

RICHLAND TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

February 20, 2008

PUBLIC MEETING

The Richland Township Board of Supervisors meeting held at the municipal building on Wednesday, February 20, 2008 was called to order at 7:00 PM. by Chairman Herbert C. Dankmyer. There were ten people present in the audience. The Officials present were:

Herbert C. Dankmyer, Chairman	Dean E. Bastianini, Township Secretary
Raymond P. Kendrick, Vice Chairman	Tina L. Shaw, Recording Secretary
Brian M. O'Malley, Supervisor	Charles Means, Esquire
John A. Pasquinelli, Supervisor	

Mr. Kendrick made a motion to approve the minutes from the Supervisors' meeting of February 6, 2008. Mr. O'Malley seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING - CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH NORTH PITTSBURGH TELEPHONE COMPANY**

Mr. Dankmyer opened the public hearing. Mr. Means explained that the special counsel appointed by the North Hills Council of Governments had negotiated a cable franchise agreement with the North Pittsburgh Telephone Company (NPTCO). Mr. Means further explained that the purpose of the public hearing was to receive comments from the public on the proposed franchise agreement prior to its adoption by ordinance. Mr. Means said the proposed agreement, like the one currently in effect with Armstrong Cable, was a non-exclusive franchise.

Mr. Mark Swift, Video Product Manager, NPTCO presented his company's plan to introduce cable services within Richland Township. He began by explaining that NPTCO had been purchased by Consolidated Communications and was now part of the twelfth largest phone companies in the country. Consolidated Communications offers video services in its other markets and will do the same within the former NPTCO service area utilizing existing paired copper telephone lines. Within 36 months all current telephone customers will have access to digital video service with channels comparable to what is offered by current cable providers. Mr. Swift responded to questions from the Supervisors and elaborated on several points contained in the franchise agreement including the Public Education and Government channel (PEG), provisions for providing free cable or internet services to enumerated municipal and public facilities within the Township, the payment of a PEG grant in the amount of \$2.18 per household within the system (Richland's portion of the grant amounts to \$8,098.70), and the agreement to pay a franchise fee of 5% on all gross revenues.

Once all persons present had an opportunity to speak Mr. Dankmyer closed the public hearing.

Mr. Kendrick made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 429 authorizing the execution of the Cable Franchise Agreement with North Pittsburgh Telephone Company. Mr. O'Malley seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

Mr. O'Malley made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 5 of 2008 designating the North Hills Council of Governments to receive the Educational and Government Grant provided in the NPTCO franchise agreement. Mr. Kendrick seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

The Secretary read the Treasurer's report for the period ending January 31, 2008.

General Fund	[\$1,429,584]	N.H. Sobriety Checkpoint	\$	0
Street Light Tax Fund	[116]	Municipal Bldg Capital Fund		1
Municipal Impact Fee TSA #1	3,252	Hwy Capital Improvement Reserve		1,005
Municipal Impact Fee TSA #2	[2,445]	General Capital Reserve		[567]
Sewer Fund	[1,881]	Sewer Capital Reserve		375
2003 Bond Issue	706	Highway Aid Fund		[52,085]
2007 General Obligation Bond	[395,320]	Municipal Pension Fund		[3,259]

Mr. Kendrick made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Pasquinelli seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

Mr. Kendrick made a motion to approve the bills payable. Mr. Pasquinelli seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Mr. Bastianini presented the police department report on behalf of Chief Amann who was attending a conference in Quantico, Virginia. The police department has taken steps to prepare for closure of the Route 910 Turnpike bridge including:

- Informing PennDOT of the need to increase snow maintenance duties on the Red Belt.
- The Department will increase its presence on the Red Belt especially during the morning and afternoon commutes.
- Officers will be placed at key intersections from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. to help alleviate backups.
- Although no officers are scheduled at Meridian and Bakerstown Road intersection, if problems occur at this location additional traffic police will be posted.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Secretary presented the bid tabulation sheets for the proposals which were received to construct a traffic signal at the Route 910/Turner/McIntyre Road intersection. Three bids were received.

