

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD  
SPECIAL MEETING  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MINUTES – NOVEMBER 30, 2011

A special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Municipal Building on November 30, 2011. Vice Chairman Stainthorpe called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m. Mr. Stainthorpe stated the purpose of the meeting is to introduce the 2012 Preliminary Budget and to Interview Candidates for Supervisor. Mr. Smith called the roll.

Those present:

Board of Supervisors:	Pete Stainthorpe, Vice Chairman Ron Smith, Secretary Dan McLaughlin, Treasurer
Others:	Terry Fedorchak, Township Manager (left meeting in progress) Kenneth Coluzzi, Chief of Police (left meeting in progress)
Absent:	Greg Caiola, Chairman

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

**DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF 2012 PRELIMINARY BUDGET**

Mr. Fedorchak stated when they had started the Budget discussions a few weeks ago he had reported that they had seen an increase in the assessed valuation slightly higher than \$518 million; however, since that time, they received the results of the latest rounds of Appeals from the County, and this number has been reduced by \$2,570,940. He stated the owners of Oxford Oaks received a reduction as a result of the loss of Super fresh which resulted in a reduction of \$500,000. He stated this does not have a material bearing on the bottom line, and will not change any of the numbers. He stated the net result is this year's assessed valuation, assuming there are no more Appeals, is \$515,561,000.

Mr. Fedorchak also stated they did a Fund Balance for all funds going back to 2006. He stated since 2006 the Fund Balance has been declining as they try to maintain a "no-tax increase scenario." He stated the projection for 2011 is that for the first time in

six years, they are going to see an increase in the Fund Balance. He stated in 2010 they were at approximately \$5.5 million, and they expect to be at \$6.2 million range by the end of 2011.

Mr. Fedorchak stated for the 2012 Budget, they are looking at \$23 million total across the Board in expenses, and this is slightly less than where they were at in 2008.

Mr. Fedorchak stated Mr. McLaughlin had proposed a number of reductions to the proposed Budget, and he has done an analysis incorporating all of the significant reductions into the General Fund and overall Budget. He stated by incorporating all of the reductions in the General Fund expenses and revenues will match. He also stated at this point he can guarantee that they will have at least \$700,000 to apply to the road resurfacing program for 2012.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated the one question he had involved the Police cars. He stated Chief Coluzzi had indicated that there were four cars that had over 100,000 miles, and he would like to buy three cars. Chief Coluzzi stated as he noted at the last Budget session, the original request had been to replace the four which were not mechanically sound; but Mr. Fedorchak had requested that he reduce this to three vehicles, and he agreed to do so in an effort to reduce the Budget. However, he does not believe they can reduce this any further or it will hinder Police operations and impact the Police vehicle rotation schedule. He stated it costs between \$35,000 to \$45,000 a year to maintain the Police vehicles; and for eleven years, this figure has not changed despite now having more vehicles. He stated he feels a big reason for this is the way they rotate the Police vehicles.

Mr. Stainthorpe asked how many first line vehicles are in the Police fleet, and Chief Coluzzi stated there are seven and three canine vehicles. Mr. Stainthorpe asked how many are on the road at any given time; and Chief Coluzzi stated a full Squad would be seven Police vehicles on the road which could include six of the first line cars and a canine car. He stated they also have five, unmarked Detective vehicles. He stated if there was a full complement of Officers, seven vehicles would be on the road but there could be less if there were Squad shortages, vacations, etc. Mr. McLaughlin asked how many on average are on the road at one time, and Chief Coluzzi stated on average, he feels there would be six on the road at all times.

Mr. Smith stated he is in favor of keeping the \$1,000 increase for the Animal Control Officer, and the Board was in favor of this. Chief Coluzzi stated going back to 1998 they were paying \$22,000 for Animal Control Services with a lot fewer calls. Mr. Fedorchak agreed to add in this \$1,000.

Mr. McLaughlin asked what has been included for Police overtime, and Mr. Fedorchak stated it is what Chief Coluzzi had put in the Budget which is \$205,500. Mr. Stainthorpe stated this reflects the same amount of hours plus the increase in wages. Mr. McLaughlin stated he is not in support of this, and he would like to see a reduction. Mr. Stainthorpe stated they asked Chief Coluzzi to bring overtime in at \$190,000, and he did so. He stated there will be a 2.75% wage increase. Mr. McLaughlin stated he would be in favor of \$190,000. He stated he would also be in favor of increasing the rate charged to those requesting special Police services.

