

**SUPERVISOR'S MEETING
April 28, 2016**

The Jackson Township Supervisors held their regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. at the Jackson Township Municipal Building. Members present were Supervisors Bruce Baker, John Wallet and Eric Dreikorn along with Secretary/Treasurer/Manager Dave Hirko and Solicitor Bill Barbin. The meeting was called to order by Bruce Baker, Chairman with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Board Roll Call was taken with all three Supervisors present.

Public Comments Concerning Agenda Items:

Clair Michaels said, I see where you are selling the backhoe. Did we get another one? **Chairman Baker** replied, yes.

Minutes:

Motion Dreikorn, second Wallet to approve the minutes of the Board of Supervisors Meetings held on March 31, 2016 and April 14, 2016. Vote-3 yes.

Township Financial Report:

FUND	Balance 3/31/16	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance 4/28/16
GENERAL	\$ 5,389.26	\$ 123,028.12	\$ 94,937.68	\$ 33,479.70
CAPITAL RESERVE	\$ 1,109,832.34	\$ 10,955.78	\$ 17,806.66	\$ 1,102,981.46
HIGHWAY AID	\$ 278,839.18	\$ 51.32	\$ 8702.85	\$ 270,187.65
SR. CENTER FUND	\$ 15,121.78	\$ 2,915.60	\$ 2,877.13	\$ 15,160.25

Expenditures:

Motion Wallet, second Dreikorn to approve the bills for the period of April 1, 2016 through April 28, 2016. Vote-3 yes.

General Fund	Highway Aid Fund	Senior Center Fund
\$ 93,937.70	\$ 8702.85	\$ 2,877.13

Township Police Report:

The March, 2016 Police Report statistics were as follows: **911 Calls dispatched to Police: 237, Reportable Part I Crimes: 0 broken down as follows: 0. Reportable Part II Crimes: 2 broken down as follows: Disorderly Conduct-2, DUI (Driving While Under the Influence)-1 and Embezzlement-1. Calls Resulting in Cases: 3, Total Arrestees: 2, Total Suspects: 0, Total Victims: 1, DUI Arrests: 1, Traffic Citations: 20, Non-Traffic Citations: 6, Total Warnings: 0**

Correspondence:

(None)

Old Business:

(None)

New Business:

Motion Dreikorn, second Wallet to accept the resignation of Stephen Suckenic as a Part-Time Police Officer for Jackson Township. Vote-3 yes.

Motion Wallet, second Dreikorn to hire Matthew Dunkleberger as a Part-Time Police Officer for Jackson Township. Vote-3 yes.

Motion Dreikorn, second Wallet to approve the sale of a 1994 Case 580 Super K Backhoe to David Thornton for the price of \$17,100.00. Vote 3 yes.

Bids Received on 1994 Case Backhoe		
Name of Bidder	Location	Amount
David Thornton	East Taylor Township	\$ 17,100.00
John Deskevich	Nanty Glo	\$ 15,555.99
Allan Petak	East Taylor Township	\$ 15,501.00

Motion Wallet, second Dreikorn on approving the time sheets from March 27, 2016 through April 9, 2016 and April 10, 2016 through April 23, 2016. Vote-3 yes.

Motion Dreikorn, second Wallet to approve Capital Reserve Fund bill list and transfer \$ 17,806.66 from the Capital Reserve Fund to the General Fund. Vote-3 yes.

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND BILL LIST		
Vendor	Purchase Detail	Amount
American Funds	Police Retirement Pension for 2016	\$ 7,841.66
Naugle Insurance	April Installment	\$ 5,771.00
Sweetland Engineering	Fishing Pond Project	\$ 4,194.00
TOTAL		\$ 17,806.66

Other New Business:

(None)

Public Comments:

