

HALIFAX TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING
MARCH 21, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Bechtel called the meeting to order followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Supervisors Bechtel, Bruner, Hoover and Paul are present. Supervisor Shultz is absent. Solicitor Bruce Warshawsky and Secretary Carolyn Nye are present.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: **Robyn Alexander** representing The Twin Valley Aquatic Club was present and expressed the club's concern about the threat of closing the pool. They asked the Township for their support. **Emily Hoffman** is in agreement with Robyn and stated the YMCA Day Camp kids also use the pool. Emily indicated she is seeking other means to keep the pool open. **Melinda Warfel** asks the Township if they are going to support other organizations such as the little league, midget football etc. Melinda feels the pool is HARA's problem. She doesn't feel HARA should say this is the Township's responsibility. She feels the township just giving a donation is ok. **Flo Mallonee** is in agreement with Emily Hoffman in seeking other avenues and looking to better manage the pool. **Faye Deibler** asks how many parks are under HARA's jurisdiction. Chairman Bechtel stated there is the Veteran's Park, Deppen Park and the old Dahmus property. Supervisor Hoover stated initially when HARA brought the idea of purchasing the Dahmus property before the Halifax Township Supervisors, they were not in favor of this.

PURPOSE OF MEETING: HARA Agreement – Chairman Bechtel stated the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the HARA agreement. The meeting was properly advertised in the Upper Dauphin Sentinel. The Township sent a letter in December of 2012 to HARA to withdraw from the contract agreement starting with the 2014 calendar year. However, the Township told HARA we are interested in sitting down with them to talk over the financial situation. Chairman Bechtel stated the township contributes \$37,787 a year. Supervisor Bruner stated there was a meeting in which he met with Reed Township, Halifax Boro and HARA. HARA indicated in that meeting that if Halifax Township cuts the funding, it will be forced to close. HARA is asking the Township to rescind the termination letter. Chairman Bechtel explained that Wayne Township and Jackson Township dropped out of their contract agreement years ago and as a result Halifax Township has been funding 75% of the budgeted amount. He also mentioned that Larry Rank indicated membership is down and HARA has a \$15,000.00 deficit from last year at the pool. Supervisor Bruner stated due to Halifax Township's budget constraints, the township had to cut back on its spending. The Solicitor stated if the pool closes this year, HARA may be asked to pay back a proportionate share to Halifax Township. He suggested a letter of intent be sent to HARA to include this provision. **Motion:** Supervisor Bruner made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to draft a Letter of Intent to HARA stating Halifax Township will fund HARA no less than \$28,341.00 for the calendar year 2014 contingent upon the opening of the pool for the entire 2013 season, if HARA fails to open the pool for the entire 2013 season, Halifax Township expects a refund up to \$11,849.00 which is the portion of the funding for the pool approved in its 2013 budget, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, vote called, motion carried 4-0.

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OTHER BUSINESS: Dane Snyder Request – Dane requested permission to get the North end of the field plowed, having demo test units at the festival and a youth event in association with the Ned Smith Center at Ft. Halifax. **Motion** – Supervisor Bruner made a motion to authorize Dane Snyder’s requests contingent upon the requirement and proof to have the commercial enterprise name the Township as an additional insured regarding the third request, seconded by Supervisor Paul, vote called, motion carried 4-0.

Friends of Ft. Halifax – The Board discussed proposals sent by Frank Wilmarth on behalf of the Friends of Ft. Halifax Park. **Motion:** Supervisor Bruner made a motion that all requests coming from the Friends of Ft. Halifax Park be sent to the committee consisting of Supervisors Paul and Shultz, seconded by Supervisor Hoover, vote called, motion carried 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT: Supervisor Paul made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m., seconded by Supervisor Hoover, vote called, motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Nye
Secretary