Mr. McLaughlin stated there are also two more Officers, and Chief Coluzzi stated they have one Officer that is still in the Police Academy who will not be present until after the first of the year. He also stated they postponed bringing the Officers on because of Budget concerns, and they were not brought on until the end of the year. Mr. McLaughlin stated more Officers should lead to less overtime. Chief Coluzzi stated there are various categories of overtime. He stated more Officers can lead to a reduction in some categories; but overall, the newer, more aggressive Officers produce more and there are more arrests made.

Mr. McLaughlin stated he feels \$190,000 of overtime is an adequate amount. He stated overtime is not compensation that should be expected; and if they continue to allow this to proliferate, they are encouraging the expectation that this is normal and expected compensation. Chief Coluzzi stated the overtime is not expected, but is something he has discretion over. He stated there are checks and balances over every level of the chain of command and is something that addresses emergency situations as they had the last year. He stated they also need the availability of the overtime hours in order to fight crime and be eligible for reimbursable time. Mr. McLaughlin stated while he understands emergencies, he does not feel they should budget for this.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated they have had years in the past where overtime was significantly over Budget. He stated this year the Police force was out at night when there was an arsonist, there was a hurricane, a flood, a number of snow storms, and traffic lights that were not working; but Chief Coluzzi still brought it in on Budget. Mr. McLaughlin stated he agrees. Mr. Stainthorpe stated he would support raising the \$190,000 by the 2.7% which is the proposed increase; and this was acceptable to Chief Coluzzi and Mr. McLaughlin.

Chief Coluzzi stated it is important to go back over the years and do comparative studies. He stated in 1998, they exceeded \$100,000 in overtime usage. Mr. McLaughlin stated he is not indicating that they are not doing a good job; however, he feels the voters indicated they wanted less taxes and less spending, and they have to honor the people they serve.

Mr. McLaughlin asked that the rate that they charge for Police Officers on an hourly basis also reflect the increase. Chief Coluzzi stated they base it on the average hourly rate of a Police Officer; and Mr. Stainthorpe stated whatever it is, it should be the average of this year's salary and not last year's salary.

Mr. Menard stated in terms of the increase in arrests and prosecutions, the amount of money they get as restitution for their portion does not begin to cover the Township costs. He stated they need to discuss this with the County or the State so that they are properly reimbursed. He stated the amount of time they are spending at the Courts is driving up the overtime, and they are not being adequately reimbursed. Mr. Stainthorpe stated these amounts are set by the State, and Chief Coluzzi stated they do get certain reimbursements from the Courts for processing and this is incorporated into the retribution that the defendant has to pay. Mr. Menard stated they should request that the local Municipality receive a higher share. Chief Coluzzi stated the Legislature makes this decision, and most of the revenue from Police action comes from traffic, and they are projected to come in at \$132,000 for 2012. Mr. Menard stated they should determine the Township's costs and then petition the State Legislature to change the formula and to also allow on-line video meetings so that the Police do not have to travel to the Court House.

Mr. Menard stated they should also consider a policy that they start to charge the Local Municipalities that Lower Makefield crosses borders to assist to \$75 per hour for their services. Chief Coluzzi stated while this could be done, it is generally not done because they all have Mutual-Aid Agreements. He discussed incidences where a neighboring Municipality often needs assistance from the Lower Makefield Township Police Department. Mr. McLaughlin stated he feels the mutual-aid is very one sided. Chief Coluzzi stated while this is correct, he does not know how much revenue this would bring in to Lower Makefield Township. He reviewed discussions he and Mr. Fedorchak have had with respect to this issue.

Mr. Benedetto asked if it is possible that the reimbursables for 2012 would not be as generous, and Chief Coluzzi stated this is possible and depends on the workload and the investigations they are involved in. He stated it seems that the number has been going up because there are more incidents and investigations to handle; so while it is more likely to go up, he could not guarantee it. He stated the bulk of the reimbursables come from the Attorney General and District Attorney's Offices for investigations that Lower Makefield conducts.

