

1. Call to Order: The Regular Meeting II of the Swatara Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Troxell at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, December 9, 2015, at the Township Administration Building, 599 Eisenhower Blvd., Swatara, PA 17111.
2. Pledge of Allegiance: President Troxell led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Invocation: Reverend Mim Harvey gave the invocation.
4. Roll Call: Commissioners Varner, Connolly, Spandler, Chiavetta, Troxell, Milakovic, Murphy, and Moyer were present. Commissioner Boudier was absent. Also present: Assistant Administrator Zimmerman, Solicitor Wion, Secretary Rubinic, Zoning Director Hardman, Township Engineer Representative Kenworthy, Fire Marshal Ibberson, Tax Collector Donato, and Police Chief and Sgt.-at-Arms Umberger.
5. Motion to Approve Agenda: Commissioner Spandler moved to approve tonight's agenda. Commissioner Chiavetta seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
6. Presentation of Donations - Chief Patrick O'Rourke, Derry Township:
 - B. Cops for K.O.P.s --Chief Umberger presented Chief O'Rourke with a \$2,000 check from the proceeds of the 3rd Annual 5K Hero Run. Cops for K.O.P.s (Keep Our Pipers Silent) benefits the families of officers killed in the line of duty.
7. Presentation of Awards:
 - A. Life Saving Awards-- Sgt. David Milsteen & Cpl. Kevin Gallick:

These two officers were honored for their heroic efforts in finding and subduing an armed suicidal male resident, who was then taken in for medical care. For their brave actions, Sgt. Milsteen and Cpl. Gallick received Departmental Life Saving Awards.
 - B. Award of Merit: Officer Chris Smith & Officer Mick Snyder:

Chief Umberger presented Officers Chris Smith and Officer Mick Snyder with Departmental Awards of Merit for their investigative efforts during a drug transaction. Because of their dedication, a neighborhood drug dealer was arrested, and drugs and drug paraphernalia, and a stolen assault rifle were taken off the streets of the Township.
8. Consideration of Minutes:
 - A. Budget Meeting - December 2, 2015
 - B. Regular Meeting I - December 2, 2015

Commissioner Spandler moved to approve the above listed minutes as presented. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion; carried unanimously.

9. Visitor Requests & Comments: President Troxell reminded those present to give their name and address and to limit their comments to a few minutes.
- Mark Plesic, 303 Center Street, Bressler--Mr. Plesic is President of the Bressler Fire Company. He was present tonight to express the Fire Company's interest in acquiring Richard E. Plesic Memorial Park. He presented a copy of his remarks and a sketch plan for proposed removal of the building and making a parking area for the fire company.
- Rudy Pavelic, 680 Monroe Street, Bressler--also requested the property be deeded to the Friendship Fire Company to supply parking for the fire station and to keep the playground for the community to use. He also submitted a copy of his comments.
- Brian Faleshock, 966 Lark Drive--spoke about some of the same people coming to the CD School Board meeting last evening and comments about the way voting was handled. He suggested the Township Board may want to consider some procedure changes--Change meetings to every other week.
- Receive information and proposals at the meeting, then gather information and research the topic.
 - Act on the item at the next meeting
- Commissioner Connolly had comments about the misunderstanding and rumors--like the group was from Harrisburg and about Stop the Violence. He noted the times the Board has voted to let the Stop the Violence Ministry use the parks or Township building for events for children. He also said the Board has been accommodating to requests from Bressler Fire Company, including grants and the boiler issue. He felt that he didn't hear of any interest in this building by Bressler Fire Company until another group approached the Township about the park. They are willing to keep the playground and continue to call it Plesic Park. He is willing to answer anyone's questions after the meeting.
- Commissioner Varner commented that he also thought the issue should have been discussed further. He said he had been approached in the past by the fire company. And that in the past it had been proposed to tear the building down. He asked that the Board do its due diligence, not take any action tonight, but perhaps sit down and discuss this with any interested groups before going ahead with anything.
- Shane Steele, #206 600 Yale Street--said it was interesting that Commissioner Varner wants to take his time on this decision, but did not take time on abolishing the ward system. Commissioner Varner said the ward system was talked about for years. He asked the Board to look at the children in the room--they are the future. He asked what is more valuable--someone who gives back to the community or a paved parking lot. The Ministry feeds, educates, and heals souls; this is the type of organization we need in the community.

