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ASTON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
December 19, 2012

Transcript of the ASTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS MEETING, taken before Lorraine Evans,
Court Reporter-Notary Public, at the Township
Building, 5021 Pennell Road, Aston, Pennsylvania
19014, on Wednesday, December 19, 2012,
commencing approximately at 7:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS

JAMES M. STIGALE, PRESIDENT
MICHAEL J. HIGGINS, VICE-PRESIDENT
V. MICHAEL FULGINITI
MARK T. OSBORN
GARY C. ROBINSON
CAROL GRAHAM

JOSEPH J. VISCUSO, ENGINEER
RICHARD D. LEHR, TOWNSHIP SECRETARY/MANAGER
ELIZABETH NAUGHTON-BECK, TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR

LORRAINE EVANS
COURT REPORTER-NOTARY PUBLIC
28 S. New Middletown Road
Media, Pennsylvania 19063
(610)203-7715 7evanslorraine@comcast.net

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PRESIDENT STIGALE: Good evening everyone.
I would like to call the Aston Township Board
of Commissioners meeting for Wednesday,
December 19, 2012 to order. Please rise for
the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Pledge of Allegiance)

PRESIDENT STIGALE: I am going to ask that
everyone please remain standing. I would like
to take a moment of silence, if everybody could
bow their heads for the sadness that happened
on Friday in Connecticut at the Sandy Hook
Elementary School for the tragic deaths of the
innocent children and adults that were there

14 trying to save their lives. Our thoughts and
15 prayers are with them at this time.

16 (Moment of Silence)

17 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Also, remain standing
18 for one more minute please.

19 COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: I also would like
20 to announce the passing of Beatrice McGinn.
21 She was the mother of Jim McGinn, our
22 Commissioner. She's a long time resident of
23 Aston on Knowlton Road. She passed at age 95.

24 (Moment of Silence)

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1 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Thank you. Before we
2 begin I would like the record to show that the
3 Aston Township Board of Commissioners had two
4 executive sessions since our last meeting, both
5 were to discuss personnel issues, one held on
6 Wednesday, December 12, 2012 after our
7 advertised executive committee meeting, and one
8 being held on Friday, December 14, 2012 at
9 3:00. Let the record reflect that please.
10 Personnel issues. I need a motion to review
11 the bills and payroll.

12 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: So move.

13 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Second.

14 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Motion and a second.

15 Any questions or comments? All in favor?
16 Opposed? The "ayes" have it.

17 (Whereupon, all Commissioners
18 present vote "aye.")

19 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Need a motion to
20 review and approve the treasurer's report.

21 COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Make a motion to
22 approve the treasurer's report.

23 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: Second.

24 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Motion and a second.

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1 Any questions or comments? All in favor?
Page 2

2 Opposed? The "ayes" have it.

3 (Whereupon, all Commissioners
4 present vote "aye.")

5 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Need a motion to
6 review and approve the minutes of the regular
7 meeting of November 21st, 2012.

8 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: So move.

9 COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: Second.

10 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Motion and a second.

11 Any questions or comments? All in favor?

12 Opposed? The "ayes" have it.

13 (Whereupon, all Commissioners
14 present vote "aye.")

15 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Moving onto Committee
16 Reports. I would like to call on Commissioner
17 Robinson, please.

18 COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Thank you,
19 Commissioner Stigale. The Aston Township
20 recycling report for the month of November.
21 Single stream recycling collected at curb side
22 for the month of November was 101.37 tons of
23 co-mingled recycling and newspapers. Seven
24 point four eight five tons of newspapers were

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1 dropped off at the container, 148 pounds of
2 cans were collected by the Aston Lions Club for
3 the month of November, point nine one tons of
4 scrap metal collected at \$167.03 a ton for
5 \$152.00, Lorco of Maryland, 425 gallons of
6 waste oil for \$340.00, Newman and Company
7 newspapers, \$74.85, ReCommunity Corporation,
8 \$723.44. Total revenue for November,
9 \$1,290.29.

10 The Christmas week trash schedule. The
11 Aston Township Offices and Highway and
12 Sanitation Departments will be closed on
13 Monday, December 24 and Tuesday, December 25
14 for the Christmas holiday.

15 All Monday and Tuesday trash will be
16 picked up on Wednesday, December 26. All
17 Wednesday and Thursday trash will be picked up
18 on Thursday, December 27. All Friday trash
19 will be picked up on Friday, December 28.

20 Beginning of the year schedule for Aston
21 Township Offices and Sanitation and Highway
22 Departments will be closed Tuesday, January 1,
23 2013. Trash pick up for Monday December 31,
24 2012 will be picked up on Monday. Wednesday,

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1 January 2, 2013 all Tuesdays and Wednesdays
2 trash will be picked up. Thursday's trash will
3 be picked up on Thursday, January 3, 2013.
4 Friday's trash will be picked up on Friday,
5 January 4, 2013.

6 At the end of October we had a very
7 successful Electronic Recycling Event at the
8 Community Center. E-Force Compliance collected
9 over four tons of electronics during the event.
10 Starting January 1st you will no longer be able
11 to place covered electronics in your regular
12 trash. The township appreciates your
13 cooperation with this as this has been passed
14 down by the state. While we work on easier
15 ways for you to dispose of these items we
16 encourage you to participate in these recycling
17 events. Again that's January first. That's
18 all I have.