Mr. McLaughlin stated he would agree to three Police cars, but he stated the net number of cars should stay the same. He stated this way the insurance or maintenance costs will not be increased by adding to the fleet total.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, Mr. Smith seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the Preliminary Budget with the changes that overtime be reduced to \$195,000, there be three replacement Police cars, increase the Animal Control Officer's salary by \$1,000, and increase the hourly rate for Police services being charged for outside services.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated even though the Preliminary Budget has been approved this evening, changes can still be made up until the time they adopt the Final Budget.

Chief Coluzzi thanked the Board for their support and cooperation.

Chief Coluzzi and Mr. Fedorchak left the meeting at this time.

#### INTERVIEWS OF CANDIDATES FOR SUPERVISOR

##### Kristin Tyler

Mr. Stainthorpe asked Ms. Tyler why she is interested in being a Supervisor. Ms. Tyler stated she is naturally drawn to civic duty and public service and added she has been involved in a number of different issues in the Township. She stated Mr. Smith invited her in May to run for Supervisor with him. She stated she learned a lot about the issues facing the Township and the individual neighborhoods. She stated she feels her skill set would apply nicely to the job of Supervisor. Ms. Tyler stated she feels the most important issue facing the Township is real estate development, and she specifically noted the Hospital and Edgewood Village project and the load these will have on the infrastructure. Ms. Tyler stated she is interested in Zoning and Planning and good use of the remaining open space. Mr. Stainthorpe asked if there are specific Ordinances or processes that she would change, and Ms. Tyler stated there are not, and she feels the Zoning Code is strong. She stated she feels it needs to be upheld as it is. She stated she likes the content of the present Zoning Hearing Board and solicitor; and she feels the process is good.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated they have had an on-going battle with the Township Historic Commission and certain individuals about the Patterson Farm, and he asked her opinion on this issue. Ms. Tyler stated every time a historic issue comes up it is very adversarial. She stated she feels historic preservation is important but they need to be careful about what they are preserving. She stated there is limited open space left some of which she feels should be developed as the Township needs to get tax ratables and do it responsibly. Mr. Stainthorpe asked Ms. Tyler if she feels they need a Historic Commission, and Ms. Tyler stated she is not sure as she is not sure what the Historic Commission was commissioned to do versus what they are doing. She feels the most important purpose of a Historic Commission would be to identify the relevant historical areas and come up

with a plan as to how to preserve them but not using Township tax dollars as there are many ways to preserve historical properties without adding to the Township's tax liability.

Mr. Smith asked Ms. Tyler's opinion of the proposed Hospital. Ms. Tyler stated she feels the Hospital is a poor fit for where it is proposed to be built, and she hopes the Zoning Hearing Board process will deny the Application based on the updated traffic issues. She stated there are a number of reasons why the Hospital is not a good fit including the fact that there is not a need for a hospital at that location. She stated she feels there is a need where the Hospital is currently located.

Mr. Smith stated the Board of Supervisors voted five to zero to parcel off the Satterthwaite Parcel at Patterson Farm, and he asked her view on this. He also asked if she feels some of the Commissions have become less advisory and more lobbyist; and Ms. Tyler stated she agrees that this is the case, and she has seen it at the meetings. Mr. Smith asked what she feels is the function of these boards, and Ms. Tyler stated she feels they should be advisory, advising the Board, and gathering information for the Board of Supervisors which they would not otherwise have. Ms. Tyler stated she feels what has been done by the Artists of Yardley is a wonderful example of what can be done with a historical piece of property by preserving it and adding value to the community. She stated people need to be creative as to how these projects are financed, and they cannot look to the Township for money to do all of these projects. She noted Veterans Square where they have raised private funds to add value to the community. Ms. Tyler stated to the extent that it is not a burden on the taxpayers, she is in favor of preservation; but if they are going to place a burden and a lot of overhead on taxpayers to preserve and keep these buildings just because they are old, she feels it is a poor idea. Mr. Smith asked Ms. Tyler if she agrees with what the Board did with regard to the Satterthwaite Parcel; and Ms. Tyler stated she agrees wholeheartedly, and she feels the horse vet would be a wonderful fit for that property.

