



DAMASCUS TOWNSHIP

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MEETING MINUTES OF: OCTOBER 21ST, 2013

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Meeting called to order @ 7:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by: Mr. Chip Williams; et al.

**Attendance:** [ x ] Jeffrey R. Dexter, [ x ] Charles Grady, [ x ] Joseph Canfield, [ x ] Dolores Card, [ x ] Ed Lagarenne; [ x ] Ernie Matern or Marty Kunstmann - PC; [ / ] Gary Packer; [ / ] Bob Dexter or [ x ] Marty Kunstmann; [ / ] Dora Faye Henry; and [ x ] Karyle A. Woods, Secretary & Open Records Officer; [ / ] Solicitor Jeffrey S. Treat, Esq.

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**KEY TERMS:** [x] =Present. [/]=Absent. **BOS**= Board of Supervisors; **ZHB**= Zoning Hearing Board; **PC**= Damascus Planning Commission; **UDC**= Upper Delaware Council; **DRBC**= Delaware River Basin Commission; **WCPD**= Wayne County Planning Dept./GIS; **WCCD**= Wayne County Conservation District; **DEP**= Dept. of Environmental Protection; **DCED**= Dept. of Community and Economic Development; **NPS**= National Parks Service; **SEO**=Sewage Enforcement Officer; **BCO**= Building Codes Officer; **EMC**= Emergency Mgt. Coordinator; **PennDoT**= Pennsylvania Dept. of Transportation; **FEMA**= Federal Emergency Mgt. Agency; **PEMA**= Pennsylvania Emergency Mgt. Agency; **PUC**= Public Utilities Commission.

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**NOTE:** A Public Hearing was held at 7:00 PM, ahead of the BOS regular meeting. The topic under discussion, and public testimony was an amendment of the Rural Residential section of the Zoning Ordinance to increase the minimum Lot size from 1.38 Acres to 2.0 Acres. The Amendment was NOT approved; a change of the language [From: 2.0 Acres, To: Useable Acreage]was requested by the BOS and the Zoning Officer.

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**Open Floor:** AGENDA Items only. **Three minutes per speaker.**

➤ NONE

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- The Minutes of September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013 were approved unanimously, on a motion made by Chuck Grady, and seconded by Joe Canfield. The vote was called by Chairman Dexter, and the motion was approved unanimously.
- Joe Canfield made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Chuck Grady seconded the motion; a vote was called by Chairman Dexter and the motion was approved unanimously.
- Chuck Grady made a motion to approve paying the expenses of the previous month and the motion was seconded by Joe Canfield the motion. Chairman Dexter called for a vote and the motion was approved unanimously.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- NONE

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- ❖ **1.** Joe Canfield made a motion to distribute the Commonwealth- Foreign Fire Tax funds. [See Treasure's document, attached herein.] Chuck Grady seconded the motion; Chairman Dexter called for a vote, and the motion was approved unanimously.
- ❖ **2.** Joe Canfield made the motion to distribute the Damascus Township Fire Tax funds, at the same rates established for the Foreign Fire Tax funds. Chuck Grady seconded the motion; Chairman Dexter called for a vote, and the motion was approved unanimously.
- ❖ **3.** The two [2] VERIZON/Cellco Conditional Use Applications were discussed, and the Residents were made aware of the Public Hearing on this matter. The date of Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013, @ 7:00 PM was approved on a motion made by Joe Canfield, and seconded by Chuck Grady. Chairman Dexter called for a vote; the motion was approved unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS: Continued.**

- ❖ There was discussion between Residents, Bucky Brussels, Chip Williams, and the BOS regarding the proposed construction of 2 Cell Towers; Marty Kunstmann clarified the [Five] 5 Conditions attached to this proposal, after the Site Visits made by PC members, and - the Zoning Officer was also in attendance at both Sites. The National Park Service concerns about the esthetics were also addressed; one cannot see the Towers from the Delaware River side of the properties [Sites]; however the Towers may be visible from New York State Route 97.

**REPORTS:**

- Zoning Officer and Web Master: See attached report.
- Emergency Management: See attached report.
- Planning Commission: Marty Kunstmann discussed the 5 Conditions attached, as of the Site Visits to the proposed construction Sites.
- UDC Representative's Report:  
Jeffrey R. Dexter, Chairman of the UDC Board, discussed the preparedness for Extreme Weather events [Rain vs. Snow]; he reported that there were indications of changes in the observable Vegetation in our area, as well as changes in our Wildlife. The 2014 Technical Grants were awarded; and the UDC is still operating on Emergency Savings Funds, during The United States Federal Government shutdown.

Parks & Recreation: NONE

- Roads Department: [North End & South End]  
Repairs and replacement work continues to be done on all Roads; Stone House Road work has been completed, with Grant assistance from the Wayne County Redevelopment Authority. The work schedule will change to 8 hour days/ 5 days a week, when DST time ends in November. [due to lack of a second to a motion.]
- ZHB: No Matters are before the ZHB
- The Food Pantry: The Food Pantry assisted 53 Families, in September; and Ms. Henry thanked all who have made produce donations to the Pantry, as well as the regular food donations.
- The Recycling Program: An excellent day.

**OPEN FLOOR: 2<sup>nd</sup> Segment- Community Interests:**

- Residents questioned why there were pavement marking on some of the roads, located in Dexter's Development. Joe Canfield explained that the marking were made by Utility concerns, as the Roadway was being prepared for Drainage Pipe replacements. Next there was discussion about the Elizabeth Road resurfacing, and plans for Edward Road and Second Avenue, using Superpave. "In place recycling techniques" for paved roadways was discussed for future paving work.
- Residents discussed the need for a dedicated Roadways Improvement Fund, used only for Road and Bridge Improvements. BOS members said it was a good idea, if it could be added without undue burden to the elderly, and low wage earners.
- Grants from the Pennsylvania Gaming funds were discussed; the Chairman said that they were looking into the Monroe County Grants Program, as well. [Mr. James Martin was hired to write that Grant; no word has been received as yet regarding whether or not Damascus Township was awarded the Grant.
- A resident raised the question of increasing the Milleage rate to fund a dedicated Account. The BOS will be take this *under advisement*, as to the ways and means of such action[s].

**Hearing** no further comments, Joe Canfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Chuck Grady. The meeting was adjourned @ 8:00 PM.

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

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**SIGNED by the Board of Supervisors:**

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**Jeffrey R. Dexter, Chairman**

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**Chuck Grady, Vice Chairman**

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**Joseph Canfield, Supervisor**

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**Karyle A. Woods: BOS Secretary, &  
Open Records Officer**