19 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Thank you,
20 Commissioner Robi nson. Commi ssi oner Osborn,
21 please.

22 COMMI SSI ONER OSBORN: Thank you, Presi dent
23 Stigale. Financi al report. Month of December,
24 2012 from 1/1/12 to 12/14/12, cash on hand as

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1 of 1/1 was \$1,295,465.34. Recei pts,
2 \$10,196,282.98. Expendi tures, actual payments,
Page 4

3 \$9,120,511.93. Cash on hand, 12/14/12,
4 \$2,371,236.39. Breakdown, cash on hand, TD
5 Bank general fund, \$2,218,325.32. The TD
6 Liquid Fuel, \$152,911.07 and Capital Reserve,
7 form of a TD T Bill, \$1,051,716.54.

8 As I always say, I have the details if
9 you're interested in looking at it. That's all
10 I have, President Stigale.

11 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Thank you,
12 Commissioner Osborn. Commissioner Higgins,
13 please.

14 COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: Thank you. Permits
15 and licenses report, December 19, 2012.
16 Following is a report for the permits and
17 licenses issued for the month of November,
18 2012. Beginning balance, \$368,973.00, total
19 income from building permits and general
20 contractor licenses, \$10,055.00. Licenses and
21 permits, electrical permits, \$897.00, plumbing
22 and heating, \$2,563.00. Nothing from the Board
23 of Health.

24 Income from other licenses, that's

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1 rentals, inspections and permits, vendors,
2 \$1,500.00. Certificates of Occupancy, C.O's,
3 \$4,735.00, total revenue collected in November,
4 \$19,750.00, for a total for 2012 of
5 \$388,723.00. Total collected this time last
6 year, \$330,855.00, so we had over a \$50,000
7 increase in the permits and license.

8 Also something brief on the Sewer
9 Authority. Southwest Municipal Authority
10 continues to work with Middletown Sewer
11 Authority on the details of a Global Agreement
12 that will be a prerequisite of the sewage being
13 processed by DELCORA in 2014. That's all I
14 have. Thank you.

15 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Thank you,

4 Commissioner Fulginiti. I just wanted to add
5 something to comments of our Moment of Silence.
6 The Aston Township Board of Commissioners is
7 working diligently with Chief Dan Ruggieri and
8 Superintendent Dr. Steinhoff and will be
9 reaching out to every school, daycare center or
10 any area that has children, to review their
11 plans for such an attack that happened in
12 Connecticut. We would like to make sure
13 everyone is updated and have the most efficient
14 secured facilities available in Aston Township
15 and that's going to be done rather quickly.

16 We can assure you that the safety of our
17 children and residents are always on our minds
18 and with that tragic event that happened, we
19 are taking efforts quickly to get these things
20 resolved. Thank the cooperation of Chief
21 Ruggieri and Dr. Steinhoff and again we'll be
22 reaching out to the other schools and daycare
23 centers in our township.

24 Okay, at this time I would like to call to

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1 the podium Maryann Bullen from the Aston
2 Township Business Association. Maryann would
3 like to recognize and present checks from
4 Community Day to Aston Township Community
5 organizations and also to recognize Neumann
6 University for the loyal support and help on
7 Community Day.

8 THE WITNESS: Maryann Bullen, 3235 Darwin
9 Circle, Aston. At this time I would like to
10 recognize a couple of groups who were very
11 helpful on Community Day and we would like to
12 show our appreciation.

13 A couple nights ago at our ABA dinner I'd
14 like to mention that Sun Valley Vanguard
15 Volunteer, Karen Halpecker, recognized for the
16 help from the Vanguard and also Marnie

17 Zimmerman, the honor student at Northley Middle
18 School. And Karen May from Neumann University
19 for the nursing program, and tonight I would
20 like to also recognize -- I am going to call
21 Stephanie up. She's going to accept this for
22 Neumann University.

23 Sister Peggy Egan who works with me every
24 year on Community Day has been so helpful and

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1 these guys from Neumann, guys and girls, just
2 are really great and give us their service
3 every year. We would like to recognize you
4 with a \$250.00 check.

5 (Applause)

6 MS. BULLEN: Also, we'd like to contribute
7 to the Aston Township Historical Society and
8 the President is here to accept that. That's
9 for \$500.00.

10 (Applause)

11 A VOICE: I want to take a minute to thank
12 Maryann and the Aston Business Association for
13 this. The Historical Society was founded in
14 1993 by Paul, Ed, Jackie and Bruce and Paul has
15 worked 20 hard years to keep the society going.
16 We thank him. Twenty years and 2013 means we
17 are going to have some special things next
18 year.

19 In February we have Kirsten Dudley, a
20 graduate of Sun Valley and Lucy Wexler talking
21 about what they've done to help breast cancer
22 patients and survivors, history made by people
23 of Aston.

24 And in May we are going to have the

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1 Aston-Middletown Little League, which is
2 pictured back there in that blue picture behind
3 the tree, 25 year reunion for them to come and
4 talk about the history they made in 1988.

5 In the spring a few of us are going to
6 take some courses at Delaware County Community
7 College on grant writing. Because we would
8 like to do, in our big year, 20 year history,
9 some more of fundraising and planning to work
10 more on our wonderful Village Green School
11 House and make that a place of education by
12 adding some handicapped access and other things
13 to improve it so the people of Aston can use
14 it.