Mr. McLaughlin stated everyone runs for the Board of Supervisors because they feel they can add something to the Board, and he asked where the Board could do better. Ms. Tyler stated she feels the Board of Supervisors operates well together, and they make good decisions. She stated she feels the residents should feel a desire to come to the meetings and have input. She stated she feels tone and tenor are of utmost importance and professionalism cannot be compromised, and this should always be a place that is welcoming to the residents. She stated she does not see a need for a change on the Board as the Board does a good job. She stated on the campaign trail, she heard that the Township was in good shape all things considered, and has good thinking minds on the Board. She stated tone and tenor would be her only recommendation. She stated the Board of Supervisors should maintain their professionalism regardless what is said by the residents.

Mr. McLaughlin stated every member of the Board brought to it a unique or special talent, and he asked Ms. Tyler what she would bring to the Board. Ms. Tyler stated she has worked in a professional environment for over twenty years, and she has always worked well with people. She stated she has a calming effect on people, and she feels every place she has worked at has been a better place for her having been there. She stated she has a positive attitude and is hardworking, kind, and caring. She stated she is a litigation attorney with a real estate background, and she is keyed into Zoning issues. She stated she is also aware, when making decisions, the ramifications of a decision now and in the future. Ms. Tyler stated she looks to get all the facts before making a decision. She stated she considers herself to be apolitical, and her motivations are not political but are to perform a civic function.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated this evening they will just conduct the interviews, and the Board will not take a vote this evening. He stated they will vote at the first meeting in December; and by law they must make a decision within thirty days. He stated if they are unable agree, the Vacancy Chair will participate to break any potential ties. He stated if they still cannot reach an agreement, a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas will make the appointment. He stated this must be completed by the end of the year.

Suzanne Matarese

Ms. Matarese was not in attendance this evening.

Ken Seda

Mr. Stainthorpe asked Mr. Seda why he is interested in serving as Supervisor. Mr. Seda stated he has been a resident of Lower Makefield for five years, and he has held a variety of corporate positions, now working for Cigna in Community Affairs/Community Relations. He stated his background is in **communication**, public relations, and Government Affairs. Mr. Seda stated he wanted to get involved because he has a desire to serve the public good, and do something more than the average constituent. Mr. Stainthorpe stated part of Mr. Seda's campaign was to bring liquor licenses to Lower Makefield, and he stated this is not that easy a process. He asked Mr. Seda if they were to proceed on this, what should be the Township's role. Mr. Seda stated he sees this as a simple issue of liberties. He stated his positions are moderate in tone, and the issue of not having liquor licenses relates to fairness and competition. He stated if this is something the constituency believes in, the Board should do what is necessary to facilitate this and get it on the ballot.

Mr. Smith asked Mr. Seda if he feels the role of the Board of Supervisors should be as an advocate with regard to the liquor licenses, or should they take a neutral position and allow the process to drive itself. Mr. Seda stated he feels for the most part the Board should let it play out, but do the things in principal that they feel make sense.

Mr. Smith asked Mr. Seda his position on the Hospital, and Mr. Seda stated he does not feel they need another hospital in this area within such close proximity to the two other hospitals. He stated he does feel that it may be difficult for the Township to prevail in this matter, and they need to consider what happens if they do not prevail and they should be cautious how they proceed as Aria may be a potential neighbor.

Mr. Smith asked for Mr. Seda's position on the sale of the Satterthwaite parcel, and Mr. Seda stated he feels the Board made the right decision in selling the property. He stated he does not feel that old always means historic, and there are times when things need to move forward and some things need to be preserved and some do not.

Mr. Smith stated sometimes there are situations where there is a vocal minority that comes in taking a very adversarial tone against the Board who is put in a difficult position. He asked Mr. Seda if he would be intimidated or would he be able to make decisions despite being yelled at and demeaned. Mr. Seda stated he agrees that there are times when you have to make difficult decisions, and this is part of being a leader, and you are not able to make everyone happy all the time. He stated he believes that you should make decisions that address the greater good. Mr. Smith stated this was true with the Satterthwaite Parcel and the Deer Management Program where there were very vocal minorities who came in and attacked the Board. Mr. Seda stated he feels he would be able to handle this and still be respectful and let people air their grievances, and he added he feels this is part of the Supervisors' role.