Charlie Malatestinic, 575 Penn Street, Bressler--said there is a lot of history in the school building and the playground. He would like to see what can be done for the benefit of the community--no rash decisions.

Rev. Mim Harvey, Oberlin--said she has lived in Oberlin all her life. She outlined her ministry dealing with victims of violence--women in domestic abuse and abused children. The organization started over 20 years ago in her Oberlin home. She presented a request for use of the Bressler building to be closer to the people that they serve. They are not outsiders or strangers to the Township but are just here to help.

Joanne Cibort, 799 High Street, Bressler--resented Mr. Steele's put-down of Friendship Fire Company Club. She cited the funds raised for autism through the Plesic Memorial Golf tournament and they do a lot of service for the community.

Roosevelt Lawson, 1040 4th Avenue--had high praise for Pastor Mim and her helping people. He also asked where have the fire people been parking for over 40 years that they need parking now. He is in construction and estimated that tearing the building down would cost over \$160,000. He asked the Board to remember there are a lot of broken people and she should be given the opportunity to do her job.

Sharla Ellis, grew up at 1022 Highland Street--spoke about growing up in Oberlin and going to Tri-C, Swatara, and East. She played with everyone and everyone got along--all races. But not it's not like that--look at how divided the room is tonight. She does not understand why this is such a divisive issue when all the Ministry is trying to do is do good.

Jewel Williams, 515 Main Street--said she feels the people and children in her neighborhood would like to see the school building and the playground stay. And to have Rev. Mim Harvey and her Ministry there. She asked how many parking spots the fire company would gain and expressed concerns about children going to the playground and firemen trying to park there in an emergency. Rev. Mim is only trying to bring the help closer to where the people reside instead of going to Cameron Street.

Leah White, 10 Jones Street--is Rev. Mim's daughter. She also works with children and would be able to reach out to the young girls she sees in the area as a mentor. This location is a great opportunity.

Keith Lawson, 1040 4th Street, Oberlin Gardens--said he is a contractor and also runs a trade learning center. He would like to work with Mim and train people at the same time. He feels the building can be saved and put back together with just the cost of materials. He has the necessary licenses and is willing to put them up to see that the work gets done if she gets the building. He feels the lot would only

handle 5 parking spaces after the building is torn down or less with handicapped parking. He said this is not a slow matter, something needs to be done fast--we're losing people left and right. Speed the process up and give her the building. He is willing to put 100% into seeing the building is done right.

Ida Roberts Pyle, 4507 N Progress Avenue--said she grew up on Chestnut Street in Oberlin and is Rev. Mim's cousin. She asked that the Board come to the Christmas Party on Saturday and look at the kids' faces and the happiness she brings.

Marisa Zupanovic, 570 Chambers Street--said she is appalled at how fast this matter came up and how fast it was voted on. It seems like these are both good causes, but she has never heard about the Ministry or known anyone helped by it. Her concern is keeping the playground for the community and keeping the residents safe. Her grandfather was Richard E. Plesic and she would like the Board to consider what he would like to do with the property and keep in mind his vision of helping people in the community.

Garrett Williams, 515 Main Street--was born and raised in Bressler. There are a lot of kids on Main Street and they go to the playground--they don't want a parking lot. All Rev. Mim is doing is trying to help raise our kids.

Michael Lopatic, 650 Chambers Street--has been a member of Bressler Fire Company for 10 years and is a trustee. He said a parking lot is just one of the options for the property. Because they just learned of the property being available they haven't had time to form a plan, but are definitely interested in it. They would like to explore a live-in program for the fire company and would definitely keep the playground.

Mark Plesic, 303 Center Street--spoke about the Bressler Club and how the Ladies Auxiliary gives gifts to all the members' children and grandchildren at Christmas. And every year they give a needy family \$500 to help them over the holidays. He also noted that earlier he said "future" parking lot. He feels the two groups should get together and discuss this matter. He reiterated that parking is an issue, not only for the fire station, but for the Bressler Bible Church across the street.

