**September 3, 2015
Township Meeting Room**

**WEST COCALICO TOWNSHIP**

Leading the Pledge of Allegiance, the Chairman, Jacque Smith called the meeting to order at

7:00 p.m.

The following were in attendance:

Supervisors: Jacque Smith, Terry Scheetz and James Stoner (JJ).

Others Present: Carolyn Hildebrand, Manager; Shelbie Shupp, Administrative Assistant; Larry Maier, Solicitor; Steve Laudenslager, Elaine Bowman, Norma Enck, Luke and Neil Showalter; Ray and Dawn Burns, Nancy Hamill, Bryan and April Westhafer, Randy Good, Sara Lucky, Dean and Carol Johnson, Kalie Johnson, Craig Turnbaugh, Julie and Mike Witmer, Tom David, Lonnie Oglesby and Michelle Fry, Ephrata Review.

Chairman, Jacque Smith asked for public comment: there was none.

James Stoner motioned to approve the Board of Supervisors minutes from August 18, 2015.

Terry Scheetz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

James Stoner motioned to approve the attached list of checks totaling $101,046.28. Terry Scheetz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Carolyn Hildebrand gave the Manager’s Report:

 1. Attended the following meetings:

a. Parks Board – August 26, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

 2. Met with Mark Schillaci to go over the details of the changes to convert the storage room
 down the hall into a space suitable for a police sub-station.

 3. Met with Brad Wolf from Art Pannebecker & Brad Wolf Auctioneers to set up a public
 auction for the Township properties at 350 and 360 W. Route 897.

 4. Sent Cory Gantert a notice regarding auxiliary driveway he put in before receiving an
 approved driveway permit.

 5. Working with PennDot regarding detours and public education for the bridge replacement
 on S. Cocalico Rd.

Supervisor Stoner presented an overview of police selection factors comparing the three police forces that were evaluated for service; Ephrata Borough, Township of Spring and PA State Police. The following comparisons were presented:

 ● Ephrata & Twp. of Spring will both provide the level of services needed/wanted, whereas, State Police do not enforce local ordinances and may have some sporadic response times.

 ● All three providers have well trained, experienced staff.

 ● PA State Police is the low cost supplier. Ephrata and Twp. of Spring have similar costs.

 ● Ephrata and Spring Twp. will work with ECT to hire qualified, furloughed officers if layoffs at ECT occur.

 ● All three providers have been very cooperative and worked closely with WCT in discussions and negotiations.

 ● Both Ephrata & Spring consider EMS support a priority. However, Ephrata already has a closer relationship with EMS in our area.

 ● 911 services require Twp. of Spring to purchase extra radios specific to communications with Lancaster County.

 ● Spring Twp. will require extra costs related to working with Lancaster County court system for arrests in Lancaster County.

 ● Ephrata will have a larger pool of officers (33) than available in Spring (28) to better serve our large area.

 ● Some Ephrata staff live in Cocalico School District and also in WCT, are Cocalico graduates or coach Cocalico sports teams

Mr. Stoner said the three police forces were very helpful, pro-active and reactive to requests for information and in communicating their responses and predictable in cost.

 Note: 1. Northern Lancaster, although interested in providing a quote; felt they could not
 meet 1/1/2016 startup date.

 2. As of September 1st, East Cocalico was removed from consideration.

Terry Scheetz said he is very pleased and comfortable with going with Ephrata Borough Police. He is comfortable with all the agencies. Jacque Smith said he is prejudice toward Ephrata Borough because of his past experience with them as an Administrator for Ephrata School District. He thanked James Stoner for his countless hours of time and effort in researching and evaluating police forces. He said all the Supervisors have been conscious of cost, not only with police but all costs in the Township. Smith said he has always felt the East Cocalico Township police officers are to be commended for their services over the years; the decision has to do with management on the part of Townships.

Supervisor Stoner opened the floor for public comment regarding police services. The following is a summary of questions and comments:

1. Elaine Bowman/Tom Davey - had questions regarding Zones and how many cars would be in West Cocalico/Adamstown? Would West Cocalico Twp. and Adamstown function as one Zone? Stoner said the police protection would be 24/7, 365 days, with coverage divided by 80% WCT and 20% Adamstown. There would be 1 car covering WCT and Adamstown at the same time, as well as a roaming car that would be available if needed. There is a roaming car every shift. Stoner said he does not know how Zones would be broken up but thinks it would be West Cocalico and Adamstown as one Zone.
2. April Westhafer - said she feels there has been no transparency until tonight and decisions have been made based on personal conflicts and money. She feels there was never any intention to work with other community members and feels misrepresented.
3. Ray Burns – The Ephrata cost of 787,000 for 2016, doesn’t take into consideration Township building renovations. There is a difference of $7,000 between 2016 price from ECT and what is being presented by Ephrata. He said the Supervisors should not say it is a dollar and cents decision.
4. Nancy Hamill said she is vehemently against spending tax payer money on a sub-station.

 5. Norma Enck questioned what would be the price without Adamstown?

 6. Ray Burns questioned how the Board can make a decision to go with Ephrata Borough based on Adamstown’s meeting? Stoner said the motion will be based on Adamstown going along, if they decide not to go along, then he might have to rethink his position.