Mr. McLaughlin stated two projects are coming next year – the fields and the Community Center. Mr. McLaughlin stated one of the hardest decisions he faced on first joining the Board was the Responsible Contractor's Ordinance, and he asked Mr. Seda where he would have been on this matter. Mr. Seda stated he feels the intention behind this Ordinance was good, and you want to get qualified labor doing work for the Township. He feels eliminating this would give more flexibility, but he would caution that they would not want to be put in a position where they are getting the cheapest bid, and they should put themselves in the position so that they can make the right decision. Mr. Smith stated they still have the Ordinance, although it has been modified.

Mr. McLaughlin stated Mr. Seda had talked about liquor licenses as a function of competition, yet he is against the Hospital which could also afford competition. Mr. Seda stated there are issues with the Hospital other than just competition. He stated they need to make decisions that are best for the Township. He stated the citizenry is also fully on record as being opposed to the Hospital.



Fred Allan

Mr. Stainthorpe stated Mr. Allan previously served as a Supervisor, and he asked Mr. Allan about his background and community involvement and why he would like to serve as Supervisor again. Mr. Allan stated he has been a resident of the Township for twenty-eight years, and during that time has become involved in a number of community functions and organizations. He stated he has also put together things to help people in the community that go above and beyond what the Supervisors can do. He stated over the past few years he and a number of other people were instrumental in putting together the McCaffrey Fund, which raises funds and helps people in dire need. He stated he was also involved with the Pennsbury Athletic Association for eighteen years both as a coach and Director of the League. He stated he was also involved in getting the girls' fields up and running including input in the design and also was involved in the snack bars at the girls' fields and the boys' fields. Mr. Allan stated he enjoys being involved with the community.

Mr. Allan stated he was a Township Supervisor from November, 1999 through January, 2002 and during that time the Board created a number of different ideas with regard to the Pool including the slides. He stated he saw that there was a need for a ramp at the pool for those with disabilities and for the seniors; and he is most proud that he was involved with this project. He stated he served on the Planning Commission, Historical Review Commission, the Farmland Preservation Commission, and the Cable Advisory Commission. He stated he also coached at St. Ignatius for sixteen years. Mr. Allan stated he has put together three Township Budgets. He stated he put together the boys' snack bar with Fee-In-Lieu funds, and they saved money by having a builder build the facility rather than the Township where they would have had to pay prevailing wage. He stated this saved approximately 30%. He stated he understands they are planning on building new fields, and he feels his expertise would come into play.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated there is a Master Plan for the Parks, part of which includes a soccer complex which has been partially designed. He asked Mr. Allan if he feels there is a need for more fields. Mr. Allan stated he feels the Township's youth population is probably leveling out since the Township is almost built out or preserved; but there is always a need for fields. He noted particularly this spring and the impact the weather had on the field availability. He stated the fields also need to be built in such a way that they can be used quickly after rain. He stated there were originally problems at the girls' fields because the dirt that was used there did not drain properly.

Mr. Smith asked his position on User Fees adding he feels that if there are going to be User Fees they should be borne primarily by non-residents. Mr. Smith stated he feels that what may be creating the demand for additional facilities is that there are a lot of non-residents coming into the Township to play sports. Mr. Allan stated he feels people coming in from outside of the Township should bear much of this cost since they are

using the Township facilities and are not taxpayers. He stated there are people coming from outside the Township using the soccer field at Macclesfield Park, yet their costs are not much more than are the costs to the Township residents. He stated when his daughters were playing softball it was approximately \$135 for them to play, and this is a lot of money for a family with three or four children.

Mr. Smith stated he is a big proponent of youth sports, but there are times when you have to make difficult decisions as a Supervisor because of economic conditions, and he had to take a position against building ball fields at one time. He asked Mr. Allan if he feels there is a right and wrong time to build. Mr. Allan stated interest rates have never been lower, and the Township costs would be less at this time. He stated he feels getting the fields done at a price that works makes sense if they can work with a certain company that could put this together and make the fields work so that they can be used more than they are currently because of the existing conditions. He stated they will have to either build more fields or keep putting money into the fields they have.

