

<b>Index – Council Meeting, December 12, 2016</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
Adjournment	7
Appointments	
Paul Chenevert	Peters Creek Sanitary Authority 4
Ian Parker	Library Board 4
Terrance Luddy & Candise Dallas	Youth Commission 4
Approval of Minutes	2
Correspondence	
Letter from Paul Hinnebusch	5
Letter from Bob Donnan	5
Executive Session	7
Minutes	5
Miscellaneous	
Brookview Villas Trail Connection	6
Sprinkler Heads from the former Rolling Hills Country Club	6
New Police Patch	6
Little Free Library	6
Next Agenda	
Bower Hill Schoolhouse Bids	7
Payroll & Bills	5
Special Reports	
Alcohol Consumption Policy	2
Joint Statement from Dept. of Housing & Urban Development and the Dept. of Justice	4
Subdivision	
PAWC Plan along Galley Road	5

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, December 12, 2016 ~ 7:30 P.M.

Council Chambers, Municipal Building  
610 East McMurray Road, McMurray, PA 15317

### Roll Call

**Present:** Frank Arcuri, James Berquist, David Ball, Robert Lewis, Monica Merrell, Gary Stiegel Jr., Frank Kosir Jr.

### Also:

Paul F. Lauer, Township Manager  
Ryan Jeroski, Assistant Township Manager  
John Smith, Township Solicitor  
Mark A. Zemaitis, Township Engineer  
Ed Zuk, Planning Director

### Pledge of Allegiance

#### 1. Approval of Minutes

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of November 28, 2016

**Action:** Approve, **Moved by** David Ball, **Seconded by** Frank Arcuri

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7)

**Yes:** David Ball, Frank Arcuri, Frank Kosir Jr., Gary Stiegel Jr., James Berquist, Monica Merrell, Robert Lewis

#### 2. Special Reports

##### 2.A. Policy related to the consumption of alcohol in township owned facilities

The Parks and Recreation Board has suggested that it would make sense if alcohol was limited to certain areas and activities in the parks. The Parks and Recreation Board is suggesting, in part, that the Township allow alcohol as part of activities at pavilions and the amphitheater and that can be done so with a permit. There will be a fee associated with the permit, the police will be notified of the activated permit, and it will have to be displayed so it is visible. It has also been suggested that the Parks & Recreation Board would determine whether alcohol will be permitted for certain Township sponsored activities.

If Council wants to move ahead with this, revisions to an ordinance as well as adopting a policy would be required.

Mr. Berquist is in favor of permitting alcohol at the amphitheater, which was his original position, while the Parks and Recreation Board included the parks and pavilions as a whole.

Mr. Stiegel believes Elm Grover Park should not be included as a park where alcohol is permitted as school sponsored events occur there.

Mrs. Merrell is in favor of permitting alcohol at the pavilions and amphitheater. She asked if the community rooms in the recreation center would be included for the use of alcohol. The Manager replied that the rooms would not be part of the revisions for alcohol use.

Mr. Kosir stated that the use of alcohol should be limited to the amphitheater and the pavilions at Peterswood Park, but the issue can be revisited once Peters Hill Park is complete. He would not like to see alcohol permitted in Peters Lake Park either.

Mr. Arcuri agrees with Mr. Lewis in that Council does not condone the use of alcohol in the parks and it could open potential liability issues for the Township.

Mr. Berquist added that Mr. Smith mentioned the Township liability would be somewhat limited during the last discussion. Mr. Smith responded that the Township would be able to permit it, not sell it, and would check with the insurance carrier to see if there is appropriate coverage in place.

Mrs. Merrell mentioned that the paperwork or permit would have to reflect the liability issue. The person who is responsible if there is underage drinking is the person completing the permit, not the Township. She would rather have it known to people and expecting the police to 'check in'.

The Township Manager stated that they will create a draft an ordinance and policy and bring them back to Council for action.

There were two (2) other items regarding alcohol. One (1) of them was in reference to the DUI Task Force the Township coordinates. Part of that is to teach officers how to appropriately test people for drinking. The Police Department currently has a training scheduled at the Recreation Center. The Manager wants to make sure Council doesn't have an issue because the last class will involve an officer bringing a designated drinker to be tested by the officer in training and then to be transported home. This will involve the consumption of alcohol at the Recreation Center. This type of class has occurred in the past, but he doesn't believe it has happened at the Recreation Center.

Mr. Lewis asked if the class can be scheduled to take place in the Community Room at the Police Station. The Manager said he will check but he believes more people may sign up for the training than can accomodated in the Community Room. Mr. Lewis feels that would be a more appropriate place to conduct the training as the room is in the Police building and it is a police sponsored event. Mr. Steigel mentioned the Fire Station could be a possible venue. Several Council members are not in favor of using the Recreation Center or any other Township public space for this type of training. In the end it the Manager was directed to determine if the training can be accommodated outside of the Recreation Center, if it could not then the Recreation Center could be used.

The second item is in reference to Council permitting wine and beer being consumed in the Library for library sponsored events. Mrs. Merrell asked if these events would be held when the library is closed to the public. The Manager said that would not be the case. It would be the Library Board and the Library Foundation serving the alcohol. Mrs. Merrell stated that she would not approve of the Library offering alcohol unless it was for a closed event. The consensus of Council was that alcohol consumption should not occur in township owned buildings.

**2.B. Joint Statement of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Justice concerning Local Land Use Laws and the Application of the Fair Housing Act**

The Township will have a meeting with the Dept. of Human Services, Community Options and the residents after the holidays to work through the issues facing the group home on Greenbriar Drive. Community Options will provide fencing on that property.

