

**WEST HANOVER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
7171 ALLENTOWN BOULEVARD, HARRISBURG, PA 17112  
MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2014**

**WORKSHOP SESSION**

**CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 p.m.**

Chairman Klein called the workshop to order at 6:00 pm.

**ROLL CALL**

Harold Harman, Supervisor  
Jay Megonnell, Vice Chairman  
Gloria Zimmerman, Supervisor

Adam Klein, Chairman  
Don Steinmeier, Secretary-Treasurer

Parks & Recreation Board Members Present: Debbie Hetrick, Jeff Holt, Tom Stewart, Linda Turns

West Hanover Township Baseball/Softball Association Members Present: Scott McManamon, Jack Lazar

Staff Present: Dixie Fesig

**PUBLIC COMMENT: None**

**OLD TOPICS: None**

**NEW TOPICS**

Baseball Park Use Agreement- Mr. Steinmeier began the discussion by stating that he disagrees with the \$500.00 security deposit and \$2,500.00 reservation fee. He thinks that the fees should be similar to the agreement with Central Dauphin School District. He commented that the school district has an open ended agreement, and therefore could request use of the ball fields throughout the year. He suggested that if the Township lowers the fees then the Baseball/Softball Association can use the funds for other expenses or to lower the program cost to the participants. Mr. Steinmeier suggested that the security deposit remain at \$500.00 and the reservation fee be lowered to \$500.00.

Mr. Holt commented that he was the president of the Baseball/Softball Association when the original agreement was drafted. He explained that the agreement was established to have a contract between the Township and the Association; it was never intended to offset the cost that the Township would incur. He stated that the Parks & Recreation Board recommends that the security deposit remain at \$500.00 and the reservation fee at \$2,500.00. He stated that prior to the agreement the Baseball/Softball Association spent approximately \$8,000.00-\$10,000.00 on expenses annually.

Ms. Turns commented that FILO funds have been used to upgrade the ball fields, bleachers, and concession areas.

Mrs. Zimmerman asked if a “flexibility clause” could be added to the agreement. This clause would allow residents who rent a park to request use of a ball field if not in use by the Baseball/Softball Association.

Mr. McManamon commented that practice and game schedules are forwarded to Mrs. Fesig, so she would know when the fields are not in use by the Baseball/Softball Association.

Mr. Stewart commented that he has no problem if the reservation fee is reduced. He stated the agreement is important not the fee.

Bob Stammel, Resident- Mr. Stammel commented that he coached baseball for over 33 years and at that time the Lions Club sponsored the baseball program. He asked Mrs. Fesig if soccer or hockey groups pay a fee to use the Township fields. Mrs. Fesig confirmed that other groups pay a fee to use the fields.

Mrs. Fesig commented that the \$2,500 fee is for the exclusive use of the fields from March through November. She asked if the fees are waived for the Baseball/Softball Association should fees be waived for all other groups or when residents want to rent a pavilion.

Mr. McManamon commented that the important thing is the agreement for the Baseball/Softball Association to have exclusive use of the fields from March through November. The Association will pay whatever fee is set by the Township.

Mrs. Zimmerman asked the cost to play baseball. Mr. McManamon said the fee ranges between \$45.00 and \$75.00 depending on the child's age.

Chairman Klein commented that he has no problem reducing the fee, however he feels a fee should be in place.

Mr. Steinmeier repeated his suggestion that the security deposit remain at \$500.00 and the reservation fee be lowered to \$500.00.

***Mr. Megonnell moved, seconded by Mr. Harman to not modify the current agreement between the Township and the Baseball/Softball Association.***

Chairman Klein called for a roll call vote.

***Mr. Harman, Mr. Megonnell, and Mrs. Zimmerman voted to not modify the current agreement between the Township and the Baseball/Softball Association. Chairman Klein and Mr. Steinmeier voted to modify the current agreement. Motion passed 3-2 to not modify the current agreement between the Township and the Baseball/Softball Association.***

Mrs. Zimmerman commented that she voted out of respect for what the Parks & Recreation Board voted upon. She requested that game schedules and make up games are posted at all concession stands.