Attorney Jeffrey Thomas said, I am here on behalf of Paulette Baker. Miss Baker has retained my services in regards to an incident that occurred while she was performing her duties of tax collector. She was telling me she was receiving harassing comments. . .she's been receiving. . .I don't know if you would call them threats. . .she's been told she can't use the Municipal Building for work. . .she said she's been told she's messy and keeping the place like a pigpen. She put up a sign that people could pay their taxes at her home. . . and a sign was put under that said. . .basically calling her lazy for not showing up. The reason that I provided you with a case law and I'll save you the time and effort from reading it, is it basically states that the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania basically stated that as an elected official, Miss Baker answers only to her constituents and the only way Miss Baker can be removed from office is one, where she would lose an election or two, through an Act of the Legislature. I say this to reinforce that Miss Baker is her own boss necessarily. . .she can't be harassed for not showing up on a certain day. . .she can't be told how to operate. We're not trying to be confrontational. We just want an amicable solution to all of this. We'd hate to have to file an harassment lawsuit or something like that because Miss Baker was confronted by someone in the parking lot and she was cursed out for lack of a better term so having said that, I'm going to turn it over to Miss Baker. She has a few words she would like to say and that's all I have. **Paulette Baker** said, first of all, that was rough talk and yeah. . I just want to say, good evening Bruce, John and Eric and I was not cursed out. That was your words. Let me just say this. Bruce you were nice enough to talk to me twice about this situation about the table and an empty table and I need to have some kind of permanent . . .some kind of stable equipment here so I can do my job and I'll explain it to you and go in detail a little bit. Maybe you'll see things differently. I'm not going to sue anybody. I'm not here to beg or harass somebody. It got a little out of hand and I said things I shouldn't have. I apologize. I guess everybody says things they shouldn't when they're upset and I probably said more things I shouldn't have but that shouldn't impact my efficiency. I wanted to show you this deposit for Tuesday. The bank opens at 8 or 8:30 and I'm gonna be honest with you. This is today's mail. I'm up till 2 or 3 in the morning during the busy season. I'll be up till 2 or 3 in the morning tonight. I'm up till 2 or 3 in the morning every night. That being said, I get up at 6:30 or so and put my grandson on the school bus and I admit, that's not your problem but right after that I go to the bank. **Supervisor Wallet** said, what about night deposit? Did you ever do night deposit? **Paulette Baker** replied, I won't do that. Betsy who was the tax collector before me. . .it's too dangerous. I'm a single woman. I'm glad you brought that up. My husband who was certified by the Comptrollers Office made my deposits every morning. I would just cruise right into work. He's gone now. . my whole family is gone. . I just have a nine year old kid at home. That's not your problem. . I'm asking for a little empathy here. I'm up till 2 or 3 in the morning, roll out of bed at 6 or 7, get him on the bus, fly to the bank and doing the busy season at the house I had Kathleen Teeter at 10 after 9 and the flow was steady all day at the house. I didn't get to eat lunch till 7 o'clock. You are probably saying, where is all this going? Could I please

put my cash box out. .this is all I want. . . and you know Eric, I left a message and I called two or three times. . Eric saying thanks for returning my phone call . .have a good day. **Supervisor Dreikorn** said, it was a little more graphic than that. I have it saved. Whenever it disturbs my family. . . **Paulette Baker** said, I think we need to be kind to each other and in a forgiving spirit. You know my little 9 year old grandson was in the back seat. **Dreikorn** said, when I told you to do your damn job? You were screaming at me as you were driving down the road. Listen Paulette, I don't have any reason to lie about this. I don't lie. . I don't swear and you can talk to my family. . you can talk to any of the employees or inmates where I work. . I don't swear and the only time I get hostile is when somebody is going after me or my family. For you to confront me in the parking lot the way you did. **Solicitor Barbin** said we have 3 minutes for public comment which is long past gone. You can make comments on policy for the Township. . you can say it. We're not here to have a debate. **Paulette Baker** said, Eric. I apologize if I hurt anyone's feelings. I'm having a rough time here. All I'm asking if that little telephone table there. . . **Barbin** said, I was told you left a cash box on the table. It's wrong. We want nothing like that left out on the table. The room is used by lots of people and the Township has a right to set rules for how the meeting room is used. You have a secure area. Bruce showed me, your stuff was sitting over there. your papers, your briefcases. . they're all sitting over there. There is a secure room with a locking file cabinet and when you're not here, they want your stuff cleared off so other people can use this room and there's a whole bunch of organizations and groups in the Township that use this room. During your busy season of tax season, you do not own this room. I see the case you've given us. this is recall petitions for Township Supervisors. Nobody's removing her from office. She's an elected tax collector. If you're using the Township Building, they have a right to set rules. **Thomas** said, we're not disagreeing with that. What we're saying is you shouldn't be calling her out for not showing up on a Tuesday. **Barbin** said, nobody's calling her out. That's not a true statement. **Thomas** said, who wrote this note saying she made this choice because she couldn't find 10 minutes beforehand to set up? **Chairman Baker** said, I put that note up because she was telling everybody for the record, we kicked her out. We did not kick her out. We absolutely did not kick her out. We asked her at the end of the day to put her stuff away. There are so many impromptu meetings here daily. **Barbin** said, the Township doesn't want things left out overnight for the next morning. **Thomas** said, what was the reason for putting the note up? **Chairman Baker** said, what was the reason for her not coming here? The building was open and available to her. **Thomas** said, she doesn't have to come here if she doesn't want to. **Chairman Baker** said, well if that was the point, that was her choice. She chose not to come here. **Thomas** said, this note is very inappropriate to call out an old lady. **Chairman Baker** said, if you would hear all the comments and derogatory statements she made. **Thomas** replied, I'm not here to discuss the derogatory comments. . what I'm here to discuss... **Chairman Baker** said, apparently you are. **Barbin** asked, are you alleging that the communication is improper or illegal? **Thomas** said I'm alleging that's it improper. It's improper to call an old woman out for not showing up for a day of work when she doesn't have to. **Chairman Baker** said, we were not calling her out. **Barbin** said, you came in late on this Argument between Paulette and the Supervisors that was going on for a period of time. The Township allows Paulette to use this room free of charge and use the copy machine free of charge as a nice thing. We offer that. Other municipalities don't do that. Tax collectors have their own offices and pay their own office expenses. **Paulette Baker** said, most large townships let their Tax Collector have their own office Bill. I've never had that. **Barbin** said, we're not having stuff left on the table when you're not here. to let money or peoples records out on the table. **Chairman Baker** said, it wasn't that Paulette wasn't allowed to be here. . .the taxpayers were upset that they had to go to her home. It was not our fault. This room was available to her. She chose not to be here. **Thomas** said, she doesn't have to be here. You called her out because she wasn't here. This note doesn't say Miss Paulette is not here today. This says Miss Paulette Baker could not find 10 minutes to set up because she's too lazy. **Barbin** replied. . no. . .lazy is your word. . not ours. Nobody here has ever called Paulette lazy. You called her lazy. I don't know who gave you that word. **Thomas** said, so if I showed up and put a sign saying Mr. Barbin couldn't find the time to file his brief today, how would that be. **Barbin** said, it's a true fact. .too busy. .ok. **Thomas** said, too busy or too lazy? **Barbin** said. . you said lazy. You're the one calling her an old woman and lazy. **Paulette Baker** said, can we get off this. I have two more comments then I realize I've taken up too much time. Yesterday I did not have time to go to the bank because when I come in here during the busy time. . I would only ask for that little table to have those three little items on it two days a week during March and April and July and August. I've already walked in here . .you know. .9:30 and people come here actually grabbing me saying take mine first because I'm on the way to work. . both phones are ringing. **Chairman Baker** said, you start at 10 right? **Paulette Baker** said, not during the busy season? **Chairman Baker** asked, what time does the tax bills say? **Paulette Baker** said 10 to 4. **Chairman Baker** said, 10 o'clock you open the door, it's that simple. **Paulette Baker** said, you're not gettin it. At 9 o'clock they're over at my house. I'm trying to get out the door. . I'm trying to get to the bank. **Chairman Baker** said, we use that little table. . .do you see the phone on there? We use that for conference calls. **Paulette Baker** asked, can I bring my own little table on wheels. **Wallet** said, what we're offering you is that storage room for your table so you can keep your stuff secure so we have no threat of anybody taking any of your stuff when you're not here collecting taxes. You can lock it. . you can have a key. You're welcome to use this meeting room as you always have. We just do not want your stuff left out overnight. We have other groups coming in here at night who use this room. It's that simple Paulette. **Paulette Baker** said, could I. . I'm not trying to be. . **Wallet** said, you're being unreasonable. We're trying to be reasonable with you. **Chairman Baker** said, does your little table have wheels? **Paulette Baker** replied, yes. **Chairman Baker** asked, can you wheel it from here into that room? **Paulette Baker** replied yes. **Chairman Baker** said, do it. .good. **Paulette Baker** said, ok. . it's solved. . thank you. May God bless you. **Chairman Baker** said, no . . don't go there. The things you said about me this week.