Bill Roberts, 1084 Highland Street--has been in the Township all his life, and is on the CD School Board. He has seen what Rev. Mim has done for the children in the OEB area. The grades for Tri-C are the lowest in the district and the area has the highest poverty level in the Township. He thinks the two groups can work this out--the fire company does not need parking.

Shane Steele, #206 600 Yale Street--said to pay attention to what is being said--the fire company just heard about it this weekend and all the sudden they want it. He wants to take Mr. Plesic up on his offer--get a bunch of applications and we'll all join the Club and become one organization.

Chad Huggins, 806 Chamber Street--is the Bressler Fire Chief and asked to respond to those comments. He said the Township can take our apparatus and close the fire company from running calls, but we are chartered with the State and will remain as a community organization forever.

President Troxell--asked to focus on what can be done together. He asked Commissioner Varner and Commissioner Connolly to work with Assistant Administrator Zimmerman and representatives from Stop the Violence and Bressler Fire Company and to move forward with what is best for the community. There is one last comment and then we'll move forward with the agenda.

Raye Ellis--asked to elaborate on what is best for the community--improving lives or parking cars.

10. Reports:

A. Monthly Departmental Reports: Monthly Departmental Reports are posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of the municipal building. Copies can also be obtained from the receptionist during working hours.

B. Committee Reports:

Recreation - Commissioner Moyer read the Parks & Recreation Report for November. A copy of the report will be posted on the bulletin board.

Highways - Commissioner Milakovic read the Highway Report for November. A copy of this report will also be posted on the bulletin board.

C. Treasurer's Report: Assistant Administrator Zimmerman read the Treasurer's Report for November 2015. Commissioner Connolly moved to approve the attached Treasurer's Report for November 2015 as presented. Commissioner Chiavetta seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

D. Fire Services Report: Fire Services Director Ibberson reported 89 total calls for service during the month of November (with average personnel turnout per incident):

Bressler	30	(4)
Lawnton	49	(6)
Rutherford	33	(6)
Swatara	48	(7)
Chambers Hill	34	(4)

There was one significant fire in the month of November and the fire loss for the month is estimated at \$175,000.

A copy of the detailed report will be posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. Production of the new fire engine is moving along and is on target for delivery at the end of January or early February.

- E. Administrator's Report: Assistant Administrator Zimmerman reported that the final two houses in the mitigation program have been demolished at 3740 & 3742 Derry Street.

Notification was received from the Government Finance Officers Association that our Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, qualified for a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

- F. Codes Report: Zoning Director Hardman reported briefly on the Codes Department activities for November:

- 10 building permit applications
- 10 zoning permit applications
- 53 inspections completed under permit
- 28 complaints received and addressed

OLDS Report:

District 1 (June 2014-June 2015) - third pump cycle --There are 230 properties; 229 paid registration; 226 passed inspection; 2 failed inspection.

District 2 (June 2015-June 2016) - third pump cycle -- There are 500 properties; 278 paid registration; 105 passed inspection; 0 failed; and 393 remaining to pump.

District 3 (June 2013-June 2014) - second pump cycle --There are 328 properties; 328 paid the registration fee; 326 passed inspection; 1 failed inspection; 1 remaining to pump. There is an Enhanced OLDS Report also attached.

Humane Society: 1 pit bull surrendered at cost of \$265.

Department Highlights:

Working on starting an Adopt-a-Drain program under the MS4 program.

A more detailed report of Codes activities will be posted.

- G. Chief of Police Report: Chief Umberger reported on the police activities for the month of November. Officers handled a total of 1,701 calls for service. A breakdown of calls is shown on the monthly report posted on the bulletin board.

The full report of police activities in schools, with juvenile and adult probation checks, and other community events is also posted.

A PennPRIME safety grant has been obtained to purchase new safety vests for all officers.

The Citizens Police Academy application deadline is December 18 for the new 11 week session starting in January.

Chief Umberger urged everyone to sign up for the Swatara Township Police Crimewatch portal to stay informed of law enforcement happenings in our area.

