

Middlesex Township Board of Supervisors
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
May 21, 2008

The Regular Meeting of the Middlesex Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were Chairman Alonzo Van Atta, Vice Chairman Mark Vincent, Supervisor Mike Spreng, Solicitor Michael Hnath, and Secretary Linda Young. Manager Scot Fodi was absent.

On a motion by Vincent, seconded by Spreng the Board of Supervisors approved the minutes of April 16, 2008 Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion by Vincent, seconded by Spreng the Board of Supervisors approved Warrant List #050108. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice Chairman Vincent presented an overview of the COG meeting of May 8, 2008. Linda Rocco will be the contact person for borrowing equipment from other municipalities. Butler County District Attorney's Office has a new hot line 877-61-NOT21 to try and crack down on under age drinking.

On a motion of Vincent, seconded by Spreng the Board of Supervisors hired John Kennedy for a part time seasonal position with the road department for no more than 30 hours a week at the rate of \$8.00/hr until October, 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion of Vincent, seconded by Spreng the Board of Supervisors adopted new procedures for addressing the Middlesex Township Board of Supervisors. Motion carried unanimously.

1. The public comment portions of the meeting shall be for a maximum of thirty (30) minutes total, unless extended by approval of a majority of the Board of Supervisors.
2. An individual shall have five (5) minutes total per meeting for his or her comments on matters before the Board of Supervisors.
3. The procedure for persons addressing the Board shall be as follows:
 - a. A resident or taxpayer who wishes to address the Board of Supervisors should sign in on the sign-up sheet with the Secretary, and indicate on the form whether they wish to speak on an agenda item or on a general, non-agenda topic. Agendas are available in the public meeting room just prior to the meeting and on the Township website a minimum of two (2) days prior to the meeting. It is the responsibility of the resident or taxpayer to first check the agenda to determine whether the matter on which they wish to comment is, or is not, on the agenda. If the item is not listed on the agenda, the comment is considered to be on a general topic.
 - b. During the public comment portions of the meeting, those residents and taxpayers listed on the sign-up sheet will be called by the Secretary in the order of the

agenda, if their comment is on an agenda item, and in the order that their names appear on the list, if their comment is on a general topic.

- c. If time permits, residents and taxpayers who have not signed in prior to the meeting may be recognized for public comment on agenda items at the beginning of the meeting and on general topics at the conclusion of the meeting.
4. During the review of Land Developments or Subdivisions, the Board of Supervisors may accept comment from the public specifically in regards to the project under review without the resident or taxpayer having first completed the required sign-in sheet prior to the convening of the public meeting.
5. A person should not address the Board of Supervisors until he or she is first recognized by the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.
6. The Board of Supervisors reserves the right to respond to the speaker without engaging in a continuing dialogue, but persons addressing the Board of Supervisors should not expect a response from the Board.
7. The Board of Supervisors may designate an employee or consultant of the Township to respond to the speaker in addition to, or in place of, any response from the Board of Supervisors.
8. The Board of Supervisors reserves the right to respond at the next meeting, or at any subsequent meeting, to any comments made.
9. Residents and taxpayers wishing to address the Board of Supervisors during the public comment portions of the meeting should be aware that this is the only opportunity for public participation in the Board meeting. The Chairman will not recognize any resident or taxpayer during other portions of the meeting unless a member of the Board of Supervisors has specific questions or requests information from a resident or taxpayer in attendance at the meeting.
10. The Chairman shall maintain order in all matters during the public comment portion of the meeting. No speaker shall be allowed to use vulgar or offensive language, or refuse to leave the podium after the allotted time. No personal attack on the character or reputation of an employee, department head, or any Township official will be tolerated. The Chairman may rule any speaker acting in this manner out of order. Any speaker ruled out of order shall be barred from further speaking at that meeting unless a majority vote of the Board of Supervisors allows. Furthermore, the Chairman may instruct a Police Officer to escort the speaker from the meeting if the Board determines removal is warranted. All individuals who speak may be held accountable for their statements in court or other type of litigation.

Eric Urbanowicz, Overbrook Road, strongly objects to the new meeting procedures.

Vice Chairman Vincent stated that several citizens of Middlesex Township over the past several years have acted poorly at meetings. They took away the rights of the other citizens to have a peaceful and productive meeting and an open discussion.

Rosemary Brown, Lindo Lane, asked questions to clarify the new agenda format.