PA Game Commission – Officer Mike Doherty- Mr. Megonnell provided a brief overview of the Township Ordinance of no hunting on Township property and the request for Officer Doherty to clarify the rules/requirements of the PA Game Commission regarding hunting. Mr. Bishop had a question regarding the PA Game/Wildlife Code Title 34 regarding the hunting on municipal and state parks. Officer Doherty reviewed Section 2508 which covers the protection of institutions, parks, and resorts. He explained that failure to post a property does not make it lawful to hunt.

There was discussion regarding the definition of “open areas” and “wooded areas” as well as the requirements of posting properties. Hunting is prohibited in Fairville Park by Section 2508. There was discussion that the Township will post all parks with “No Trespassing” signs. Mr. Megonnell said Luke Fox, a member of the Boy Scouts and resident, has offered to assist in the posting of the signs in Township parks. There was discussion regarding what parks in Pennsylvania allow hunting. There are no parks in Dauphin County that allow hunting.

Community Use of Township Building- Mr. Rosario informed the Board that he has received several requests in the past few weeks for groups to hold meetings at the Township building. He requested clarification from the Board regarding the fees to rent the building. The current fees are as follows: \$50,000 security deposit and \$25.00 rental fee. There was the discussion if both the upper and lower levels of the building are available for rentals. Mrs. Zimmerman suggested that civic and non-profit organizations should not have to pay a fee to rent the building. It was the consensus of the Board to have the rental fees remain at the current costs.

Mr. Steinmeier asked Mrs. Fesig why the Fire Company can rent the Recreation Center free of charge. Mrs. Fesig explained that she was instructed by the prior Manager that since the Fire Company sold the Fire Station to the Township for \$1.00 they can use the building at no cost. He asked if other Township volunteer groups (i.e. Township Senior Van Program, Township Baseball Association, and Lions Club) would be able to use the Recreation Center free of charge. The Board discussed that if volunteers groups are interested in using the Recreation Center they should contact Mrs. Fesig who will bring the request before the Board.

Mr. Steinmeier asked the current policy in place to rent the Recreation Center. Mrs. Fesig explained a contract, security deposit, and rental fee are required for room rental. He asked that she keep track of all rentals for the year. Mrs. Fesig commented that she researched what other municipalities charge for room rentals before the Parks & Recreation Board set the rental prices. They will assess the number of rentals at the end of the year to determine if rental rates need to be increased or decreased.

Mr. Steinmeier asked if basketball and volleyball groups will be able to rent the Recreation Center. Mrs. Fesig said she would like to try rentals in the bay area of the building.

Mr. Harman addressed the Board about the purchase of a forklift to be used at the E-Cycling Center. He found a forklift at the PA Department of General Services Federal Surplus Division for \$2,500.00. Currently the E-Cycling Center uses the Public Works forklift which at times causes a job scheduling conflict. The equipment will be paid from the Capital Reserve Fund.

***Mr. Megonnell moved, seconded by Mr. Harman to approve the purchase of a forklift for the E-Cycling Center at a cost of \$2,500.00 to be paid from the Capital Reserve Fund. Motion passed unanimously.***

Mrs. Zimmerman commented that she received complaints that the walking path by the ball field behind the elementary school was not cleaned off from the last snow storm. Mr. Harman stated that snow removal at that location is the responsibility of the parks and recreation maintenance staff.

Mr. Rosario informed the Board that one bid was received for the Salty Dog Spreader that was advertised for sale. The bid was in the amount of \$1,650.00. There was general discussion regarding not selling the spreader until the fall when more individuals may be interested and a higher bid may be received.

***Chairman Klein moved, seconded by Mr. Megonnell to reject the bid in the amount of \$1,650.00 for the Salty Dog Spreader. Motion passed unanimously.***

Mr. Steinmeier reminded the Board that the Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC are sponsoring a “Meet Your Elected Officials Business After Hours” reception on April 17<sup>th</sup>. They are requesting the Board RSVP by April 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Steinmeier suggested the item be placed on the March 17<sup>th</sup> agenda for Board discussion.

Mr. Rosario informed the Board that there are currently no other items than the Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC reception discussion on the March 17<sup>th</sup> agenda. He asked if the Board would like to cancel the meeting; Chairman Klein suggested making a decision later in the week.

Mr. Rosario informed the Board that he received correspondence from Dauphin County Planning Commission regarding their staff comments on rezoning for work release centers in the Township. They commented that the Township could handle it as a conditional use request; however there is no area that is conducive for this type of facility.

**OTHER BUSINESS: None**

**ADJOURNMENT: 7:20 PM**