Bronder Technical Services was the low bidder at \$147,000.00. Trans Associates has written a letter recommending Bronder be awarded the construction contract.

Mr. Kendrick made a motion to award Bronder Technical Services the contract for installation of the traffic signal at the intersection of Route 910 and Turner/McIntyre Roads for the bid price of \$147,000.00. Mr. Pasquinelli seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

Mr. Kendrick made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 6 of 2008 authorizing the disposal of specific municipal records in accordance with the Municipal Records Manual approved by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Mr. O'Malley seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

Mr. Kendrick made a motion authorizing the Chairman to execute the following Community Day contracts subject to approval by the Township Solicitor. Mr. Pasquinelli seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

1.	Giggles the Clown	Clown	\$ 325
2.	Boff's Entertainment	Tents	\$ 100
3.	Annie's Showmobiles	Stage	\$1850
4.	Mountain Dreams	Portable Climbing Wall	\$ 1303
5.	Approved Toilet Rentals	Portable Toilets	\$ 590
6.	Entertainment Unlimited	Featured Act	\$2,250

Based upon a recommendation from Mr. Bastianini, Mr. Kendrick made a motion to terminate Amy Shane's one-year probationary period and appoint her as a full-time Township employee. Mr. O'Malley seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

Mr. Kendrick made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 7 of 2008 authorizing eminent domain proceedings for the acquisition of sanitary sewer right-of-ways and temporary construction easements on parcels DR-11 and DR-13 for the Dickey Road area sanitary sewer project. Mr. Pasquinelli seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

Mr. Kendrick made a motion authorizing the Secretary to advertise for bids to pave the driveway between the new municipal building and the public works garage. Mr. O'Malley seconded the motion and it was approved by all. Mr. Pasquinelli asked if the Secretary could look into the cost of installing a gate to deter private motorists from using the access road as a cut-through.

Mr. Kendrick made a motion to approve Change Order No. H-1, of the HVAC contract for \$1,700.00. The change order is needed to reconfigure duct work at the entrance of the new municipal building to maintain a standard 9 foot ceiling height in the lobby. Mr. O'Malley seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

Mr. Kendrick made a motion authorizing the acceptance of the proposal received from Rockwood Casualty Insurance Company to acquire, as a result of damage caused by one of their insured, the Township's administrative vehicle for \$8,737.37. Mr. O'Malley seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Means briefed the Board on the impact of changes to the State's Open Records Law which were enacted by the Legislature and signed by the Governor recently. The new law presumes that all records from state and local governments are public unless they meet one of the 30 exceptions. The new law which goes into effect January 1, 2009 will require the Township to modify its existing record policy.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**

Mr. Dankmyer stated that the closure of North Montour Road, as a result of the Route 910 bridge work, has caused concern among the residents. The Board reviewed the cost of the paving improvements which took place in 2005 and 2006 on the southern two-thirds of the road. At the conclusion of the discussion Mr. Kendrick made a motion authorizing the Secretary to advertise for bids to install: 1) under drains and catch basins, 2) a binder leveling course, 3) a double bituminous seal coat and 4) aggregate base course repairs on the northern third of North Montour Road. Mr. Pasquinelli seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

Mr. Kendrick made three comments.

Mr. Kendrick reported that the hillside adjacent to North Montour Road, and located within the Consolidated Gas right-of-way, is continuing to deteriorate, and is sliding in to the road right-of-way. Mr. Kendrick recommended the Gas Company be put on notice about this problem and the Township's intention to improve the street. Mr. Kendrick made a motion authorizing the Solicitor to write to Consolidated Gas about this situation. Mr. O'Malley seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

Mr. Kendrick complimented the road crew for the wonderful job they do maintaining the roads during the winter season, and contrasted their excellent performance to problems in other municipalities.

Mr. Kendrick requested an executive session following the public meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m. The Supervisors went into an executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina L. Shaw  
Recording Secretary

