# M I N U T E S

## STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING OF HAMPTON TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

## THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2010

President Son called to order the Strategic Planning Meeting of Hampton Township Council at 9:05 a.m. in the Chestnut Room at the Seven Springs Convention Center, Champion, Pennsylvania.

Those present: V. Son, President; M. Hunkele, C. Montgomery, M. O'Rorke, P. Russ, Members: J. Speakman, Controller; V. Tucceri, Legal Counsel; W. C. Lochner, Municipal Manager. Administrative staff members present: S. Bernet, A. Presto, and M. Orban.

Mr. Lochner gave a brief introduction regarding the itinerary for the meeting.

### FISCAL PROJECTIONS

Messrs. Lochner and Presto presented to Council fiscal projections for the period through 2013, which included revenue estimates and trends as well as expenditure estimates and trends. Discussion also centered around how the collections on the Earned Income Tax will limit the projections for the first year or so, as well as employee fringe benefits and the projected increase over the next two year period.

### CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SPIRIT

With regard to this agenda item, Mr. Lochner presented to Council a proposed event/schedule for the 150 year celebration which included a January 26, 2011 Proclamation, formal black tie dinner, school district programs, banners and signs, July 3rd and 4th celebration, and celebration during the Depreciation Lands Museum Fall Festival. The projected budget for this community celebration totaled $96,000. Mr. Lochner proposed that the Township enter into a contract with a professional fundraiser (Bour & Associates) who would pursue donations from the top earned income tax earners, Pittsburgh Historical Commission, John Heinz Foundation as well as law firms in the Pittsburgh area to recoup costs for this celebration. The total cost for the professional fundraiser would be $10,500 and a proposal was presented to Council for their review and consideration.

**Mrs. Hunkele moved for approval of the fundraising assistance proposal by Bour & Associates in the amount of $10,500 as it relates to the 2011 anniversary celebration. Mr. O'Rorke seconded the motion and roll call vote was unanimously in favor.**

### CITIZEN AGENDA MATTERS

At this point, Mr. Son asked if there was anyone in the room who wanted to bring anything before Council for discussion. Those present in the audience did not have any comments.

## PROPOSED ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

Mr. Orban presented to and briefly discussed the proposed amendments to the Township's Zoning Ordinance. These amendments included correcting typographical errors, County recommendations, court and Zoning Hearing Board cases, as well as Council directives. The County recommended that existing language regarding "Conservation Subdivisions" be moved from the Township's SALDO to the Zoning Ordinance. Current language in the ordinance was modified to further define and/or regulate allowable uses. Court and Zoning Hearing Board related cases mainly dealt with signs, including the size, location and setbacks for institutional uses in residential districts. Council directives included adding to the definition of lighting to regulate glare, oil and gas drilling as it pertains to the districts they are permitted and a model ordinance being drafted by the NHCOG. Mr. Orban asked that Council review the proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance and it will be before Council in approximately two months.

At this point, a lunch break was taken and the meeting reconvened at approximately 1:30 p.m.

## ROUTE 8 AND DUNCAN AVENUE TRANSPORTATION PROJECT

Mr. Mark Magalotti of Trans Associates was present to discuss the Route 8 and Duncan Avenue Transportation Project. Recommended improvements to Route 8 for this project include road widening, traffic signal upgrade, improved pedestrian crosswalks and signs, and construction of a Park and Ride lot. Construction challenges for this project include widening on the west side of Route 8 due to a retaining wall on the east side, the new bridge across Pine Creek to the south is only four lanes wide, and the pedestrian area for the east side is limited. Duncan Avenue improvements include construction of a right turning lane, widen roads, replace existing County bridge, realign Duncan Avenue from Grand Avenue to Route 8, realign intersection with Route 8, and provide park and ride access from Duncan Avenue. Construction challenges for Duncan Avenue include elevation of road cannot be changed due to the slopes on the side streets, and need to avoid property impacts along the north side of Duncan Avenue. The 2010 estimated cost for the Route 8 and Duncan Avenue intersection improvements totals $3,272,000 and based on 2% inflation, the 2013 estimate cost for this project totals $3,540,000. Discussion then centered around the relationship of this project to the flood mitigation project for this area, the proposed engineering and construction, total federal funding in the amount of $2,577,00 that is currently available, and local and county funding, potential partnership approach with the state and county, as well as the projected schedule.

## HAMPTON MUNICIPAL WATER AUTHORITY

Presentations were given by Mr. Greenberg of KLH Engineers, Mr. Lent of Maher Duessel and Mr. Scarfone of the Hampton Municipal Authority regarding the future alternatives with regard to the Hampton Municipal Authority and the Shaler Authority.

After the presentations, Mr. Son adjourned into executive session to discuss legal related matters pertaining to the Hampton Municipal Authority. After a brief period of time, Mr. Son called to

order coming back into the meeting to discuss negotiating issues regarding the possible Water Authority merger.

**Mr. O'Rorke moved to authorize the Council President to form an exploratory committee to begin negotiations with Shaler Township in connection with the consideration of merging the Hampton Municipal Authority with the Shaler Water Authority. Mrs. Hunkele seconded the motion and roll call vote was unanimously in favor.**

## GENERAL ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

Mr. Son commented that items impacting the Township have been discussed at this meeting. Mr. Son indicated he felt that the Township was coming out of the danger zone from the last couple of years, and staff continues to be cautious with expenditures.

Mr. Speakman raised a concern with the controlling of utility costs and what can be done to get ahead of them. Mr. Speakman also briefly discussed with Council health care costs and benefits for Township employees.

**There being no further items for discussion, Mr. Son adjourned the strategic planning meeting at 5:00 p.m.**

Susan A. Bernet,
Clerk of Council

Victor D. Son,
President of Council