**3. Audience Comments** – There were no audience comments.

**4. Unfinished Business** – There was no unfinished business.

**5. New Business**

**5.A. Appointment of a member to the Peters Creek Sanitary Authority effective immediately for a term ending January 1, 2020**

**Motion:** To approve the appointment of Paul Chenevert to the Peters Creek Sanitary Authority to fill the position vacated by Mr. Szabo’s resignation.

**Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Monica Merrell, **Seconded by** Frank Kosir Jr.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7)

**Yes:** David Ball, Frank Arcuri, Frank Kosir Jr., Gary Stiegel Jr., James Berquist, Monica Merrell, Robert Lewis

**5.B. Appointment of a member to the Peters Township Library Board effective January 1, 2017 for a term ending January 1, 2020**

**Motion:** To approve the appointment of Ian Parker to the Library Board for the term ending on January 1, 2020.

**Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Frank Kosir Jr., **Seconded by** Monica Merrell

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7)

**Yes:** David Ball, Frank Arcuri, Frank Kosir Jr., Gary Stiegel Jr., James Berquist, Monica Merrell, Robert Lewis

**5.C. Appointment of two (2) members to the Peters Township Youth Commission effective January 1, 2017 for a term ending January 1, 2020**

**Motion:** To approve the appointment of Terrance Luddy and Candise Dallas to the Peters Township Youth Commission

**Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Frank Arcuri, **Seconded by** James Berquist

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7)

**Yes:** David Ball, Frank Arcuri, Frank Kosir Jr., Gary Stiegel Jr., James Berquist, Monica Merrell, Robert Lewis

**5.E. Approval of the Pennsylvania American Water Company Subdivision Plan on drawings prepared by AWK Consulting Engineers and Surveyors dated October 12, 2016**

This is a simple subdivision of a parcel owned by Pennsylvania American Water Company located along Galley Road. It has been reviewed by the Planning Commission and the Commission has recommended approval by Council.

Mr. Arcuri and Mrs. Merrell asked if the development would be commercial or residential and Mr. Zuk responded that it would possibly be residential mixed with commercial.

**Motion:** To approve the Pennsylvania American Water Company subdivision plan.

**Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Frank Kosir Jr., **Seconded by** Gary Stiegel Jr.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7)

**Yes:** David Ball, Frank Arcuri, Frank Kosir Jr., Gary Stiegel Jr., James Berquist, Monica Merrell, Robert Lewis

**6. Payroll and Bills**

**Motion:** To pay the Payroll and Bills as follows: General Fund: Checks # 146452 – 146509; Payroll Account: Checks # V113715 – V113846; 44667 – 44669

**Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Robert Lewis, **Seconded by** David Ball

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7)

**Yes:** David Ball, Frank Arcuri, Frank Kosir Jr., Gary Stiegel Jr., James Berquist, Monica Merrell, Robert Lewis

**7. Correspondence**

A. Letter from Paul F. Hinnebusch dated December 1, 2016 commending the Fire and Police Departments

B. Letter from Bob Donnan dated December 5, 2016 concerning traffic calming on Thompsonville Road

The Manager felt the Township and Council might want to look into the use of rumble strips at the two (2) tight turns on Thompsonville Road in the future. Mr. Arcuri doesn't believe the rumble strips are needed, however Mr. Stiegel and Mrs. Merrell feel they are.

**8. Minutes**

9.15.16	Parks & Recreation Board	10.11.16	Peters Township Sanitary Authority
10.20.16	Parks & Recreation Board	10.24.16	Peters Creek Sanitary Authority
10.11.16	Library Board	10.10.16	Planning Commission
	Environmental Quality Board		

**9. Miscellaneous**

**9.A. Trail Connection from Brookview Villas housing development to Arrowhead Trail**

The Home Owners Association for Brookview Villas has requested permission to undertake improvements designed to enhance their access to Arrowhead Trail. The present path has been problematic as it is steep and muddy. They would like to add a staircase that would address the change in elevation.

The Township Manager's concern is that this is a private access, not a public one, and asked if the Township should enter into some kind of maintenance agreement to maintain that structure that will be located on Township property. Mr. Arcuri and Mr. Kosir agree that an agreement should be entered into regarding the structures and the need for them to be maintained by the Brookview Villas HOA and the HOA will need to assume liability in the case of injury. Mrs. Merrell added that the Township

cannot be responsible for keeping the public off of the access because once the steps have been added people are likely to use the access. The Manager responded that the HOA mentioned putting gate at the entrance to the trail to avoid public access.

**9.B. Request to salvage sprinkler heads from the Rolling Hills Country Club property**

The former grounds keeper for the Rolling Hills Country Club has asked permission to salvage sprinkler heads from the golf course. He has offered, in exchange for permission, to assist the Township in developing an understanding of the grounds and buildings.

Mr. Lewis’s concern is for the holes that would be left behind from the removal of the sprinkler heads. The Township Manager said he would talk to the gentleman to make sure it would be safe.

**New Police Patch**

The Police Department is proposing a change to the patch that they’ve used for years. There would be some expense but it would be relatively minor. The police officers would use their uniform allowance to have the new patch placed on their uniforms.

**Little Free Library**

An individual in the Willamar Plan would like to establish a Little Free Library at a bus stop on Township open space. The Manager brought this before Council because it is on Township property. Mrs. Merrell feels the HOA of the plan should be notified as well for approval.

Mrs. Merrell announced that the Peters Township HS Jazz Band is playing Tuesday, December 13.

**10. Next Agenda**

Mr. Arcuri asked for the status of the Bower Hill School bids. Mr. Zemaitis informed Council that the bids will be opened on Monday, December 19.

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 PM.

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Paul F. Lauer  
Township Manager

There was a brief executive session.