



DAMASCUS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES OF: May 18th, 2009

Meeting called to order @ 7:03 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman, Jeffrey R. Dexter.

Attendance: [x] Jeffrey R. Dexter, [x] Charles Grady, [x] Jason Roberts, [x] Dolores Card, [/] Ed Lagarenne, [/] Jeffrey M. Finlay, [x] Marty Kunstmann, PC, [x] Howard Schuchman, ZHB [x] Bob Dexter, [x] Dolores Keesler, UDC Representative, [/] Dora Faye Henry, and [x] Karyle A. Woods, BOS Secretary and Open Records Officer.

OPEN FLOOR: AGENDA Items Only. Three minutes per speaker.

- No comments made.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Minutes of April 20th, 2009 were reviewed and a motion to approve those Minutes was made by Chuck Grady; seconded by Jason Roberts. Chairman Dexter called for a vote, and the Minutes of April 20th, 2009 were approved unanimously.
- To take action on the expenses incurred during the previous month:
Expenses of April 2009: Chuck Grady made a motion to pay the expenses for the previous month; Jason Roberts seconded the motion. Chairman Dexter called for a vote, and the motion to pay the expenses for the previous month was approved unanimously.
- To review and take action on the Treasurer's Report:
The Treasurer's Report of April 2009: Jason Roberts made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Chuck Grady seconded that motion; Chairman Dexter called for a vote and the motion was approved unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- The **Damascus Twp. Auditors Report** was given by Ms. Faye Rossi, Auditor, and signed by both Melissa Rutledge and Kristina Adams. The Auditor's Report recommended that the BOS have a Professional Audit, performed by a CPA firm; and the Auditors are in agreement with the NEPA Organizational and Operational Assessment conclusions as regards this area. The recommendation, given at the time of the Township's Audit, was reiterated at this meeting to have a greater number of residents be aware of this concern. The Board of Supervisors will be reviewing the Auditor's recommendation with a view towards implementation for the next audit.
- **Building Inspection Underwriters:** Discussion was led by Chairman Dexter; he reported that the exclusivity clause in the BIU contract was the only area of concern. There is room for other Inspectors to work in our Township, if

Unfinished Business: Continued.

The BIU Inspectors hold the appropriate Certifications to perform those inspections; The BOS wants to continue its very satisfactory relationship with Building Inspection Underwriters, and indicated same in its letter to the company.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. [a] Five Star Equipment [COSTARS Program]: a Backhoe will be purchased outright, within the two year agreement. A John Deere 4x4 Extend-A-Hoe, with auxiliary hydraulics on the Boom, Breaker Handle, and a compacting tool.
[b] The BOS is renting a Vibratory Roller for 4 months use during the year; from Five Star Equipment of Dunmore, Pa.
[c] The Township has won a Bid and purchased a 1,000 gallon Tanker to spray the roads, when applying Dust Control measures.
2. The Atco Road and Mohn Road Cell Tower site [Bavarian Village Tower] is under review by the Planning Commission; a Conditional Use Application has been submitted and a Planning Commission site visit is planned. A Tower of 199 feet, which includes the Lightning Rod. The issue is to tie into the existing services. Possibly another Tower up around Rileyville, Pa. at some point in the future. The date of the Hearing will be advertised in the newspaper.
3. Chairman Dexter thanked Howard Schuchman, for once again coordinating a very successful program and Poster Contest for the 4th Grade class at the Damascus Area School. The Chairman expressed his pleasure in speaking with the more than 30 students; and spoke about what the students retained of the discussions with the staff at the Township Building, as well as what topics they chose to draw creative pictures about, for the contest. He also thanked the winners: Rachel Gullone[1st prize], Emma Pingel [2nd prize], Rachel Musetti [3rd prize], and Rose Jachen [4th prize]; and the businesses that generously contributed to the U.S. Savings Bonds that were awarded to the winners- Mr. Lance Thol- Builder; Hopkins Crane and Welding Service; Dianna Dutton- Dianna's Restaurant; and Thomas Coacci- Contractor.

REPORTS:

- Zoning, Buildings & Codes Report: No Report.
- Parks & Recreation: No Report
- Emergency Mgt. Report: No Report.
- Planning Commission Report: Ernie Matern reported that there were no completed packets to be discussed; and that Chairman Dexter had covered the information about the Cell Tower Conditional Use Application, which was submitted through the Zoning Officer's office.
- UDC Report: The UDC grant monies have been received by our Treasurer. The \$2,000.00 grant was used to pay printing costs for the Comprehensive Plan and the SALDO and Zoning Compilation publications. As yet, the UDC has not released a public statement on the Gas Drilling issues according to Dolores Keesler- the UDC Representative; but she did announce that Rep. Chris Carney is proposing a "sojourn on the Delaware River", to highlight the issues and the beauty of the River area. The Upper Delaware River folks are to release a statement; The Federal Gov't. is planning to perform an audit of the National Parks Service.
- Roads Report: Chuck Grady spoke about the road grading and pothole filling that is taking place at this time; and presented a study of the costs associated with paving one [1] mile of roadway, in our Township. [Please see attached report].
- Zoning Hearing Board Report: No open matters are before the Board at this time, reported Howard Schuchman- Chairman of the ZHB.

REPORTS: Continued.

- **Food Pantry Report:** The Pantry's air compressor is not functioning, and foods are being stored elsewhere until an evaluation is made about the costs of repairs.
- **The Damascus Recycling Program's Marty Kunstmann** reported that there was an excellent response to the program; He indicated that they experienced the 2nd best day ever.

OPEN FLOOR: Second segment. Three [3] Minutes per speaker.

1. **Bob Gross** reminded everyone to participate in the Veterans Memorial services to be held on Monday, May 25th, 2009 at 11 AM; and thanked all those who have contributed to raising the funds for the memorial.
2. **Faye Rossi** announced that there would be a Blood Drive on May 26th, 2009- from 1 PM, until 6 PM, at the Damascus School- in honor of Ray Dexter, who was active in this event for many years; She thanked the BOS for the Road Study on Black Topping roads, and researching the new equipment needed by the Township.
3. **Jason Roberts** spoke on the need for Water Mgt. and the Dust Control issues affecting the resident of the Township; and the road crews putting stone into the road beds.
4. **Galilee Road Bridges** repairs have been stripped from the PennDoT Bridge program.
5. **Atco Road** urgently needs Sluice Pipe and Driveway repairs;
6. **Mr. Williams** feels that the Dexter's Development receives priority over the needs of the rest of the Township roads
7. **Chairman Dexter** explained that the Dirt and Gravel Program has not yet published any grant applications.
8. **Marty Kunstmann** reported that the Susquehanna River Basin Commission is reviewing that river; Delaware River Basin Commission would not be reviewing the Delaware River as a resource for water.
9. **The Agility Program** will not be accepting Mowing and Brush cutting as program needs. They are more interested in Tree cutting; no final determination has been made yet, according to Chairman Dexter.

Hearing no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM, on a motion made by Jason Roberts and seconded by Chuck Grady.

These Minutes are respectfully submitted by: Karyle A. Woods, Secretary and Open Records Officer.

SIGNED by the Board of Supervisors:

Jeffrey R. Dexter, Chairman of the Board

Jason E. Roberts, Supervisor of the Board

Charles Grady, Vice Chairman of the Board

Karyle A. Woods, Secretary of the Board