15 This is a great start, Maryann. We really
16 appreciate that. We are going to have a great
17 year for 2013.

18 (Applause)

19 MS. BULLEN: Last but not least, the
20 library, Stephen Sarazin, who does a great job
21 with the Aston Township Library and we'd like
22 to present him with a check for a thousand
23 dollars.

24 (Applause)

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1 MR. SARAZIN: Thank you.

2 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Thank you, Maryann,
3 and at this time I would like to open the floor
4 to the public for agenda items only for one
5 half hour. If you have anything please come to
6 the podium. Seeing none, we're going to move
7 onto Old Business. We are going to skip --
8 move the agenda around and go to Old Business
9 Line Item B first. That would be consider a
10 resolution setting the service fee for 2013.
11 Commissioner Osborn, please.

12 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: Thank you, President
13 Stigale. Delaware County, Pennsylvania,
14 Resolution No 2012. Whereas, the Township of
15 Aston, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, desires
16 to establish a fee for the trash and garbage
17 service for the year 2013 at \$230.00 per single

18 family unit; and

19 Therefore, be it resolved that this trash
20 and garbage fee is due and payable on or before
21 March 31, 2013 with the face amount due through
22 May 31, 2013; and

23 Be it further resolved that if this fee is
24 not paid by June 1, 2013, and until such fee is

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1 paid, a notice shall be sent to owners of such
2 properties informing them that collection will
3 cease until the fee, plus 10 percent penalty is
4 paid.

5 Resolved by the Aston Township Board of
6 Commissioners this 19th day of December 2012.

7 Aston Township Board of Commissioners by
8 James M. Stigale, President, Board of
9 Commissioners, attested to by Richard D. Lehr,
10 Township secretary manager, in the form of a
11 motion.

12 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Second.

13 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Motion and a second.

14 Any questions or comments? All in favor?

15 Opposed? The "ayes" have it.

16 (Whereupon, all Commissioners
17 present vote "aye.")

18 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Line Item A, consider
19 an ordinance setting forth the millage rate for
20 the 2013 operating budget. Commissioner
21 Osborn.

22 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: Thank you. An
23 Ordinance of the Township of Aston, Delaware
24 County, Pennsylvania fixing the real estate tax

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1 rate for 2013. Ordinance number, blank.

2 The Board of Commissioners of the Township
3 of Aston hereby enact and ordain as follows:

4 That the tax rate be and the same is
5 hereby levied on all real property within said

6 township subject to taxation for the fiscal
7 year 2013 as follows:

8 1. Tax rate for general purposes, the sum
9 of 3.39 mills on each dollar of assessed
10 valuation, or the sum of 3.39 cents on each
11 \$100 of assessed valuation.

12 2. For debt purposes, the sum of .47
13 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation or
14 the sum of .47 cents on each \$100 of assessed
15 valuation.

16 3. For fire protection purposes, the sum
17 of .10 mills of each dollar of assessed
18 valuation, or the sum of .10 cents on each \$100
19 of assessed valuation.

20 4. For library purposes, the sum of .04
21 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation, or
22 the sum of .04 cents on each \$100.

23 The same being summarized in tabular form
24 as follows: Tax rate for general purposes,

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1 3.39 mills, basically representative 3.39
2 percent, tax rate for debt purposes .47 cents,
3 tax rate for fire services, .10 mills, ten
4 cents, tax rate for library, .04 mills, four
5 cents and the taxes are exactly what it was for
6 last year, four mills.

7 There's four pages of itemization that
8 will not be necessary but the last statement
9 that needs to be read, the total general fund
10 and fiduciary expenditures, \$11,164,000.
11 Adopted this 21st -- 19th day of December,
12 2012. Township of Aston, Board of
13 Commissioners. James M. Stigale, President,
14 Board of Commissioners, attested to by Richard
15 D. Lehr, secretary township manager, in the
16 form of a motion.

17 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Second.

18 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Motion and a second.

19 Any questions or comments? Only comment is
20 great job.

21 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: I have a comment
22 now. Since all of that goes by, I took the
23 time to write a little something up that would
24 maybe give some variables. As I always say,

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1 this is always up here for you to see. I
2 drafted something instead of you hearing
3 numbers and mills, to go a little deeper into
4 the understanding of the budget.

5 The millage rate is the same as it has
6 been for the past two years, which means no tax
7 increase. The township is making great strides
8 in cutting cost and adapting to the unstable
9 market to stay sustainable. This does not mean
10 taxes will never go up. We are taking the
11 attitude that we will do everything possible to
12 ensure that if they do it will be out of
13 necessity only. The budgeted revenue for 2013
14 is \$11,164,000 slightly up from the 2012 budget
15 number of \$11,018,000. We are looking at a
16 1.32 percent in growth revenue anticipated this
17 year.

18 On the expense side we stay flat on the
19 Administrative expenses at \$913,000, the same
20 number budgeted for 2012. The Police
21 Department expenses see a sharp increase in the
22 police budget of 6.15 percent from \$5,163,000
23 to \$5,502,000; almost half of that increase
24 coming from the Pension Obligation. Most of

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1 the rest of the increase comes from contractual
2 pay raises and the rising cost of healthcare.
3 These are actual contractual obligations.

4 In the Sanitation Department we have made
5 great strides to try and control costs. The
6 weekly recycling program is going very well.