Alex Wing, List Hill Road, would like more information put on the agenda so that residents will have an idea of what will be discussed.

Eric Urbanowicz, Overbrook Road, stated that he has been called names and had personal comments made towards him at the meetings by Vice Chairman Vincent.

Dina Marshall, Browns Hill Road, stated that everyone wants what is best for the Township. If it is not broke don't fix it. Residents don't come to the meetings because they don't think their opinion matters.

Vice Chairman Vincent stated that it is broke and has been for years and that he was elected to speak for the Township.

Supervisor Spreng commented that everyone will still have their chance to speak at the meetings. Residents should feel free to talk to the Supervisors at anytime. It does not have to be just during meetings.

Alex Wing, List Hill Road, stated that he feels that it matters when the residents speak and that it should be during the agenda item.

On a motion by Vincent, seconded by Spreng the Board of Supervisors approved the road department to close at 12:00 p.m. and the administration office to close at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, May 23, 2008 for the Memorial Day holiday. Motion carried unanimously.

Eric Schmidt, owner of Lot #4 in the Mowery Plan #2, gave an overview of the subdivision.

On a motion by Vincent, seconded by Spreng the Board of Supervisors approved Resolution #9 of 2008, granting preliminary and final approval to the Mowery Plan of Lots #2 Subdivision Plan subject to: the Applicant does not need to indicate contours on the plan, the Applicant will be granted a waiver from the definition of a Common Driveway as this driveway currently serves more than the maximum to two lots permissible by Code, the Applicant shall record a maintenance agreement for the proposed right-of-way as identified in the April 18th Butler County Planning Commission review letter, and the Applicant is not required to provide the fifty-foot (50') width at the beginning of the right-of-way as this is an existing condition. Motion carried unanimously.

Jim Sperdute, Sperdute Land Surveying, gave an overview of the Dillner Plan of Lots #2.

On a motion by Vincent, seconded by Spreng the Board of Supervisors approved Resolution #10 of 2008, granting preliminary and final approval to the Gary Dillner Plan of Lots #2 Subdivision Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

Jim Sperdute, Sperdute Land Surveying, gave an overview of the Douglas and Paul Leslie Plan of Lots #2 Subdivision Plan.

On a motion by Vincent, seconded by Spreng the Board of Supervisors approved Resolution #11 of 2008, granting preliminary and final approval of the Douglas and Paul Leslie Plan of Lots #2 Subdivision Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion by Vincent, seconded by Spreng the Board of Supervisors approved Manager Fodi advertising a Zoning Hearing Board Meeting for Thursday, June 19, 2008, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Spreng commented that the road department has been patching. Chairman Van Atta asked the Board of Supervisors to consider having the road department work four (4) ten (10) hour days.

Sergeant Ruediger read a letter from Everett Roy with First PA Mortgage Corporation, 1158 Pittsburgh Road, stating how pleased he was that the police department (Officer Pfeifer) was able to solve a theft, which occurred in his office, in a very timely manner. Sergeant Ruediger also presented the police department monthly report.

Eric Urbanowicz, Overbrook Road, read a letter that he sent to Butler County District Attorney's Office and Middlesex Township Police Department referring to an incident that occurred April 19, 2008 at Silver Crest Equestrian Center.

Vice Chairman Vincent talked about the regional police force introductory meeting in which Middlesex Township, Sergeant Ruediger, Clinton Township, Buffalo Township, Saxonburg Borough, and various police forces were present.

Andy Lutzic, Twinbrook Road, commented that regionalization will give the community 24/7 coverage again and a police car patrolling the streets more often.

Cindy Knauff, presented the Parks & Recreation Committee Monthly Report and also gave an update for Fun Day, June 28, 2008.

On a motion by Vincent, seconded by Spreng the Board of Supervisors authorized Manager Fodi to have someone spray the weeds on the walking trail, not in excess of \$500.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Rosemary Brown, Parks & Recreation Committee, presented an overview of the Family Fishing Program.

On a motion by Vincent, seconded by Spreng the Board of Supervisors authorized a contribution of \$200.00 towards Grant Application for Peer-to-Peer Evaluation provided by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion by Vincent, seconded by Spreng the Board of Supervisors approved Resolution #12 of 2008, authorizing the Township to submit an application to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, through the Butler County Parks and Recreation Department, for the acquisition of improved playground equipment for the Middlesex Township Community Park. Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion by Vincent, seconded by Spreng the Board of Supervisors adjourned at 8:03 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.