTUALLY RECOGNIZES ALL EMERGENCY SERVICES. THEY WANTED IT RETURNED TO THEM, CITIZENS. SOLICITOR SAID THERE IS CURRENTLY A BATTLE BETWEEN THE AMBULANCE COMPANIES RIGHT NOW. SOLICITOR SAID IN LOOKING AT THE PROCLAMATION THERE SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM WITH IT, BUT HE WOULD PUT IT ON TOWNSHIP LETTERHEAD. PAUL SAID THE PROCLAMATION IS PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF MAY 18-24, 2008 AS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK; ENCOURAGES ALL CITIZENS TO RECOGNIZE THE VALUE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ALL INVOLVED IN EMS AS A VITAL PUBLIC SERVICE. SECRETARY ASKED IF SHE SHOULD SEND A COPY TO CITIZENS, L.V. AMBULANCE, FAIRFIELD VFC, AND BOLIVAR VFC. SUPERVISORS SAID YES.

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

**VII. OLD BUSINESS:** **1. ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN UP** WAS HELD THIS PAST SATURDAY, APPROX. 115 LOADS, 18 VOLUNTEERS, 11 DUMPSTERS FILLED-5 METAL AND 7 TRASH.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:** **1. AMFIRE COAL CO.** REGARDING ROAD BONDING. SOLICITOR SAID THE TWP WAS APPROACHED BY AMFIRE COAL CO REQUESTING THE TWP TO CONSIDER WAIVING ROAD BONDING ON GRAVE YARD HILL. THEY HAVE PLANS ON DOING SOME CORE DRILLINGS ON SOME PROPERTY THERE, AND THEY ARE BRINGING IN SOME DRILLING RIGS. IT SEEMS THEY ARE CONSIDERING A DEEP MINE IN THE AREA AND NO PERMIT APPLICATION HAS BEEN FILED. BILL HUGHES ASKED WHY THEY WANT THE BOND WAIVED. SOLICITOR SAID THEY DON'T WANT TO PAY IT AND PROBABLY THE HASSLE. PAUL SAID THE ONE DRILLING RIG WAS NOT TO EXCEED THE ROAD WEIGHT LIMIT. BILL SAID THEY ALREADY HAVE DRILLING RIG ON PATTERSON ROAD. SOLICITOR SAID IT WAS ON HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY WERE DRILLING ON CREEK ROAD-DOWN FROM RIDGEVIEW. BILL SAID THEY WERE UP ON PATTERSON ROAD BY LEONARD BURKETT'S, THINKS IT WAS AMFIRE. VAUGHN ASKED IF THEY CROSSED THE BRIDGE, BILL SAID THEY WOULD HAVE HAD TO, IT SET THERE A COUPLE DAYS. PAUL SAID THEY MAY HAVE TO CALL THEIR CONTACT. BILL ASKED IF TWP WAS EVEN CONSIDERING WAIVING THE BOND. SOLICITOR SAID THEY CAN NOT SEE WHY TWP WOULD WAIVE THE BOND, AND THERE WAS AN ENGINEER STUDY ON THE ROAD. PAUL SAID TO TWP KNOWLEDGE THE ONLY DRILLING WAS DONE ON THE CREEK ROAD. VAUGHN SAID THE ONLY ROADS MENTIONED WAS GRAVE YARD, STIFFLER, AND ZUFALL ROAD. PAUL SAID ONE OF HIS COMEBACKS WERE IF HOMEOWNER HAD A CONCRETE TRUCK COMING, DO WE MAKE THEM BOND THE ROAD. SOLICITOR SAID THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION ON WHETHER IT WOULD BE CONSIDERED LOCAL DELIVERY. BILL ASKED WHERE THE PORTHOLES WERE GOING TO BE—SOLICITOR SAID LOCKPORT. VAUGHN SAID RIGHT NOW CHUCK PAYNE IS STOPPING THEM. SOLICITOR SAID TWP HAS NO SAY ON LOCKPORT ROAD. SOLICITOR SAID PENDOT HAD TO REBUILD THAT ROAD BEFORE. PAUL SAID THERE IS A CLAUSE REGARDING EXCESSIVE DELIVERY. SOLICITOR WANTED A COPY OF GRAVE YARD HILL ORDINANCE FOR THE ENGINEER STUDY.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** **1. MAUREEN BLON** **2. ANN MARIE BLON** **3. BILL HUGHES**-ASKED IF ANY PERMITS HAVE BEEN ISSUED FOR YEAGER HOLLOW STONE QUARRY? ON THE WAGNER AND STATE LAND. PAUL SAID THE WAGNER IS JUST HEARSAY, STATE LAND THE TWP HAS THE PAPERWORK. BILL ASKED HOW DO THEY PLAN ON GETTING IT OUT, MAYBE ON DERRY SIDE—IT IS EARTHTECH, INC., THEY ARE THE ENGINEERS. BILL ASKED HOW CAN DEP AUTHORIZE A PERMIT—IT IS ONE OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY WATER SHEDS IN THE STATE. SOLICITOR SAID THEY ARE PROPOSING TO ADD ACREAGE TO THE EXISTING UNDERGROUND MINE. WHAT HAPPENED TO THE YEAGER HOLLOW ONE? BILL SAID TWP HAS TO HAVE SOMETHING TO PROTECT THE WATER RIGHTS, HE SAID THE CONSERVANCY GAVE TWP MONEY FOR DIRT ROADS BECAUSE IT IS CONSIDERED HIGH QUALITY WATER SHED, THEN HOW CAN DEP GIVE THEM PERMITS TO DESTROY THIS WATER. SOLICITOR SAID THIS IS THE ONLY APPLICATION THE TWP HAS REGARDING THAT RIDGE. BILL SAYS EVERYONE HAS A RIGHT TO MAKE MONEY ON THEIR PROPERTY, BUT IT SHOULD NOT AFFECT THE SURROUNDING PROPERTY OWNERS. BILL SAID THEY SHOULD GUARANTEE THAT THEY WILL GIVE HIM WATER IF HE LOOSES IT, OR BUY HIM OUT—SOMETHING HAS TO BE DONE TO PROTECT THE PROPERTY OWNERS. SOLICITOR SAID THE FIRST THING TWP COULD DO IS IMPLEMENT SUBDIVISION LAND DEVELOPMENT AND ZONING. SOLICITOR SAID FOR COAL BED METHANE, ZONING WILL NOT HELP—THEY ARE UNTOUCHABLE EXCEPT FOR STATE REGULATIONS. SURFACE MINING CAN BE REGULATED TO CERTAIN DEGREES, YOU CAN LIMIT TO CERTAIN AREAS WITHIN THE TWP, CAN MAKE IT CONDITIONAL USE. THAT WAS THE FIGHT BETWEEN AMERIKOL AND LIGONIER TWP.—TWP LOST MOST OF



