

HATFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 27, 2006
7:30 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner President Scott Brown called the Hatfield Township Board of Commissioner's September 27, 2006 meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioner Brown asked Ms. Shafkowitz to call the roll. Present at the meeting were Commissioner President Scott Brown, Commissioner Jim O'Byrne, Commissioner Charles Sisian, and Commissioner John Thinnis. Also in attendance were Township Manager Stephanie Teoli Shafkowitz, Solicitor Joseph Kuhls, Engineer Joseph Nolan, Township Planner Ken Amey, Chief of Police Mark Toomey, Finance Director John Hall, and Assistant to the Manager Melissa Shafer.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner O'Byrne led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Sisian made a motion to approve the Agenda of the September 27, 2006 Hatfield Township Board of Commissioners meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thinnis and carried on a 4-0 vote.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **Board of Commissioners Workshop/Regular Meeting – August 23, 2006**

2. **Board of Commissioners Workshop Meeting – September 13, 2006**

Commissioner Sisian made a motion to approve the August 23, 2006 Board of Commissioners Workshop/Regular Meeting Minutes and the September 13, 2006 Board of Commissioners Workshop Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner O'Byrne and carried on a 4-0 vote.

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT – August 2006

Christina Murphy entered the August 2006 Treasurer's Report into the record.

Commissioner Vice President Gerald Andris arrived.

VII. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Christy Grega of 465 Sharon Road showed the Board a Power Point Presentation that highlighted flooding issues along Sharon Road and Anthony Drive. Ms. Grega showed pictures and video of the West Branch of the Neshaminy overflowing its banks onto her property and into the Sharon Road cul-de-sac. She said that she has noticed the creek bank eroding and feared that this might destabilize the sewer line that runs close and parallel to the creek. Ms. Grega asked for assistance from the township in alleviating the flooding and stream bank erosion. She brought up several potential solutions to the problem such as dredging the creek and installing gabion baskets.

Township Manager Stephanie Teoli Shafkowitz showed the FEMA flood plain maps and aerial photographs of the West Branch of the Neshaminy Creek.

Township Engineer Joe Nolan explained that water problems such as those experienced by this neighborhood are not a localized problem. Mr. Nolan commented on the feasibility of several of the ideas brought up by Ms. Grega in her presentation. Mr. Nolan said that any work in the actual creek would have to involve the permitting from the Department of Environmental Protection and/or assistance by the Army Core of Engineers. Mr. Nolan explained the basics of 100-year and 500-year storms and soil saturation.

Rick Newberry of 473 Sharon Road said that there's a high level of nutrients in the creek. Mr. Newberry said that he has noticed a lot of slime during low periods. He also reported that the debris in the creek has built up into small islands. He also said that 20 years ago, the Army Core of Engineers dredged the section of the creek by Sharon Road.

Yvonne Fleming of 2772 Lenhart Road brought a recent article regarding flooding in Bucks County where the county acquired FEMA grant funding to buy out affected houses.

Richard Layer of 2525 Anthony Drive reported that he has seen a build up of debris under the bridge at Route 309 near Melody Brook. He also asked if there was a solution for the sewer line being so close to eroding creek.

Mr. Nolan said that the sewer authority will be alerted that the stream bank erosion may soon expose the pipeline.

Stephen Dummeldinger of 2756 Lenhart Road reported that he and his family have been evacuated several times because of the rising flood waters.

Bill Evans of 2740 Lenhart Road reported that his garage was damaged by floodwaters.

Julie Evans of 2740 Lenhart Road reported that her daughter had an eye infection that was attributed to "contract dermatitis" that she feared was due to contamination in the flood waters.

Kenneth Pagliaro of 2788 Lenhart Road is concerned about the sewer backing up into the stream.

Kimberly Gulliver of 472 Sharon Road said that she bought her house 17 months ago and was not aware of the flooding problems. She asked if this information would have come up in a title search by the bank prior to her purchasing the house.