Mr. Smith asked Mr. Allan his position on Aria, and Mr. Allan stated he is opposed to the Hospital and feels that land should be an office complex that would create tax ratables. He stated the Township cannot continue not having tax ratables and allow the Hospital to be built there and bring in a third or quarter of what should be tax ratables for that property. He stated he would not have a problem with doctor offices.

Mr. Smith asked Mr. Allan his feelings on the Board's decision regarding the Satterthwaite parcel. Mr. Allen stated he would have voted to sell it. He stated when he was on the Board, they sold what is now the Sill property. He stated the Township should not be in the real estate business. He stated he is in favor of open space but not owning parcels that could be tax ratables for the Township like the Satterthwaite parcel.

Mr. Smith stated certain Township boards have taken on a lobbyist role as opposed to being an advisory board. Mr. Allan stated the people involved in these boards have a genuine desire to be part of something good. He feels they should come up with a common ground without being adversarial or coming to a Township meeting to berate the Supervisors. He stated some committees may need to be told what they need from them and their role in the Township, and this will go a long way to make sure that the roles are not adversarial.

Mr. McLaughlin stated one of the issues that will be confronting the Board is the leaf program and because of the economics and the support needed to do that program to its best level it will need significant investment that could equal approximately \$1 million. He asked Mr. Allan his feelings on this issue. Mr. Allan stated the leaf pick-up program is wonderful for the residents. He stated the builders were required to provide numerous trees, and now they are faced with leaf removal from all of these mature trees. Mr. Allan

stated he would look into getting bids from outside companies to see what the Township would be charged to take care of this. He stated this could also create job opportunities for the small landscapers.

Mr. McLaughlin stated when Mr. Allan was a Supervisor it was a different time when developers were coming in paying Fee-In-Lieu money, and now it is a different situation. He asked Mr. Allan what he feels the challenges are that are facing the Board now that were not around when he served as Supervisor. Mr. Allan stated he is in the real estate business, and this is not a good time for real estate so this has an impact on the transfer taxes. He stated when he served as a Supervisor, they were doing well over \$1 million a year in transfer taxes, and they had extra money coming in which they do not currently have. He stated this negatively impacts the Budget. He stated he feels the Budget Committee and Mr. Fedorchak do an excellent job in making sure that the Budget is working for the residents. He stated he feels they should also look at the Permit Fees with Matrix coming in and also work with that **developer** in some fashion with regard to the Community Center to see if they could save the Township money by having it built for a reasonable cost. He stated he would like to see the Township work with Toll Bros. about getting them to work with the Township on making the Center have a positive impact on the community. Mr. Allan stated he would also like to work with the Seniors on the location for the Community Center. Mr. Allan stated one of his goals would be to work with Toll Bros. on that facility, and he feels they would be willing to work with the Township on this.

#### William Clark

Mr. Clark stated his background is in sales and marketing, and he reviewed his extensive employment history. He stated he has lived all over the Country, and has lived in Lower Makefield for eighteen years. Mr. Stainthorpe asked Mr. Clark what he feels the Township does well and what they could do better. Mr. Clark stated they love living in the Township and added there are good schools, good parks, sports activities, and good upkeep of the neighborhoods.

Mr. Smith stated he indicated in his resume that he had been listening to the residents' concerns and **recommendations** to improve the health, safety, security, and general well being of the community; and he asked what issues are of concern to the residents. Mr. Clark stated he lives down by the River, and people are concerned about what can be done since they have heard that in New York state, they are allowing the reservoirs to rise. He stated his neighborhood has become an island even though they have not been flooded. Mr. Smith asked what the Board could do to change this situation, and Mr. Clark stated they need to find out what the situation is in New York although he understands this will be difficult to determine. He stated New York should be limited as to how high they can have the reservoirs during certain seasons.