. I'm disappointed. The thing is you can't leave your stuff out on this table. If you can put it on a table and wheel it in that room, do it. That's all we ask. You blew this thing way out of proportion. I have your voice mails on my phone and very condescending emails from my neighbors. **Paulette Baker** said, all this could have been avoided but nobody returned my calls. **Chairman Baker** said, I tried talking to you Monday. Dave Hirko was my witness. You would not listen to anything I had to say. You just wouldn't listen Paulette. . I'm sorry. **Paulette Baker** asked, what wasn't I listening to? **Chairman Baker** said, you just went on and on and you had one thought on your mind and that was it. You couldn't talk to you and that's when you started bouncing off these two. I really hope nobody tells me that you're still bad mouthing me personally. . . I was really disappointed.

Clair Michaels said, when this power plant goes in, how much will the Township make off of every kilowatt hour? **Solicitor Barbin** said, there's no royalty on electric to be generated. They don't have a royalty in Seward either. **Michaels** said, I was hearing the Township was going to get a royalty off of that and they're gonna make good money off of that power plant. You're going to get tax money and money off of the earned income tax. **Barbin** said, you get earned income tax only when someone happens to live here. **Chairman Baker** said, we're looking out for the best interest of our residents. **Supervisor Wallet** added, we're going to do the best we can for our residents.

Announcements:

Chairman Bruce Baker announced, The Board of Supervisors next meetings will be held on Thursday, May 12, 2016 at 7:30 am and Thursday, May 26, 2016 at 6:00 pm at the Jackson Township Municipal Building. The Jackson Township Community Rod & Gun Club along with the Jackson Township Supervisors will be hosting the 11th Annual Fishing Derby at Woodland Park Campground on Saturday, May 7, 2016 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. It's always a great Derby!

Adjournment:

Motion Wallet, second Dreikorn to adjourn the meeting at 6:29. Vote-3 yes.

Respectfully submitted,



David M. Hirko, Secretary