 7. Lonnie Oglesby and Steve Laudenslager asked for clarification as to how many officers
 would be designated for West Cocalico Township. Stoner said there would be one officer
 per shift designated for West Cocalico/Adamstown with backup if needed. There would be
 a total of 5 officers assigned to the West Cocalico/Adamstown area to cover all shifts,
 change of shifts, overtime, holidays, etc.

 8. Mike Witmer said there would be a substantial savings going with State Police and asked if
 that would lower resident’s taxes. Stoner said he did not feel that the public was in favor of
 using State Police. However, it certainly help with not raising taxes for future years. Stoner
 said he would not have a problem going with State Police but the response time could be
 45 mins. to an hour away. Stoner said the Board is only hearing from a small
 representation of the 7,200 residents. Most of the residents do not want to come to a public
 meeting.

 9. Steve Laudenslager questioned whether the Township has received proposals or contracts?
 Stoner said the Township has a proposal and not an official contract. He will make a
 motion to go into a contract proposal. He said Larry Maier reviewed proposals. Larry
 Maier said the acceptance of the proposal is contingent upon Board approval of final
 documents and contingent on Adamstown being involved. These actions will put into gear
 the legal part of it, Ephrata drawing up the necessary contract and then the final stage
 would be the ordinance. Stoner shared that the proposal states that the prices are fixed for 5
 years, including OPEB. The pension is 93% funded and the OPEB is pay as you go.

 10. Brian Westhafer – asked if the Township has figures for after 5 yrs.? Stoner said it was a
 stretch just to get five years. Spring reluctantly did it.

 11. Ray Burns – said the Township should look at exit costs considerations for residual police
 services from ECT. There will be cost considerations moving forward. The Board should
 take that consideration into the process. Larry Maier said the Township was basically
 renting a police department. He said the current contract has a specific provision for no
 residual cost. Mr. Maier said he can see an issue with pending prosecutions and cases in
 the process.

James Stoner motioned to move with Ephrata Borough Police Department as per proposed contracted terms and fees as set forth to us on August 10, 2015, for a period of 5 years. Jacque Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

James Stoner moved to appoint the firm of Morgan, Hallgren, Crosswell & Kane, P.C. as special counsel for the purposes of negotiations and preparations of an intergovernmental agreement with Ephrata Borough for provision of police services and the preparation and advertisement of related documents and ordinances. Jacque Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

James Stoner moved that the Special Counsel be authorized to negotiate with the Ephrata Borough Solicitor to prepare an Agreement between this Township and Ephrata Borough for police protective services commencing on January 1, 2016, incorporating the terms set forth in the proposal provided by Ephrata Borough dated August 10, 2015, assuming that Adamstown Borough will also enter into an agreement with Ephrata Borough. Jacque Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

James Stoner moved that the Special Counsel be authorized to prepare an ordinance pursuant to the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act to authorize this Township to enter into an Agreement with Ephrata Borough for the provision of police services effective January 1, 2016, and to advertise such ordinance for consideration of the Board of Supervisors at Board’s October or November meeting. Jacque Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion regarding a resident’s request for a mirror on Paradise Road. The Solicitor said PennDot standards are for the resident to be responsible for placing the mirror out of the right-of-way and for the cost and maintenance of the mirror. There would not be a liability for the Township. The Manager shared that the Roadmaster did not feel the mirror would be of any benefit.

There was discussion regarding the Schoeneck Fire Companies request for the Township to provide monetary assistance with purchasing gate to prevent through traffic from the park. The Manager will get a cost estimate from the fire company to present at a future meeting. Supervisor Stoner said he might be willing to donate the funds for the gate.

Terry Scheetz motioned to pass Ordinance 129 – Stormwater Ordinance. James Stoner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Manager shared the following points regarding the Ordinance:

 ● The Ordinance was updated as a result of the County passing Act 167 due to state mandated
 requirements.

 ● There is a one-time 1,000 sq. foot cumulative exemption

 ● Will have to account for 20% of existing impervious not done under current ordinance

 ● Ag exemption is gone

 ● There is a template available for minor plans so homeowners can do it themselves

There was discussion regarding Laurel Ridge Road hidden driveway sign request. The Supervisors did not approve the request.

Terry Scheetz motioned to approve the Cocalico Education Foundation using the Township roads and the services of the Schoeneck Fire Police on September 26, 2015; for a 5K race. James Stoner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

James Stoner motioned to approve the Nevin R. Horning Declaration of Easement for on-lot sewage at 50 Sportsman Rd. Jacque Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

James Stoner motioned to reduce the Elmer Kauffman Letter of Credit by $26,137.24, leaving a balance of $10,928.64. Terry Scheetz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion regarding East Cocalico Township’s request for suggestions of legal venues to advertise the sale of 1925 N. Reading Rd. The Supervisors were fine with the ones suggested by East Cocalico Township and recommended adding the Harrisburg paper as an additional advertising venue.

On a motion by Terry Scheetz and seconded by James Stoner, the meeting was adjourned at

8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James Stoner

Secretary