7 Unfortunately, most of those savings and the
8 increase of 8.9 percent that we've realized has
9 been eaten up by the increase in the dumping
10 fee to Delaware County Solid Waste Authority.
11 The estimated cost for the Sanitation
12 Department will be \$1,070,000 up from \$982,000
13 last year.

14 We have been able to save some money in
15 the Highway Department decreasing the budget
16 from \$1,544,000 to \$1,467,000. In this
17 decrease we will still be able to complete a
18 slightly larger roads program and add a much
19 needed chipper and truck through a lease
20 purchase program. We're using the one pick up
21 truck we have here since 1991. I think it's
22 just about on its last leg.

23 The library donation for this year will
24 be \$37,000, an increase in \$2,000 over last

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1 year. Stephen consistently keeps a great
2 product over there and we want to make sure
3 that continues.

4 The total debt service for 2013 is
5 \$667,550 down slightly from the year, and
6 finally our total expenditures are anticipated
7 to be \$11,164,000 right in line with our
8 budgeted revenue. The millage for 2013 will
9 stay at 4.00 mills for the second year in a row
10 and the trash fee will increase by \$10.00.
11 That's why I read the other resolution first,
12 \$230. Last year it was \$220.00. We just have
13 to pass along the rate from the Delaware County
14 Waste. So that's the only raise involved. So
15 there will be a \$10 raise for that.

16 The trash fee, as I have previously
17 indicated, is a direct result of fee increase
18 to Aston and all other Delaware County
19 municipalities by Delaware County Solid Waste.

20 I would like to express my thanks to
21 Dick, Maureen and George for the hard work that
22 went into this zero percent tax increase
23 budget. Also, I would like to thank
24 Commissioners Higgins and Fulginiti for their

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1 support and work on the Finance Committee.
2 Thank you.

3 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Any other questions or
4 comments? All in favor? Opposed? The "ayes"
5 have it.

6 (Whereupon, all Commissioners
7 present vote "aye.")

8 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Line Item C., consider
9 the conditional use application of Grace Real
10 Estate Investment Partners, to construct 235
11 age restricted 55 and over apartments on its
12 10.4 acre parcel of land located at 104-106 Old
13 Pennell Road, Aston. Commissioner Higgins.

14 COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: Thank you. I make
15 a motion to approve the conditional use
16 application of Grace Real Estate Investment
17 Partners, to construct 235 age restricted 55
18 and over apartments on its 10.4 acre parcel of
19 land located at 104-106 Old Pennell Road,
20 Aston, subject to the receipt, review and
21 approval by the Board of Commissioners of the
22 following items:

23 Lease language to be used for all
24 apartments, setting forth the contractual

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1 requirements for the age restricted status of
2 all residents.

3 Floor plans for both the one and two
4 bedroom units as well as a detailed floor plan
5 of entire complex.

6 Updated traffic study showing traffic
7 counts based on apartment use versus previous

8 application.

9 Final breakdown of the number of one and
10 two bedroom units to be constructed and
11 compliance with the Aston Township parking
12 requirements pursuant to Chapter 1284 of the
13 Aston Township Zoning Code. All that in the
14 form of a motion.

15 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Second.

16 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Motion and a second.

17 Any questions or comments? All in favor?

18 Opposed? The "ayes" have it.

19 (Whereupon, all Commissioners
20 present vote "aye.")

21 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Line Item D, announce
22 notice of intent to adopt an ordinance
23 regulating the inspection of private sanitary
24 sewer lateral connections. Commissioner

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1 Fulginiti.

2 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Thank you. I
3 would like to announce that it is the intent of
4 the Aston Township Board of Commissioners to
5 adopt an ordinance regulating the inspection of
6 private sanitary sewer lateral connections.
7 Thank you.

8 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Moving onto New
9 Business. Line Item A, consider approving the
10 holiday schedule for all non-uniform employees
11 for the year 2013. Commissioner Fulginiti.

12 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Thank you,
13 Commissioner Stigale. I make a motion to
14 approve the attached holiday schedule for all
15 non-uniform employees for the year 2013, in the
16 form of a motion.

17 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: Second.

18 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Motion and a second.

19 Any questions or comments? All in favor?

20 Opposed? The "ayes" have it.

21 12AstonBdofComm1912
(Whereupon, all Commissioners
22 present vote "aye.")
23 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Line Item B, consider
24 approving a building permit refund to Cherie
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1 Sutherland of 652 Mount Road. Commissioner
2 Higgins.
3 COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: I make a motion to
4 approve a building permit fee refund to Cherie
5 Sutherland of 652 Mount Road in the amount of
6 \$50.00 for an overpayment in the form of a
7 motion.
8 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Second.
9 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Motion and a second.
10 Any questions or comments? All in favor?
11 Opposed? The "ayes" have it.

12 (Whereupon, all Commissioners
13 present vote "aye.")
14 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Line Item C, consider
15 approving a Certificate of Occupancy refund to
16 Prudential Fox and Roach for the property
17 located at 57 Jennifer Lane. Commissioner
18 Higgins.
19 COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: I make a motion to
20 approve a Certificate of Occupancy fee refund
21 in the amount of \$100.00 to Prudential Fox and
22 Roach for the property located at 57 Jennifer
23 Lane, in the form of a motion.
24 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Second.