Mr. Smith asked Mr. Clark his position on Aria Hospital. Mr. Clark stated he feels there are already good hospitals in the area. He stated if there were doctors' offices, he would not object as tax rates would come out of that. He stated there could also be a combination of a hospital with office space for doctors and research. Mr. Smith stated they do plan to have the Hospital and an adjacent medical facility, and he asked Mr. Clark if he would be in favor of that. Mr. Clark stated he would have to see how large it would be and the impact it would have on the community and the environment.

Mr. Smith asked Mr. Clark his position on the Board's decision to sell the Satterthwaite parcel. Mr. Clark stated he feels they made a good decision especially if it is to go to the veterinarian who will improve the building which will be good for the community and bring value to the area.

Mr. McLaughlin asked if the Township had to fund the Senior Center on its own, would Mr. Clark be in favor of funding it with taxpayer money. Mr. Clark stated if it was for everyone to use including the Seniors, he would be in favor of this.

Mr. McLaughlin stated Mr. Clark indicated that he traveled extensively, and he asked if this would conflict with his ability to attend Township meetings noting this includes not only the Supervisors' meetings, but also ad-hoc meetings, and meetings as Supervisor liaison; and Mr. Clark stated it would not as he is getting to the end of his working career, and he feels this would be a good time for him to come in and serve on the Board bringing in what he has learned in forty-five years in industry.

#### Francis McDonald

Mr. Stainthorpe asked Mr. McDonald to discuss his background and why he would like to serve as Supervisor. Mr. McDonald stated for the last twenty-six years he has been working with people with developmental disabilities and mental health issues in a variety of roles. He stated in his latest role he has been responsible for Budgets, hiring and firing, building new facilities, and acquiring facilities. Mr. McDonald stated he has lived in the Township for sixteen years and loves the community. He stated he has been involved with YMS for ten years and has served on the Park & Recreation Board for six years. He stated he has also coached basketball and soccer for the last ten years.

Mr. Stainthorpe stated one of the issues in the campaign that was just concluded was Community Pride Day and special events like that. He asked Mr. McDonald his opinion on this issue, and Mr. McDonald stated he does not feel that they can afford not to have Community Pride Day since it is a day like no other day, and he feels it is important to bring this back as it brings the community together. He stated over the last five years he has consistently heard from the residents that the community seems to be separating more and not as tight as they had been, and he feels Community Pride Day allows for that.

Mr. McDonald stated that if he is lucky enough to be chosen as Supervisor, he would donate his stipend/salary back to the Township to be used specifically for Community Pride Day, and he would like to work toward bringing that back with private donations.

Mr. Stainthorpe asked Mr. McDonald about his feelings about their needs going forward with regard to the recreation fields. He noted Mr. McDonald was not on the Park & Rec Board when they planned Memorial Park. Mr. McDonald stated it is difficult for the sports organizations given the impact on the fields from weather, and this is coupled with the need to rest the fields so that they can withstand the wear and tear. He stated he feels they need to find a way to move forward, although he is not sure how they should do this. He feels money is as cheap as it is going to get, but there are also other needs in the Township as well; and this is a balancing act.

Mr. Smith stated the Township has a Disabled Persons Advisory Board which he feels is one of the best Boards in the Township. He asked Mr. McDonald what he feels they could do better in the Township based on his background working with those who have disabilities. Mr. McDonald stated he does not know that enough information is coming to the families in the Township about what is available. He stated he is planning to work with Ms. Smith from the Disabled Persons Advisory Board so that the families have more information.

Mr. Smith asked Mr. McDonald his opinion as to User Fees. Mr. McDonald stated he has modified his stance on this over the last few years, and he agrees that they need to look into how much they are charging non-residents. Mr. Smith stated non-residents can increase the need for fields, and this is why he feels they should pay more.

Mr. McDonald stated they do pay more, but to what degree is the issue. Mr. Smith stated YMS had blended their fees and non-residents pay as much as residents which he feels was wrong.

Mr. Smith asked Mr. McDonald his position on the Hospital, and Mr. McDonald stated he is not as involved as much with RAFR as he was in the past, but he still does not feel the Hospital should be at that location.

Mr. Smith asked Mr. McDonald's position on the Satterthwaite House, and Mr. McDonald stated he feels the Board was in a difficult position; and while he would prefer open space, he also agrees that the Township should not a realtor, and that property had the potential to be a "money pit," so he feels the right move was made by the Board.