11. Consideration of Resolution-Special Purpose Parking-810 Mohn Street: Chief Umberger has reported that Brenda Wise has satisfied all the PennDOT requirements for handicapped registration and recommended that a reserved parking (Handicapped Person) zone be established in front of 810 Mohn Street. Commissioner Spandler moved to approve Resolution R-2015-39 (full text available in Township Resolution Book) adopting the special purpose parking zone at 810 Mohn Street. Commissioner Connolly seconded the motion, carried unanimously.
12. Resolution Accepting Road Dedication of Port View Drive: Solicitor Wion stated that an offer was made by TecPort Partners for dedication of Port View Drive. An inspection has been made by the Township Engineer and it does meet all the specifications. There was concern about three lots remaining undeveloped, but it has been recommended to accept the road with a 2½ year maintenance bond. Commissioner Moyer confirmed that this does not cover snow removal and asked Assistant Administrator Zimmerman to remove this from the budget. Commissioner Varner moved to approve Resolution R-2015-40 (full text available in Township Resolution Book) accepting the road dedication for Port View Drive, conditioned upon receipt of the maintenance agreement and bond. Commissioner Milakovic seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
13. Resolution Accepting Road Dedication of Yale Street: Solicitor Wion stated that an offer was made by Triple Crown Corp. for dedication of Yale Street in the lower portion of Ivy Ridge. An inspection has been made by the Township Engineer and it does meet all the specifications and will require an 18 month maintenance bond in the amount of \$65,481.37. Commissioner Moyer confirmed that this does not cover snow removal and asked Assistant Administrator Zimmerman to remove this from the budget. Commissioner Spandler moved to approve Resolution R-2015-41 (full text available in Township Resolution Book) accepting the road dedication for Port View Drive, conditioned upon receipt of the maintenance agreement and bond and removal of an outstanding lien. Commissioner Varner seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
14. Subdivision/Land Development Plans:
 - A. Release of Improvement Guarantee- The Woodlands, Phase 2-Ward 6: A request was received for release of the improvement guarantee for The Woodlands, Phase 2. The Township Engineer has conducted an inspection of the improvements and found them to be satisfactorily installed and completed. The remaining amount of \$60,580.00 should be released, leaving a balance of \$0.00. Commissioner Milakovic moved to approve the release of the improvement guarantee for The Woodlands, Phase 2. Commissioner Spandler seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

- B. Release of Letter of Credit- Minerva Manor Apts.-Ward 4: A letter of credit was previously supplied for this approved preliminary/final land development plan, however no development occurred and the property is now being sold to Fine Line Homes/Eastern Communities Partnership. Commissioner Moyer moved to allow Eastern Communities Partnership to substitute an improvement guarantee bond for the letter of credit previously provided by the Vranicar Trust upon acceptance and approval of the Township Solicitor. Commissioner Milakovic seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
15. Appointments to Boards and Commissions: There were no appointments made.
16. Investigation of Any Possible Stormwater Violations:
Bill Roberts, 1084 Highland Street--reports there is flooding across from Swatara Middle School that has been going on for years.
17. Visitor Requests & Comments:
Mike Ibberson-- speaking as a private citizen and a new Dad, publicly thanked Cpl. Pokrop for his help in installing infant car seats in various vehicles. This is a service the Police Department provides and is much appreciated. Thank you Brandon.
- Shane Steele, 44 N. 46th Street-- asked for a look at drainage problems on Grayson Road and at 19th & Gibson Streets.
Mr. Steele also related the help given by the Police Department at a fire scene and asked the Fire Marshal Ibberson to relay his thanks.
He also thanked the Board for the new fire engine about to be delivered; the firemen really do appreciate it.
- Rudy Pavelic, 680 Monroe Street, Bressler-- spoke about his memories of the Bressler School and the firehouse--putting in the playground equipment, setting up for firehouse festivals. He said the fire company's original request was to get the property for the parking and to keep the playground. The building can stay; a small portion along the back and side could be taken for parking. It never was the intent to just tear the building down immediately. He noted that someone in the past wanted to use the building to teach reading, but was told she could not use it.
- Joanne Cibort, 799 High Street, Bressler-- asked for several things for the Committee looking into this to consider. There is no parking right now. How many staff members would be using this building and where would they park? And where do the people coming to this facility park? It is a close, tight residential area. The Church next door has very little parking; and the fire station spaces must be kept open in case of a fire call.