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1 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Motion and a second.
2 Any questions or comments? All in favor?
3 Opposed? The "ayes" have it.
4 (Whereupon, all Commissioners
5 present vote "aye.")
6 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Line Item D, consider
7 approving the contract for composition of the
8 2013 Aston Township Newsletter. Commissioner
Page 16

9 Graham.
10 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: I make a motion to
11 approve the attached contract with Stephanie
12 Horst, independent contractor, for the
13 composition of the 2013 Aston Township Times
14 Newsletter, in the form of a motion.

15 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: Second.

16 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Motion and a second.
17 Any questions or comments? All in favor?
18 Opposed? The "ayes" have it.

19 (Whereupon, all Commissioners
20 present vote "aye.")

21 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Line Item E, consider
22 approving the 2013 rate schedule for Yerkes
23 Associates. Commissioner Higgins.

24 COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: I make a motion to
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1 approve the attached 2013 rate schedule for
2 Yerkes Associates, in the form of a motion.

3 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Second.

4 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Any questions or
5 comments? All in favor? Opposed? The "ayes"
6 have it.

7 (Whereupon, all Commissioners
8 present vote "aye.")

9 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Line Item F, announce
10 the date and time of the special meeting of the
11 Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Robinson.

12 COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: I would like to
13 announce that the Aston Township Board of
14 Commissioners will be having their end of the
15 year special meeting on Friday, December 28,
16 2012 at 3:00 p.m. here at the Municipal
17 Building.

18 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Line Item G, announce
19 notice of intent to amend Chapter 1451.02 of
20 the Aston Township codified ordinances to
21 appoint a designee of the building inspector to

22 issue trailer permits. Commissioner Fulginiti.

23 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Thank you,

24 Commissioner Stigale. I would like to announce

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1 that this is the intent of the Aston Township
2 Board of Commissioners to amend Chapter 1451.02
3 of the Aston Township codified ordinances to
4 appoint a designee of the building inspector to
5 issue trailer permits.

6 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Thank you. Line Item
7 H, announce notice of intent to amend Chapter
8 816 of the Aston Township Codified ordinances
9 to appoint a designee of the Code Enforcement
10 Office to issue licenses for amusement devices.
11 Commissioner Fulginiti.

12 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Thank you. I
13 would like to announce this is the intent of
14 the Aston Township Board of Commissioners to
15 amend Chapter 816 of the Aston Township
16 Codified Ordinances to appoint a designee of
17 the Code Enforcement Office to issue licenses
18 for amusement devices.

19 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Thank you. Moving on,
20 escrow releases. Commissioner Higgins.

21 COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: Thank you. They're
22 not real long this month. Aston Township,
23 Delaware County, Pennsylvania, Resolution 2012.

24 Whereas, Ordinance 240 and Ordinance 360

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1 provide for escrow funds for completion of
2 improvements, and

3 Whereas, the Township engineer and the New
4 Construction Committee has approved the request
5 for escrow funds released for J&V Developers,
6 Trotter's Run.

7 Now, therefore, be it resolved that Aston
8 Township execute such action as required by the
9 township secretary and the President of the

10 Board of Commissioners to hold \$10,368.75 as an
11 18 month maintenance bond and release the
12 remaining balance in the Tri Party escrow
13 account to J&V Developers.

14 Duly adopted this 19th day of December,
15 2012, Township of Aston, by James M. Stigale,
16 President, Board of Commissioners, and attested
17 to by Richard D. Lehr, township secretary
18 manager in the form of a motion.

19 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Second.

20 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Motion and a second.

21 Any questions or comments? All in favor?

22 Opposed? The "ayes" have it.

23 (Whereupon, all Commissioners
24 present vote "aye.")

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1 COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: The next one is for
2 a Certificate of Occupancy for 109 Crozerville
3 Road, Aston Township File 1212-11, and that is
4 to release the escrow funds in the sum of
5 \$1,500 to Mary Gaffney, in the form of a
6 motion.

7 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Second.

8 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Motion and a second.

9 Any questions or comments? All in favor?

10 Opposed? The "ayes" have it.

11 (Whereupon, all Commissioners
12 present vote "aye.")

13 COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: Lastly the
14 following escrows are for engineering fees to
15 be paid to Aston Township for the month of
16 November. McCutcheon, 15 Kent Road, \$852.50,
17 Neumann Chapel, \$686.50 and Gary Whelan,
18 Brookside Labs, Dutton's Mill Road, \$495.00 all
19 in the form of a motion.

20 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Second.

21 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Motion and a second.

22 Any questions or comments? All in favor?

23 Opposed? The "ayes" have it.

24 (Whereupon, all Commissioners
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1 present vote "aye.")

2 COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: That's it.

3 PRESIDENT STIGALE: At this time I would
4 like to open the floor to the public for one
5 half hour. If anyone has anything please come
6 to the podium.

7 A VOICE: Bob Armstrong, 22 Montgomery
8 Lane, in Aston. Couple questions, great job on
9 the taxes, by the way. We township people
10 certainly do appreciate it, even though I did
11 have a tax increase, and I'll explain that.
12 Question, what percent of the health insurance
13 do the police officers pay? I know it's a
14 contractual thing, just out of curiosity, owing
15 to the climate that's going on.

16 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: They are paying a
17 percentage. I would have to look at the
18 contract. I don't have it on the top of my
19 mind. Give me your phone number and I will
20 definitely get you the answer.

21 MR. ARMSTRONG: Okay. On the property 104
22 to 106 Old Pennell Road, build 235 apartments,
23 I thought we had a freeze on sewers.

