

**TOWNSHIP OF ROSTRAVER**

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting**

**November 4, 2009**

Chairman Lorenzo called the regular monthly meeting of the Rostraver Township Board of Commissioners to order on this date at 6:00 p.m. in the Rostraver Township Municipal Building.

Members present were:

Thomas G. Patterson	George A. Martin
Brian L. Sokol	Nick Lorenzo
Patrick G. Egros	

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Lorenzo, audience participating

Attorney Maatta, and Secretary Beard were also present.

Thomas G. Patterson moved there being no additions or corrections to the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of October 7, 2009; Special Meeting of October 12, 2009; and Work Session of October 12, 2009 they stand approved as read. Patrick G. Egros seconded the motion. The following yeas and nays were recorded:

Thomas G. Patterson – yea	George A. Martin – yea
Brian L. Sokol – yea	Nick Lorenzo – yea
Patrick G. Egros – yea	

Total yeas – 5; nays – 0

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Chairman of Public Safety, Nick Lorenzo, reported for the month of October, 2009. Criminal Arrests 39, YTD 444; Non-Traffic Citations 33, YTD 220; Traffic Citations 84, YTD 1,418; Parking Tags 5, YTD 43; Written Warnings 12, YTD 147; Total Number of Incidents 822, YTD 8,095; Total Number of Miles Driven 13,695, YTD 145,052. Chairman Lorenzo gave a report on the Finley Road TIF project and said it is near completion and there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony when completed.

Chairman of Parks and Recreation, Brian L. Sokol, reported for the month of October, 2009. Commissioner Sokol said all four (4) ballfields at DiVirgilio Complex have been fertilized and aerated. Commissioner Sokol said the tennis nets are down at the Van-Meter, Fellsburg, Collinsburg courts. Commissioner Sokol said all the trash containers and port-o-johns have been removed from all the recreational facilities. Commissioner Sokol said the concession stand and restrooms at the soccer building have been winterized. Commissioner Sokol said the concession stand at the upper complex along with the sprinklers and restrooms will be winterized on November 11 & 12. Commissioner Sokol said there are four (4) bulbs burnt out on the large field and will be replaced by the contractor who installed the lighting system by the middle of November. Commissioner Sokol said the batting cage net has been removed at the sports complex and the picnic tables have been put into storage. Commissioner Sokol said the battery has been removed from the lightning detector and put on charge at the maintenance building. Commissioner Sokol thanked the Road Department for all their help this year.

Chairman of Roads, Streets and Equipment, Patrick G. Egros, reported for the month of October, 2009. Commissioner Egros said the Road Department has been getting ready for winter and cleaning out catch basins, hot patching roads and finishing up in the Pricedale area. Commissioner Egros said the Road Department is getting the trucks ready for winter.

Chairman of Health and Welfare, George A. Martin, reported for the month of October, 2009. Chairman Lorenzo gave a sewage report.

Chairman of Budget and Finance, Thomas G. Patterson, reported for the month of October, 2009. Assets: \$1,343,898.16, Revenues & Other Financing Sources: \$192,936.67, Expenditures: \$166,260.08, Debt Principal & Interest Payable: \$469,125.00, Police Pension Fund Assets: \$3,794,631.67. Commissioner Patterson said Finance Director, David Amatangelo and himself attended a meeting October 12, 2009 at the Westmoreland County Courthouse regarding earned income tax. Commissioner Patterson said there is another meeting on November 10, 2009 at the Courthouse. Commissioner Patterson said they will be doing away with all the tax bureau's that collect earned income tax and have a central location for collection. Commissioner Patterson said this will go into effect 2012. Commissioner Patterson said Eileen Navish, Finance Director of BV Schools will be a representative for the Board of Directors. Commissioner Patterson said the first Township budget meeting is November 12, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building. Commissioner Patterson said the Commissioners will introduce a preliminary budget on November 16, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. and will adopt the budget on December 29, 2009.