18. Commissioners Requests & Comments:

Commissioner Moyer-- gave an update on the Budget. He stated that last year we supplemented the Budget with \$380,000 by borrowing money and taking out of the Reserve. This year we followed the same suit by propping up the budget with \$500,000. There was a 1% reduction in revenues and a 3% increase in expenses. He is very concerned about continuing to prop up the Budget by using the Reserve Fund. If we bleed that down again, we lose our good bond ratings or be able to respond to emergency expenses with extra cash.

Commissioner Varner-- thanked everyone for coming out. Everyone's intent to use the Bressler property is good and noble and he looks forward to discussing how to achieve a positive outcome for everyone.

Commissioner Murphy-- appreciated all the comments made by the residents and thanked them for coming out.

Commissioner Spandler--thanked those who came and made comments, but then stuck around for the rest of the meeting--that's a rarity.

Commissioner Spandler remarked that tonight is his last official Township meeting. After 10 years he decided not to run and to retire from his job along with his wife retiring, and he is looking forward to nothing to do. He enjoyed the 10 years and the achievements of the Township along with his Presidency of the State Association of Township Commissioners. Commissioner Milakovic will take over his position on the Executive Board of Township Commissioners.

He wishes the new Board well and hopes they will really look at the budget and the infrastructure problems that need addressed--road paving and stormwater issues. President Troxell noted that changes are coming to the 1st Class Township Code and he will keep Commissioner Spandler in mind for input. President Troxell also thanked Commissioner Spandler for all he has done for the Township and the things learned from him--his diplomatic way of approaching things and his realistic way of sharing his opinion. President Troxell called for a round of applause.

Commissioner Chiavetta-- thanked everyone for coming out tonight and wished all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Commissioner Milakovic-- also thanked everyone for coming out and expressing their feelings on both sides of the issue. He noted it is also Commissioner Murphy's last official meeting and thanked him for his service. To Commissioner Spandler--he said he learned a lot from him. Commissioner Spandler is not only respected in the Township but across the State. Commissioner Milakovic would like to encourage all the Commissioners to take part in the PSATC conferences and meetings; there's such an opportunity to learn so many different things and how many of the problems that we deal with are state-wide.

Commissioner Connolly--thinks the Highway Department did a tremendous job this year with the leaf cleanup and the brush cleanup. There hasn't been a snow situation yet, but he expects they will do the same great job as last year.

He thanked Commissioner Murphy for filling the vacancy on the Board. And noted there is one more public meeting on December 22 to pass the Budget.

He commented on knowing Commissioner Spandler for many years and said he is a good example of a citizen who became involved in politics and served them well.

On the issue of the Bressler school building, Commissioner Connolly thanked everyone for coming out. He noted that before becoming a Commissioner he sat out there for about 13 years. He recommended that everyone look at the Township website, the School Board website, and even the County website. Keep aware; it would be great to see this many people at every meeting. He is looking forward to the resolution of the situation here; he is eager to meet with Commissioner Varner and representatives of the groups.

President Troxell-- said thanks to those who came to the meeting tonight and shared their ideas. It's encouraging to know that the people we're serving are some incredible people. He wished everyone a Happy Holiday Season.

Commissioner Chiavetta-- noted that the power is back on in Lenker Manor after an outage for about 3,400 residents.

19. Correspondence:

- A. Friendship Fire Company letter received 12/4/15 regarding Bressler School Property.
- B. Linus Fenicle letter received 12/4/15 regarding Rate of Legal Services for 2016 Zoning Hearing Board.
- C. Robert Frye letter received 12/9/15 regarding Letter of Retirement.

20. Adjournment: Commissioner Spandler moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Murphy and carried unanimously. The Regular Meeting II adjourned at 9:37 PM.



Dolores M. Rubinic, Township Secretary