24 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: It was lifted.

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1 PRESIDENT STIGALE: There's progress in
2 that. We are still working on that. It's
3 moving in the right direction, that's all I can
4 say at this time.

5 MR. ARMSTRONG: Do we have a freeze or
6 not?

7 PRESIDENT STIGALE: At this time an
8 agreement is being worked out between the
9 authorities and DEP and everything is moving in
10 a positive direction. With that being said,

11 hopefully that is resolved by the end of the
12 year, and the freeze will be lifted.

13 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: They wouldn't be
14 able to build if the freeze wasn't lifted.
15 This wouldn't be able to go in if the freeze
16 wasn't lifted.

17 MR. ARMSTRONG: Are we putting the horse
18 before the cart or cart before the horse?

19 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: He wants to move
20 forward.

21 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Commissioners Higgins
22 wants to comment.

23 COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: This is the
24 third -- second or third variation of the

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1 original project. It goes back probably five
2 or six years. The last one was for
3 condominiums. Correct me if I am wrong, but I
4 think we had went as far as the sewer plan and
5 so forth. This is not -- this is not something
6 that's totally brand new.

7 And there's issues on funding. I don't
8 have to tell you about the economy. He's
9 coming back for his latest venture on this. He
10 wouldn't be proceeding with this if there was
11 nothing that he couldn't move forward on the
12 thing.

13 As Commissioner Stigale said, the Sewer
14 Authority is working with the DEP and included
15 in that is the sewer lateral coordinates. A
16 lot of infiltration to the sewer lines comes
17 through laterals and they have asked that we
18 move this ordinance along. Part of that is the
19 removal of restrictions, so things are looking
20 up.

21 MR. ARMSTRONG: That's part and parcel to?

22 COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: Yes. With the
23 Sewer Authority and what they're doing with

24 Middletown and with the conveyance to DELCORA,

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1 this is a big project. DEP has been involved
2 in this all along. It's not just Aston that's
3 involved with land development. It's also
4 what's going on in Middletown, including that
5 whole Franklin Mint project, so this is all
6 included in that, and the DEP wants to work
7 with the town so they're not holding up
8 progress.

9 MR. ARMSTRONG: The lateral connections,
10 the inspection, what is this? When you sell a
11 house, put it up for sale, you got to have it
12 done?

13 COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: It will be done at
14 the time of sale and it includes -- there's
15 still details being worked out with the Sewer
16 Authority, but it will mean inspecting the
17 lateral to make sure there's no cracked pipes,
18 damaged roots in your pipe, so forth.

19 With that, when there are damaged
20 laterals, ground water gets into the pipes and
21 that water, clean water, has to be processed
22 along with what leaves your house, and the more
23 that has to be processed the more expensive the
24 fees are to do it. So that's another thing

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1 that's being pressed by the Pennsylvania DEP to
2 get the laterals in line and correct damaged
3 laterals.

4 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: If I could say
5 something, what we need to understand moving
6 forward, we'll be paying for every gallon of
7 water, waste water, whatever it is, going to
8 our Sewer Authority. So the more we can
9 eliminate going into that pipe that's not
10 necessary to go into that pipe is going to be
11 savings to us.

12 We don't want to treat water that doesn't
13 have to be treated. Right now we are treating
14 a lot of the water, because during rain events,
15 we have the overflow. Well, people don't go to
16 the bathroom more during the rain. We know
17 it's coming from somewhere. We get fined and
18 everything else, so this is an important step
19 in helping mitigate where some of this water is
20 coming from, such as the houses get inspected
21 for sump pumps that are dumping into the sewer
22 drains, or rain gutters. There's a lot of
23 issues that we have. We need to start cleaning
24 them up. No one here in Aston wants to pay

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1 more for the sewer bill because the meter at
2 the pump is taking gallons of water that
3 doesn't need to be treated. That's why these
4 things are important to us not only now but
5 also in the future.

6 MR. ARMSTRONG: Who is going to pay for
7 these inspections?

8 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: They'll be
9 covered based on how the ordinance -- by the
10 seller of the property. That will have to be
11 just like termite inspections. Just like any
12 other inspection.

13 MR. ARMSTRONG: This is a new inspection.

14 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Yes.

15 MR. ARMSTRONG: That answers that
16 question. Item E, who is Yerkes?

17 COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Outside consultant
18 that do the commercial inspections that our
19 Code Enforcement Officers are not qualified to
20 do.

21 MR. ARMSTRONG: They are engineers?

22 COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Yes.

23 MR. ARMSTRONG: That's all I have. Thank
24 you.

1 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: I thought you
2 were going to wish us a Merry Christmas.

3 MR. ARMSTRONG: Oh, again, you guys did a
4 great job with the taxes. Everyone appreciates
5 it, however, my taxes went up \$200.00. I had
6 to pay somebody to haul my leaves away. I had
7 100 bags. I couldn't do that. My neighbors on
8 either side of me had 100 bags each. I think
9 there's a lot of people in the township that
10 put their head between their legs and said
11 that's the way it is. I think we should bring
12 back the leaf pick up. I think a lot of
13 residents are leaving the township because they
14 are older, they physically can't do it.

15 I have noticed a large large number of
16 houses up for sale. I have walked the
17 community. I have talked to these people. A
18 lot of people say I just can't take care of the
19 property. To get the leaves out in the front
20 of the house was not a big deal with a blower,
21 but to bag them and get them toted away is too
22 much, and a lot of people are going out to
23 Maris Grove and all these other places and I
24 guess Joe Grace's place before long.