Township Engineer, Carl DeiCas, was not present. Chairman Lorenzo reported for the month of October, 2009. Twenty Four (24) permits were issued for the month of October. Two (2) new homes, one (1) house addition, one (1) garage addition, one (1) storage, one (1) trailer, eight (8) signs, five (5) demos, six (6) zonings. Total construction for the month of October, 2009 - \$707,600.00. Total construction for the year 2009 - \$7,385,478.00.

Attorney Maatta reported for the month of October, 2009 Attorney Maatta said he performed routine business. Attorney Maatta said he is still waiting for the decision from the Supreme Court on the A & L case. Attorney Maatta said he attended a tax appeal case with Chairman Lorenzo and the appeal was withdrawn. Attorney Maatta said there is an ongoing personnel matter that is going to require Executive Session tonight

**CITIZENS WANTING TO DISCUSS AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:**

George A. Martin moved to hear from citizens at this time Patrick G Egros seconded the motion. The following yea and nay votes were recorded:

Thomas G. Patterson – yea	George A. Martin – yea
Brian L. Sokol – yea	Nick Lorenzo – yea
Patrick G. Egros – yea	

Total yeas – 5; nays – 0

At this time Chairman Lorenzo read a letter from past Commissioner Ralph Iacoboni regarding the garbage contract Chairman Lorenzo said there was an article in the paper that was wrong and would hope the paper would print this letter from Ralph Iacoboni

**PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 861**, introduced by George A. Martin, is a Resolution Establishing Garbage Fees for Residential Customers for the Year 2010, was given a reading by Solicitor Maatta

Resolution of the Township of Rostraver, County of Westmoreland, Pennsylvania, Establishing Garbage Fees for Residential Customers for the Year 2010.

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Rostraver, County of Westmoreland, Pennsylvania, has entered into a Contract with BIG'S TRUCKING, INC, for the year 2010, to service residential customers, and

**WHEREAS**, Big's Trucking, Inc, had agreed to forbear from its full amount due for calendar year 2009 and has agreed to accept said amounts in twelve (12) equal installments in 2010, to-wit, \$144,000.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the Contract award is in the amount of Seven Hundred Thirty-Four Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Five (\$734,375.00) Dollars for the year 2010;

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners, Township of Rostraver, is desirous of meeting the contractual obligation with BIG'S TRUCKING, INC.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners, Township of Rostraver, and it is hereby Resolved that a garbage fee in the annual amount of One Hundred Sixty-Five Dollars and 00/100 Cents (\$165.00), is hereby established for regular residential customers for the year 2010.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the Board of Commissioners, Township of Rostraver, that a garbage fee in the annual amount of One Hundred Fifty-Five Dollars and 00/100 Cents (\$155.00) is hereby established for Senior Citizens residential customers for the year 2010

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that any fee not paid by March 31, 2010, shall have imposed a Five (\$5.00) Dollar late charge in addition to the above fees.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** at a public meeting as follows:

- 1 That the Township agrees to pay Big's Trucking, Inc., the sum of \$144,000.00 carried over from 2009's solid waste collection in twelve (12) equal monthly installments of \$12,000.00 beginning in January of 2010;
2. It is further resolved that the Township shall pay to Big's Trucking, Inc., likewise in equal monthly installments the sum of \$61,197.92.

George A. Martin moved Resolution No 861 be adopted as read. Thomas G. Patterson seconded the motion. The following yea and nay votes were recorded:

Thomas G. Patterson – yea	George A. Martin – yea
Brian L. Sokol – yea	Nick Lorenzo – yea
Patrick G. Egros – nay	