Tamara Shaffer of 2621 Anthony Drive reported that her yard floods before the stream overflows. Ms. Shaffer would like the township to install storm inlet discharges over her property.

Brian McMullen of 465 Sharon Road asked if the Board would communicate with residents what is going to be done.

Commissioner Brown said that the township will work in clearing the debris that is appropriate and will begin that process in the short term. Commissioner Brown said that he is committed to working with the Municipal Authority and stabilizing the sewer line. Also, Commissioner Brown said that the township could plant along the stream bank to try and prevent further erosion, but the residents can not continue mowing up to the stream bank.

Commissioner Sisian thanked the residents for coming to the Board meeting.

Tamara Shaffer reported that the streetlights in her neighborhood were in need of paint, and asked if the township could contact PECO on her behalf. She also asked if she would be permitted to hang planters on the light posts to aesthetically enhance them. Commissioner Brown asked Ms. Shaffer to contact Ms. Shafkowitz after the meeting.

VIII. SPECIAL ITEMS

1. North Penn Water Authority Report *John Strobel*

John Strobel reported that the Forest Park Water Treatment Plant Expansion has eight months left to go and is on schedule and on budget. Mr. Strobel also reported that the NPWA is implementing a new online payment feature. He added that the well on Orvilla Road is still shut down due to trace levels of TCE, and that the well by the Hatfield Community Pool has been shut down as well. The NPWA will be deeding the wellhead at the pool to the township.

North Penn Water Authority Director Anthony Belitto reported that the NPWA was recently awarded with grant from the DEP for a multi-year study on wellhead protection.

Commissioner Brown reported that he wanted to thank everyone for the hard work on the Hatfield Township Golf Outing. Mr. Brown said that the event was a

success and thanked all the sponsors and golfers for participating. Mr. Brown reported that the event raised over \$10,000 for the new pool.

**2. Doroth Blake Recognition
Resolution #06-27**

Commissioner O'Byrne made a motion to approve Resolution #06-27. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sisian and carried on a 5-0 vote.

Chief Mark Toomey thanked Doroth Blake for her more than 15 years of service with the Hatfield Township Police Department and wished her good luck in Florida.

IX. ACTION ITEMS

1. R&L Carriers Preliminary Land Development - Deferred

**2. Gross and Quade Final Land Development
Resolution #06-29**

Ken Amey reviewed the Gross and Quade Land Development.

Commissioner Sisian made a motion to approve Resolution #06-29. The motion was seconded by Commissioner O'Byrne and carried on a 5-0 vote.

**3. Interstate Fleets Preliminary Conditional Land Development
Resolution #06-30**

Ken Amey reviewed the Interstate Fleets Land Development.

Commissioner O'Byrne made a motion to approve Resolution #06-30. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thinnes and carried on a 5-0 vote.

**4. DUI Grant
Resolution #06-31**

Ms. Shafkowitz explained that the DUI Grant is for the North Penn Regional Checkpoint operation. Chief Toomey added that Officer Tom Starner has received accolades for how he leads this checkpoint operation team. Commissioner Andris thanked the Police Department for their efforts.

Commissioner Andris made a motion to approve Resolution #06-31. The motion was seconded by Commissioner O'Byrne and carried on a 5-0 vote.

5. Bills Payable

- **Paid Bills (September 2006) - \$28,255.65**

Commissioner Thinnes made a motion to approve the Paid Bills for September in the amount of \$28,255.65. The motion was seconded by Commissioner O'Byrne and carried on a 5-0 vote.

▪ **Bills To Be Paid (September 2006) - \$340,015.28**

Commissioner Thinnes made a motion to approve the Bills To Be Paid for September in the amount of \$340,015.28. The motion was seconded by Commissioner O'Byrne and carried on a 5-0 vote.

X. OTHER BUSINESS

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner O'Byrne made a motion to adjourn the September 27, 2006 Board of Commissioners meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sisian and carried on a 5-0 vote. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.