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1 Also, I would like a speed bump on
2 Montgomery Lane come spring. Thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: Get me your phone
4 number. I will get you the answer on the
5 police.

6 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Anyone else?

7 A VOICE: Stephen Sarazin, 730 14th
8 Avenue, Prospect Park. I'm the Director of the
9 Aston Public Library and I'm here to give my
10 brief monthly report.

11 We're holding our annual bookmark contest
12 for kids in grades K through eight. An entry
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13 form can be picked up at the library. The
14 deadline is February 11.

15 Infant story time is returning in January.
16 The popular lap sit story time for babies up to
17 two years old will be on Mondays at 10:00 a.m.
18 You can register at our website, [www dot Aston
19 Library dot org](http://www.dotaastonlibrary.org).

20 Free Chair Yoga classes will be returning
21 to the library in January with classes on
22 Wednesday nights and Saturday mornings. Go to
23 [www dot Aston Library dot org](http://www.dotaastonlibrary.org) for more details.
24 Free Chair Yoga is sponsored by the Friends of

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1 the Aston Public Library.

2 For a \$15 donation to the library you can
3 adopt a new book from our collection in the
4 name of Friends, family members or in your own
5 name. Visit the library service desk for more
6 information.

7 The library will host free Federal and
8 State Income Tax Preparation Services again
9 from Pathways PA on Wednesday, February the 13.
10 Families or single persons with income below
11 \$50,000 a year are eligible for free assistance
12 in e-filing. Fast refunds are available
13 through direct deposit to bank or pre-paid
14 debit card accounts. Appointments are
15 required. Call 610-494-5877 to make an
16 appointment.

17 There is still time to support the library
18 and have your tax deductible contribution count
19 towards those 2012 taxes. Pick up a donation
20 form at the library service desk. We're still
21 setting records for book check out. This was
22 our busiest November ever for circulation
23 again.

24 I would like to thank the Commissioners

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1 for the increase in funding this year, and the
2 increase last year. And I would like to thank
3 the Aston Business Association for their
4 generous donation. It's very appreciated. Any
5 questions for me?

6 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Thank you. Anyone
7 else?

8 MR. PINKOWICZ: Barry Pinkowicz, 3155
9 Richard Road. Great job on the budget. I do
10 appreciate it. I have one question. On one of
11 the lines you have the assistant township
12 manager making \$26,000.00 last year and this
13 year you're up to \$64,480. Can you --

14 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: That is a little
15 strange.

16 MR. PINKOWICZ: Yeah, that's 142 percent
17 right?

18 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: He doesn't deserve
19 it. I am only kidding. That money -- we are
20 talking about Mr. Needles. He started part
21 time as an assistant for Mr. Lehr when he was
22 out for awhile, and then he was brought on
23 full-time so that's not really reflective of a
24 full year's full-time salary. Does that answer

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1 your question?

2 MR. PINKOWICZ: I was just -- it seemed
3 like a lot of money.

4 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: He was working 15 or
5 20 hours a week.

6 MR. PINKOWICZ: The other thing I wanted
7 to bring up, it is the leaf raking. There has
8 been a lot of elderly people calling the Scouts
9 and the township building and just a lot of
10 people calling, and I know our Scouts can't
11 handle all of the calls we are getting. You
12 feel bad for the elderly people that are
13 struggling to rake the leaves or taking it to

14 the curb, and wondering if they're going to get
15 cited because the leaves -- they can't pick up
16 the leaves to put them in the bags. I am
17 bringing that to your attention. It's a shame
18 for them.

19 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Anyone else? Seeing
20 none, other business. Commissioner Fulginiti.

21 COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Thank you.
22 Certainly my condolences and my family
23 condolences go out to Jim McGinn and his family
24 at this most difficult time. And we'll begin

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1 to pray that everything goes well. Also I
2 would like to wish everybody here a very Merry
3 Christmas and a happy New Year. Thank you.

4 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Commissioner Robinson,
5 please.

6 COMMISSIONER ROBINSON: Thank you. Again,
7 my condolences go out to Commissioner McGinn
8 and his family. And also I want to thank Mr.
9 Lehr, Maureen and George for the extended hours
10 they put in to balancing this budget this year.
11 They do an excellent job every year and again
12 this year. And I want to wish everyone a very
13 Merry Christmas and healthy and prosperous New
14 Year to everybody and their families.

15 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Thank you.
16 Commissioner Osborn.

17 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: Couple items. I
18 would like to make a motion that Mr. Needles'
19 current title as reflected in the budget as
20 Administrative Assistant be changed to
21 Assistant Township Secretary Manager to more
22 accurately reflect his duties with the township
23 both to inside and outside constituency, in the
24 form of a motion.

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COMMISSIONER FULGINITI: Second.

PRESIDENT STIGALE: Motion and a second.

Any questions or comments? All in favor?

Opposed? The "ayes" have it.

(Whereupon, all Commissioners present vote "aye.")

COMMISSIONER OSBORN: Also I would like to pass my condolences from my family to the McGinn family. I went to grade school with all of them, spent a lot of time in their house and knew Jimmy's mother well. And so she's in a better place, I am sure, right now. We all pray for her and her family. And to everybody a very Merry Christmas and happy New Year. Enjoy yourselves. Thank you.