Mr. McLaughlin asked where Mr. McDonald would be in terms of the Budget process being an advocate for causes but also someone who takes a hard position on certain items. He stated Mr. McDonald has a relationship with YMS which may be difficult taking certain positions. Mr. McDonald stated he recognizes that this is very difficult, but he stated there is only so much money and there are things the Township needs to

take care of such as safety and roads that must be looked at first. He stated he would rely on Mr. Fedorchak and the Department Heads to tell their projections going forward but he would want historical background as well to get a better perspective. He stated he has no problem with sitting down with YMS or any other organization and explaining his position. He stated as a Supervisor, you are never going to be able to please everyone. He stated in his career he has had similar situations where decisions made were not always popular. He stated he would make sure he was well prepared and understands the issues and would then make decisions based on the best interest of the Township and not one group over another.

Mr. McLaughlin asked Mr. McDonald his position on the Deer Management Program. Mr. McDonald stated he was disappointed with the results of the first hunt as there was an expectation of something more. He stated he would have to look at the data closer. He stated he would not want to pay for something if they are not going to get results.

Dawn DiDonato-Burke

Mr. Stainthorpe asked Ms. Burke to tell about herself and why she would like to be Supervisor. Ms. Burke stated she was a prosecutor in Philadelphia for ten years. She stated she loves public service and misses it. She stated while she was a prosecutor, she had the ability to work with a variety of interests and worked in a large firm with 300 attorneys, and she gets along well with everyone. She stated she is also good in adversarial settings when she needs to be and she has had that experience in the DA's office. Ms. Burke stated she also worked for several small firms, and recently she and her husband opened their own firm; and because of this she now has the time this position would require and she has the flexibility to create her own schedule and devote the time necessary to public service.

Mr. Stainthorpe asked her position on Community Pride Day. Ms. Burke stated she feels it is important to have Community Pride Day, and being together with your community is a great thing; and she would strive to keep it.

Mr. Stainthorpe asked Ms. Burke if she feels they need more fields, and Ms. Burke stated she does not feel they need any more fields. She stated from personal experience she feels that when the weather prevents the children from being able to play, it is actually a welcome break.

Mr. Smith asked Ms. Burke what she feels are the main issues facing the Township. Ms. Burke stated she feels the Board of Supervisors has done a great job, and she feels it is wonderful that the Budget is in line with 2008. She feels the main issue facing the Township is to keep the spending where it is while keeping services at acceptable levels.

Mr. Smith asked Ms. Burke her position on the Hospital. Ms. Burke stated she does not feel they need a hospital at that location particularly if it is non profit which will not generate revenue to the Township. She stated there are two other hospitals which are fairly close. She stated she feels the traffic would be awful at the proposed location. She stated the benefit of a hospital versus the traffic created is not a benefit to the Township.

Mr. Smith asked Ms. Burke her position on the Satterthwaite House. Ms. Burke stated she feels the Board did the right thing. She stated this building has been an eyesore, and the sale should improve the building and keep it as open space.

Mr. Smith asked Ms. Burke what she would like to see done to improve the Township. Ms. Burke stated she would like to do what the Board has done in the past which is to keep a line on the taxes and keep the services where they are.

Mr. McLaughlin asked Ms. Burke if Lower Makefield should be in the Golf business. Ms. Burke stated the Township has a pool, and she would equate the Golf Course to that. She stated she does not know whether the Golf Course is profitable or could be better run, and these are things she would have to look at. She stated she is not opposed to the Township owning a Golf Course.

Mr. McLaughlin asked Ms. Burke where she feels they could improve over the next five years. Ms. Burke stated she heard earlier the discussion about Police overtime, and she feels it would be good with regard to Budgeting to start at a zero based Budget and go from there.

Mr. McLaughlin asked Ms. Burke why she did not run in the last election for Supervisor, and Ms. Burke stated it was a timing issue. Ms. Burke stated a number of years ago she considered running for Supervisor but her children were younger; and now that her children are older and she has a more flexible schedule, she has the time to devote to the position.

Mr. Stainthorpe thanked all the candidates for coming out to be interviewed.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, Mr. Smith seconded and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ron Smith, Secretary