Total yeas – 4; nays – 1

**RESOLVED** this 4th day of November, 2009. Board of Commissioners Township of Rostraver. **BY:** Nick Lorenzo, President. **ATTEST:** Pamela S. Beard, Secretary.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Brian L. Sokol moved to approve the Posey Plan, Michael A. and Tara L. Posey, Simple Subdivision. A simple subdivision of tax map parcel 56-14-00-0-077 located off of Timms Lane to separate out a 0.78 acre parcel with an existing dwelling and leave a 26.80 acre parcel with 30.03 feet of frontage. The Zoning Hearing Board granted a variance for minimum frontage for both lots with the condition that only one additional structure be permitted. The Planning Agency recommends approval. Thomas G. Patterson seconded the motion. The following yea and nay votes were recorded:

Thomas G. Patterson – yea  
 Brian L. Sokol – yea  
 Patrick G. Egros – yea

George A. Martin – yea  
 Nick Lorenzo – yea

Total yeas – 5; nays – 0

Thomas G. Patterson moved to approve the Abell plan #2, Abell Development Co., Simple Subdivision. A simple subdivision of tax map parcels 56-16-00-0-034 and 035 located off of Broad Avenue. The purpose is to reconfigure the property lines for the existing Hampton Inn and the proposed office building. The Zoning Hearing Board granted variances for parking and driving aisle setbacks. The Planning Agency recommends approval. George A. Martin seconded the motion. The following yea and nay votes were recorded:

Thomas G. Patterson – yea  
 Brian L. Sokol – yea  
 Patrick G. Egros – yea

George A. Martin – yea  
 Nick Lorenzo – yea

Total yeas – 5; nays – 0

Patrick G. Egros moved to release Brian and Michelle Rigatti of their road bond for Collinsburg and Hickory Road in the amount of \$2500.00. Brian L. Sokol seconded the motion. The following yea and nay votes were recorded:

Thomas G. Patterson – yea  
 Brian L. Sokol – yea  
 Patrick G. Egros – yea

George A. Martin – yea  
 Nick Lorenzo – yea

Total yeas – 5; nays – 0

Thomas G. Patterson moved to release Dorso LP of their road bond for Markle Road in the amount of \$3125.00. Patrick G. Egros seconded the motion. The following yea and nay votes were recorded:

Thomas G. Patterson – yea  
 Brian L. Sokol – yea  
 Patrick G. Egros – yea

George A. Martin – yea  
 Nick Lorenzo – yea

Total yeas – 5; nays – 0

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Thomas G. Patterson moved all bills presented be approved/ratified for payment. George A. Martin seconded the motion. The following yea and nay votes were recorded:

Thomas G. Patterson – yea  
 Brian L. Sokol – yea  
 Patrick G. Egros – yea

George A. Martin – yea  
 Nick Lorenzo – yea

Total yeas – 5; nays – 0

Brian L. Sokol moved that Officer Joseph D. Spinola having successfully served his probationary period be recommended for permanent appointment with the Rostraver Township Police Department as per letter dated October 20, 2009 from Chief Resetar in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Civil Service Commission, Section 5.5 Probationary Period. Officer Spinola's probationary period will expire November 26, 2009. Patrick G. Egros seconded the motion. The following yeas and nay votes were recorded:

Thomas G. Patterson – yea  
 Brian L. Sokol – yea  
 Patrick G. Egros – yea

George A. Martin – yea  
 Nick Lorenzo – yea

Total yeas – 5; nays – 0

Patrick G. Egros moved to approve Secretary advertising for "Road Supplies" for the Year 2010. Thomas G. Patterson seconded the motion. The following yeas and nay votes were recorded:

Thomas G. Patterson – yea  
 Brian L. Sokol – yea  
 Patrick G. Egros – yea

George A. Martin – yea  
 Nick Lorenzo – yea

Total yeas – 5; nays – 0

Thomas G. Patterson moved to increase the crossing guard's wages (Bert Hutsepiller) by \$1.00 per hour upon approval of the Belle Vernon Area School District. The new rate would be \$9.00 per hour. Patrick G. Egros seconded the motion. The following yeas and nay votes were recorded:

Thomas G. Patterson – yea  
 Brian L. Sokol – yea  
 Patrick G. Egros – yea

George A. Martin – yea  
 Nick Lorenzo – yea

Total yeas – 5; nays – 0

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Distributed at work sessions, reviewed and filed for reference.

**CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

Thomas G. Patterson moved to hear from citizens in attendance. Patrick G. Egros seconded the motion. The following yea and nay votes were recorded:

Thomas G. Patterson –yea	George A. Martin – yea
Brian L. Sokol – yea	Nick Lorenzo – yea
Patrick G. Egros – yea	

Total yeas – 5; nays - 0

Al Sandusky – Mr. Sandusky said Chairman Lorenzo suggested to him that he submits a letter to the Board of Commissioners regarding the Clair Manor sewage treatment plant building. Mr. Sandusky read the letter that he submitted to the Commissioners. Mr. Sandusky would like this building torn down for unsanitary reasons. Mr. Sandusky would like this to be an agenda item at the next meeting.

Don Bottman – Mr. Bottman wanted to know why the garbage was not rebid. Mr. Bottman wanted to know when George Martin got sworn in as a Commissioner. Mr. Bottman wanted to know what the 2 1/2 mil tax increase in 2009 was for (roads, police protection, etc). Mr. Bottman said in January 2009 commissioners, Sokol, Patterson, Lorenzo, and Iacoboni had continued to be members of the Blue Cross Blue Shield medical insurance policy and wanted to know if this was true. Mr. Bottman is concerned that the Commissioners are getting their insurances paid for from taxpayers and the public is not informed about this. Attorney Maatta said in 2005 there was a motion made for the Commissioners to contribute to their health care but that motion failed so this was public notice. Attorney Maatta said it has been a state law since 1984 for allowing Commissioners to receive health insurance. Mr. Bottman wanted to know if the Commissioners were going to pay the money back for their insurance. Chairman Lorenzo said he would not and Commissioner Sokol said no because it is legal for the Commissioners to have the insurance.

Donald James Blair – Mr. Blair was upset because Clair Manor was not notified about the sewage rates that they will be paying. Mr. Blair said there was an article in the Valley Independent about the Clair Manor residents not being notified about the sewage. Mr. Blair said the sewage authority did a rebuttal and then notified the residents of the rates. Mr. Blair read an anonymous letter that was received by several residents of Clair Manor and the Valley Independent regarding why they were not notified of the rates. Mr. Blair wanted to know why Clair Manor's sewage is being pumped up hill when it was set up to be a gravity feed system. Mr. Blair questioned if we are having problems with the pumps. Chairman Lorenzo said not yet.

Commissioner Martin asked Mr. Blair if he has addressed the Sewage Authority with these issues that he is asking the Commissioners. Commissioner Martin said the Sewage Authority should have been the first ones addressed.

Mr. Blair said he specializes in Health Insurance and was shocked how much we are paying for Commissioners health insurance. He said he is not upset that they are getting it but how much the Township is paying for it. Mr. Blair wanted to know if health insurance was competitively bid? Mr. Blair wanted to know if employees who are eligible for Medicare take it or use the group health insurance.

Mr. Blair also said it is time to tear down the old sewage plant building

**ADJOURNED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:05 P.M. TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL.**

**RECOVERED INTO MONTHLY MEETING AT 7:15 P.M.**

Jack McShane – Mr. McShane said he was upset that he felt the Commissioners were trying to rush and get the meeting over quick.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Thomas G. Patterson moved monthly meeting be adjourned at 7:18 p.m. Patrick G. Egros seconded the motion. The following yea and nay votes were recorded:

Thomas G. Patterson – yea  
 Brian L. Sokol – yea  
 Patrick G. Egros - yea

George A. Martin – yea  
 Nick Lorenzo – yea

Total yeas – 5; nays – 0

ATTEST;

  
 Pamela S. BEARD, Township Secretary

  
 Nick LORENZO, Chairman

THIS MEETING WAS TAPED.