PRESIDENT STIGALE: Thank you, Commissioner Osborn. Commissioner Higgins.

COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: Thank you. Also want to express my condolences to the McGinn family, and also for the budget, it was a tedious process, especially for Dick Lehr, Maureen Schmidt and George Needles. Thank them for all their hard work and listening to my and reading my six sheets of comments and

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questions, maybe eight or 10, somewhere in there. I am ad libbing. There was a lot of comments, over 65 comments and questions I had. Drove them crazy for about the fourth or fifth year in a row. Also want to thank the Committee for their diligence with the budget.

Also, if you look around Aston, Commissioner Stigale keeps talking about moving Aston forward, and driving down Pennell Road or up Pennell Road and down Concord Road, around the bend by St. Joseph's, there's been a lot of work done on sidewalks on the commercial properties and there's more to come and work done on Pennell Road, and I think it's

15 important that this be recognized because it
16 improves the appearance of the township. If
17 you let sidewalks crumble and buildings look
18 bad and so forth, it's the beginning of blight.
19 We don't want that in this town.

20 I forgot to mention the Venuti building,
21 you'll see improvements up there. Improved the
22 store fronts and improved properties bring
23 businesses in and people will go there if it
24 looks attractive. So we want to see that

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1 continue and it's a good thing for Aston to
2 move us forward.

3 Also there's two new restaurants opening
4 soon. The Aston Diner. They have the sign up
5 where Dexter's used to be. They did a lot of
6 work. If you drive up by there on Concord Road
7 you'll see they are in there working. They
8 have their sod down and mulch, painting inside,
9 I think sometime after the first of the year
10 that will be open.

11 And later on the Slow Down Grill Pub by
12 the Post Office will be opening too. These are
13 good things for Aston for businesses. When
14 they open, I hope you'll patronize them. Good
15 for Aston, good for you. Merry Christmas to
16 everyone. Thank you.

17 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Thank you,
18 Commissioner Higgins. Commissioner Graham.

19 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Thank you,
20 Commissioner Stigale. I would like to thank
21 everybody who helped plan and assisted, donated
22 and volunteered their time to make our second
23 annual Christmas Tree Winter Fun Festival the
24 great success it was. Special thank you to Mr.

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1 John Whitting who was certainly the special

2 person of the evening, and Maureen Dillon,
3 Chairperson for this event, and our Parks and
4 Rec Committee who worked diligently for several
5 months in preparation for this event. Everyone
6 had a good time. Turned out nice.

7 I would like to also thank both our fire
8 companies for transporting Santa throughout the
9 township over the past couple of weekends.
10 They do a great job. Kids really like it. And
11 my prayers to Jimmy and all his family and
12 Merry Christmas to everybody. Thank you.

13 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Thank you,
14 Commissioner Graham. Mr. Viscuso.

15 MR. VISCUSO: Same, condolences for Jim
16 and the family and as Commissioner Osborn said,
17 she was a great lady. She lived in the
18 township for over 60 years, very very well
19 known, and just always fun to talk to, so my
20 prayers also with them and also Merry Christmas
21 to the Board and to the residents. Thank you.

22 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Mrs. Naughton-Beck.

23 MS. NAUGHTON-BECK: I'd just like to echo,
24 my thoughts and prayers for the McGinn family

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1 and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

2 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Mr. Lehr.

3 MR. LEHR: Just wish everyone a Merry
4 Christmas and a very happy and healthy New
5 Year.

6 PRESIDENT STIGALE: Thank you. Once
7 again, share the sentiments of my fellow
8 Commissioners. We are praying for the McGinn
9 family through this hard time, especially
10 around the holidays. Thoughts and prayers are
11 with them.

12 I personally wanted to thank the
13 Recreation Committee and all the volunteers for
14 their great job on that tree lighting that we
15 had at the Community Center. If you have not

16 seen it, it was spectacular and I applaud their
17 efforts. Great job.

18 Also, I like to thank the Aston Business
19 Association for their efforts in helping the
20 families at Thanksgiving and especially now at
21 Christmas. They did a great job helping people
22 that are down on their luck right now. There's
23 a lot of businesses and individuals and I can
24 sit here and say their names, but then they'll

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1 yell at me. There's a lot of people quietly
2 helped in that cause and I personally just want
3 to thank you. You know who you are for that
4 support.

5 I also would like to thank my fellow
6 Commissioners and all the employees of Aston
7 Township for hard work this year in keeping
8 Aston a great township to live in and I look
9 forward to working with them and my fellow
10 Commissioners to achieve our goals we set for
11 2013. They are doing well and we have a lot of
12 great ideas moving forward and hope to achieve.
13 I wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a happy
14 safe New Year. Motion to adjourn.

15 COMMISSIONER HIGGINS: So move.

16 COMMISSIONER OSBORN: Second.

17 (Whereupon, the hearing is
18 concluded at 8:00 p.m.

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1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATION

2 I HEREBY CERTIFY that I was present upon the

3 hearing of the above-entitled matter and there
4 reported stenographically the proceedings had and the
5 testimony produced; and I further certify that the
6 foregoing is a true and correct transcript of my said
7 stenographic notes.

8

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Lorraine Evans
Reporter-Notary Public
My Commission Expires
October 25, 2014

12 Respectfully submitted:

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Richard D. Lehr,
Township Secretary/Manager

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LORRAINE EVANS

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