



DAMASCUS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING MINUTES OF: February 15th, 2010

Meeting called to order @ 7:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Marty Kunstmann, et al.

Attendance: [x] Jeffrey R. Dexter, [x] Charles Grady, [x] Joseph Canfield, [/] Dolores Card, [x] Ed Lagarenne, [/] Jeffrey M. Finlay, [x] Marty Kunstmann, [x] Howard Schuchman, [x] Bob Dexter, [/] Dora Faye Henry, [/] Dolores Keesler, and [x] Karyle A. Woods, Secretary & Open Records Officer.

KEY: [x] =Present. [/]=Absent.

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

- Ms. M. Schwehofer presented the Wayne County Farm Bureau's opinion and support of the BOS position regarding the DEP On - Lot Sewage Permitting issues. She urged residents to keep a close eye on DEP proceedings and for everyone to contact their elected officials about this community matter. Ms. Schwehofer will be monitoring this important issue for the Wayne Co. Farm Bureau.

ACTION ITEMS:

To review and take action on: Minutes of Jan. 18th, 2010.

- The January 18th, 2010 Minutes were reviewed and Chuck Grady made a motion to approve the Minutes of Jan. 18th, 2010. The motion was seconded by Joe Canfield, and Chairman Dexter called for a vote. The motion was approved unanimously.
- The Review and Pay Expenses incurred during the previous month: Chuck Grady made a motion to pay the expenses from the previous month; Joe Canfield seconded the motion. Chairman Dexter called for a vote, and the motion was approved unanimously.
- The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. Joe Canfield made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Chuck Grady. Chairman Dexter called for a vote, and the motion was approved unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- ✓ The Lake Huntington/Cochecton Fire District, represented by Mr. Ed Kraack, Vice Chairman of the District explained the severe shortage of Volunteers at the Cochecton end of the District, as one of the reasons that the Fire Truck normally stationed there, was relocated to the Lake Huntington end to the District. He also indicated that his Lake Huntington Fire Fighters would have to be called out to a Fire scene. He discussed the need of New York Fire Fighters to take and pass a 39 week training course, plus several drills to qualify as volunteer Fire Fighters; and the difficulties in recruiting people to take the training and drilling schedules; along with this dilemma, is the fact of an aging group of Volunteers[the average age is 50]. Young people are just "not interested", or work away from this area, where they live. No reasonable answers seem to be forthcoming.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Continued.

- ✓ Chairman Dexter explained the overview of the DEP On-Lot Sewage issues affecting all of the Townships in Wayne County, and the Commonwealth- in the Northeastern parts of the State. He spoke about the meetings he attended in Berlin Township and in Honesdale – with the well attended Wayne County Elected Officials meeting at the Courthouse in Honesdale. DEP representatives were at these meetings; however they said one thing at the Berlin Twp. meeting and another at the Wayne County Elected Officials sponsored meeting. At neither meeting was written justification issued for the sudden requirements to complete Sewage Module #2 [a more expensive Module for On-Lot Sewage Permits, of about 70 pages], when the Waters in our areas are already considered to be Exceptional or High Quality waters, using the less expensive Module #1, of about 7 pages. Chairman Dexter indicated that the expense to a builder would add approximately \$1,000.00 for a residential home to be built; and an additional 60 days for DEP review; many Planning Consultants, Surveyors, Builders, and others were contacting their Associations, political representatives, and Lawyers regarding the DEP On-Lot Sewage issues within Act 537.

REPORTS:

- ❖ Emergency Management: No Report necessary.
- ❖ Zoning, Buildings, & Codes Enforcement Report. [See attached Report]
- ❖ Planning Commission Report: There are no projects to review. However, the Road way Maintenance Agreement has been approved, and the Amendments to the Ordinances is in final review by the Planning Commission members.
- ❖ Parks & Recreation Commission: No Report necessary.
- ❖ Dolores Keesler, UDC Representative: [See Attached Report]
- ❖ The Roads Departments [North & South] reported that all work is proceeding well, and is on schedule.
- ❖ Zoning Hearing Board reported that the Cooney matter was continued until March 2010.
- ❖ The Damascus Area Food Pantry has served 46 Families and 50 lbs Bags of Potatoes were distributed to needy Families in the community. The next Food Pantry day will be on Thursday, February 18th, 2010, at 1:00 PM, until 3:00 PM in the Community Center.
- ❖ The Recycling Center had a very good day; and two NY sites have closed, so that there was increased use of our program facilities; and the Garbage Truck, which charges \$5.00 per bag of Garbage.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to participate in the NPS Program for Trash Removal from the Delaware River. Chairman Dexter indicated that the 4Hers and Scouts had made a significant impact in collecting debris and old Pipes, parts of Trailers, and other eye sores from the Delaware River. Some participants have already set their sights on other items to remove from the River banks, next Summer.
2. The U. S. Census 2010 has requested, and is utilizing the Community Center for Training of 2010 Census workers; the Damascus Township has given them the use of a table, during Office hours, to help all residents complete the Census 2010 forms.

NEW BUSINESS: CONTINUED.

3. Ms. Schwehofer, representing the Alliance, indicated that Test Wells would be drilled within the next 3 months. The Alliance will be hiring a “Dirt Man” to inspect sites for Erosion and Sediment issues- proactively. This position has been agreed to and authorized by the Driller[s] Companies. Stone Energy has applied for 2 permits, through the DRBC, for Water withdrawals from the Delaware River. Ms. Schwehofer indicated that there would be close cooperation between the BOS and the Dirt Man [who would be a local person hired for the position.].
4. Jeff Dexter announced that the time had come to assess the Inventory and put together Bid Proposals for Township Materials and Products for the Roads Department. Chuck Grady made a motion to produce Proposals For Bids, to be Let in the BOS March 15th, 2010 meeting. Joe Canfield seconded the motion, and Chairman Dexter called for a vote. The motion was unanimously approved.

COMMUNITY INTEREST: Three [3] Minutes per speaker.

- Chuck Grady announced that he would be “jailed” for the Muscular Dystrophy Association; and he was accepting donations for this worthy cause.

Hearing no further comments, Joe Canfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Chuck Grady. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM. These Minutes are respectfully submitted by: Karyle A. Woods, Secretary and Open Records Officer.

SIGNED by the Board of Supervisors:

Jeffrey R. Dexter, Chairman

Joseph Canfield, Vice Chairman

Charles Grady, Supervisor

Karyle A. Woods, BOS Secretary & Open Records Officer