

**TOWNSHIP OF BLAIRSTOWN
SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, December 4, 2012 – 2 PM
TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

MINUTES

OPENING; ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Anderson. Those present were Mr. Lance, Mr. Mach, Mr. Seal, Mr. Shoemaker and Mayor Anderson. Also present was Clerk Pizzaia and CFO Barbara Emery.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was conducted.

SUNSHINE STATEMENT

Mayor Anderson read the following statement: Notice of this Special Meeting has been sent to two official newspapers of Blairstown Township noting the date, time and agenda thereof in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Resolution 2012 – 120 Authorization to Pay Voucher

Mr. Shoemaker made a motion to pay an invoice in the amount of \$5,275.00 to Aspen Heights for tree removal. Mr. Lance seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: AYE – Lance, Mach, Seal, Shoemaker, Anderson

DISCUSSION – 2013 Budget

Mayor Anderson explained that this meeting is a pre-budget meeting for the Committee to discuss how they wish to proceed with the preparation of the 2013 budget. There was a discussion on the subcommittee system that has been used for the past several years. It was the consensus of opinion that this system has worked very well and that the Committee is in favor of continuing the use of this system.

Mayor Anderson said that the goal, as in the past, is to avoid instituting a municipal tax. He said that the Committee will continue to look for areas to reduce spending. Mayor Anderson asked Carl Stoddart, DPW Foreman, to work with Ted Rodman, Township Engineer, to update the five year plan for road repairs. This will be useful during preparation of the DPW budget.

Mr. Seal said that the football field at Walnut Valley is in need of repairs. He feels that the funds should come from the Open Space Tax fund. Mr. Seal also suggested adding monies to the Zoning Official's budget in order to pay him to go to court.

Mr. Seal said that the water company has immediate needs, such as a block heater. Water meters also need to be installed.

Mr. Lance asked Mrs. Emery to research the exact amount owed by the township on open space debt.

Mr. Shoemaker said that there are road repairs and catch basins that need to be addressed in the 2013 budget. Mr. Stoddart will work with Mrs. Emery to encumber monies from this year's budget for road repairs.

Mrs. Emery reminded the Committee that when the police contract is settled, retroactive monies will have to be paid and there is no reserve for this.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Shoemaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Lance. The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Submitted by:

Phyllis E. Pizzaia, RMC
Municipal Clerk