THE CONDITIONS, BUT THEY FOUGHT AMERIKOL AND EVENTUALLY AMERIKOL SAID OK THEY WILL SUBMIT TO A FEW OF THE CONDITIONS. DCNR DOES PUBLISH THEIR NOTICE IN THE PA. BULLETIN. SOLICITOR FEELS THAT WITH ALL THE PROBLEMS COMING UP, MAYBE IT IS TIME HAVE ZONING, BUT THERE ARE COSTS TO THAT—PEOPLE TO SERVE ON ZONING HEARING BOARD, SOLICITOR FOR ZONING, PAY FOR PUBLIC NOTICES, SOMEONE TO REVIEW APPLICATIONS, ETC. BILL SAID EVERYONE IS FIGHTING COAL BED METHANE IT IS A VICIOUS CIRCLE, THERE HAS TO BE SOMETHING TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE, NOT JUST THE PROPERTY OWNER. PEOPLE HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE A LIVING AND MAKE A PROFIT FROM RESOURCES ON THEIR PROPERTY. BILL SAID HE FELT THE BLAST FROM THE QUARRY BEFORE. PAUL SAID THE WAGNER ONE MENTIONED—THERE HAS A BEEN NO OFFICIAL NOTICE TO THE TWP. **4. BOB GRAHAM-** HE FEELS THE STATE GOVERNMENT DOES REGULATE MINING & DRILLING ACTIVITIES VERY WELL, THERE ARE NOT MANY HORROR STORIES OF PEOPLE LOOSING THEIR WATER. BOB ALSO SAID A FEW MONTHS AGO HE MADE A COMMENT ABOUT PENS FUTURE ABOUT BEING WARY ABOUT WHAT THEIR AGENDA MAY BE, AND SOMEONE SAID THAT WAS NOT TRUE—PEN FUTURE IS THERE TO LOOK OUT FOR THE PEOPLE. THEY WERE VERY ACTIVE IN PASSING ORDINANCES THAT WERE DEEMED ILLEGAL FROM THE AGRICULTURE, THERE IS SOMETHING FROM THE PA FARM BUREAUS WEB SITE THAT SPELLED THE ILLEGAL ORDINANCES AND HOW THEY AFFECT FARMERS. ALSO PEN FUTURE WEBSITE HAD A SIMILAR ARTICLE THAT THE HAVE AN AGENDA. **5. PAULA BROWN** **6. EMMA BRENDLINGER** –TWP SECRETARY ASKED IF THERE IS ANY RULES OR REGULATIONS FOR THE MANURE HAULED ONTO THE PROPERTY OF WALTER CRUSAN’S ON SR1011 THAT IS PUT RIGHT ALONG THE HIGHWAY. THIS MANURE IS NOT GENERATED FROM HIS OWN FARM, HE APPARENTLY IS HAULING IT IN, AND I THINK THERE ARE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR HAULING THINGS FROM OTHER AREAS. PAUL SAID AGAIN IT IS FARM. SECRETARY SAID SHE WOULD NOT HAVE PROBLEM IF HE ACTUALLY HAD A FARM, MAKING HIS LIVING FROM IT—BUT HE IS HAULING IT IN FROM SOMEWHERE ELSE. BOB GRAHAM SAID IF HE DOES NOT HAVE A PERMIT, HE WOULD BE IN VIOLATION OF AN ACT, AND IF HE IS STOCK PILING THE MANURE WITH NO PLAN OF HOW HE IS GOING TO GET RID OF IT, HE WOULD ALSO BE IN VIOLATION. VAUGHN SAID SOME OF IT HAS BEEN THERE FOR 3 OR 4 YEARS. VAUGHN SAID HE THINKS HE IS PLANNING ON SELLING IT. SECRETARY SAID IF HE WAS GOING TO USE IT FOR FERTILIZING HIS OWN PROPERTY—THERE IS NO PROBLEM, BUT TO JUST HAUL IT IN AND STOCKPILE IT SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED.

**ADJOURNMENT: MOTION MADE BY PAUL, 2<sup>ND</sup> BY VAUGHN, UNAN-YES.**