

Exhibit 5

TOWNSHIP INFORMATION:

MEDIA COVERAGE:

OTHER INFORMATION:

FROM 25 TOWNSHIPS IN

PENNSYLVANIA

Attached in this packet is information on the following townships:

Bristol	South Fayette
Bensalem	West Norriton
Jeff Bartlett Twp. Mgr. moves	West Donegal
Lower Providence	Neshannock
Whitemarsh	Radnor
Forks & Hilltown	Artis & Adams
Lower Macungie	Cumru
Dickinson	Buckingham
Charlestown	Butler
Cherry Hill N.J.	West Pikeland
Whitehall	Howell
Tyrone Borough	Silver Springs
North Whitehall	Newtown
Logan	

A reading of all of this information re townships and people, will give you a feel for what happens in the real world of township government activities.

BRISTOL TWP
Nov. 2009 - YES

Summary of Commission's Findings and Recommendation for a Change of Government Format to the Council-Manager Plan

After careful deliberation, the Bristol Township Government Study Commission has concluded that a change in government plan is appropriate and beneficial for the citizens of Bristol Township. Currently, Bristol Township is governed under the provisions of Optional Plan C, known as the "Mayor-Council Plan C", adopted by the Township in 1986. The Commission believes that this form of government does not allow for proper accountability of its elected officials, fosters an atmosphere of unprofessionalism, and is inefficient.

The current form of government creates and sustains political tension and inhibits the Managing Director from being able to fully perform his/her duties. Under Optional Plan C in Bristol Township, the Managing Director may be terminated by the Mayor without the support of the Bristol Township Council, thereby taking away the Managing Director's independence from the Mayor and placing the Managing Director in a constant political situation for fear of losing his employment. The "Council-Manager" plan will allow the hiring and firing of the Managing Director only by the elected Council.

Under the Home Rule Charter and Optional Plans Law, the Commission recommends the adoption of the "Council-Manager Plan".² Under this optional plan, the office of Mayor is hereby abolished and, instead, replaced with one of the council members being appointed as the President of the Council by a majority of its other members.

Further, under the new government plan, the number of council members will be increased from the current five (5) members to seven (7) members. The new seven (7) member Council shall continue to be elected on an at-large basis by the voters of Bristol Township.

CANDIDATES
"HAND PICKED"
BY SOME EXIST-
ING BOARD TO
GET A MAJORITY.
???

² The text of the relevant provisions of the Home Rule Charter and Optional Plans Law for the "Council-Manager" Plan D is set forth in Appendix "B".

Whether to have the new Council elected at large or by districts was a hotly contested debate among the Commission members. Ultimately, a majority of the Commission prevailed on their position that creating districts would be a step backwards to the era where the Township was divided into wards and each commission member was, in essence, king of their own little part of kingdom within the Township; each vying for their own constituents, rather than for the entire Township. Establishing councilmatic districts would hinder the Council's ability to do what is best for the Township as a whole.

DISTRICT
AT LARGE

During its investigation, this Commission heard time and again that one of the goals for any government should be to promote increased representation for all of Bristol Township's citizens. We believe that increasing the number of council members will allow for representatives from more diverse areas within the township to run for and, ultimately, be elected to Council. Having more council members will also allow greater accessibility for our citizens to their elected officials.

IDEALLY
NOT
REALITY

The Commission believes and, therefore, recommends that the Managing Director be the keystone of the new government. In order to promote efficiency and greater accountability, the duties of the Managing Director are enhanced under the new optional plan. As such, we believe that Council must allow for a strong, independent and motivated Managing Director, permitting that person to oversee the daily functions of the Township's governance without undue interference from the Council.

WOW!
COUNCIL'S JOB
IS TO CLOSELY
PROVIDE "OVER
SIGHT" MGR
NOT ELECTE

Additionally, to further assist in creating greater governmental efficiency, this Commission is recommending that the Office of Treasurer and Tax Collector be abolished. Other departments under the current government should be consolidated as well. The departments of Licenses and Inspection, Public Works, Recreation, the Fire Marshal and

WOW!
NOT IN MIND
MTSD & TOL
SHARPE CASE

Emergency Management should all be consolidated under the Public Safety Department. Therefore, only one Director would be overseeing the above named government functions instead having five additional Directors.

The Commission is recommending the addition of one department. We believe that a Human Resources Department should be created to take over those appropriate functions from the other departments, thereby, consolidating duties like hiring practices, civil rights enforcement, bargaining unit contract administration and benefits administration, otherwise allowing the department heads to concentrate on the proper administration of their departments.

Form of Referendum Question and Interpretative Statement

The form of the Referendum question that will appear on the November 3, 2009 ballot is as follows:

The Bristol Township Government Study Commission recommends that Bristol Township adopt the Council-Manager Optional Plan of Government, as well as the other recommendations of this Commission, as authorized by the Home Rule Charter and Optional Plan Laws. Based upon these recommendations, a question will be placed on the November 3, 2009 ballot, at which time the voters of the Township of Bristol will vote on the following question:

“Shall the current Optional Plan of Government of the Township of Bristol be repealed, and the form of government and recommendations in the report of the Government Study Commission, dated August 4, 2009 be adopted as authorized by the Home Rule Charter and Optional Plans Law?”

YES _____ NO _____

The following interpretive statement will accompany the question on the ballot:

“A vote of YES is a vote to change the current form of government of Bristol Township, adopting the recommendations of the Bristol Township Government Study Commission. The number of Council members will be increased to seven (7), all elected at-large, the Offices of the Mayor, Treasurer and Tax Collector will be abolished, a Human Resources Department will be created, a transition

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ELECTION'09: Bristol Township: No mayor position beginning in 2012

Published: Friday, November 06, 2009

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Bristol TWP

By Joanna Schlicher and Matthew Fleishman; BucksLocalNews.com

BRISTOL TWP. - By a margin of more than 20 percent, Bristol Township voters chose to eliminate the position of mayor from their government, beginning in 2012.

With nearly 3,000 votes in favor of the referendum, 60.5 percent of voters felt that seven council members and no mayor would be a more effective government than one with five council members and a mayor.

This vote comes after a study commission recommended the change.

At the Sept. 17 Bristol Township Council meeting, Mike Slipp and Janet Keyser, both members of the government study commission, announced the group's unanimous decision to recommend a substantial change from the current "council-mayor" form of government. According to Slipp, the outgoing form of government has been in place for about 25 years.

The commission met for the first time in December 2008, after local residents voted "overwhelmingly" to form a non-partisan committee to study the way Bristol Township government was run. According to Slipp, the commission was given a budget of \$25,000 for researching ways to enhance or maintain the current form of government. The commission held 18 meetings over the last 10 months. In addition, they held public hearings and meetings, and encouraged public comment.

The commission recommended the township council increase from five to seven members, which Slipp said would help with response to public complaints. They also suggested eliminating the mayor position all together,

"I've never known an elected official in this area not to respond to resident complaints, but I know sometimes you (council) get overwhelmed, and if people don't get the response they want, their perception is that they were ignored," he said. *WSD?*

Slipp also said that a problem with the current government is a lack of definition as to whose role is what. The commission wants the new government to have a strong manager position, and all council members would have to go through the manager department when dealing with residents. *WHO ELECTED?*

"This will allow council members to be what they should be - policy makers," he said. *STRONG DIR. USUERS POLICY-MAKING.*

"Our goal was to come to a result that all seven commission members could agree on," said Slipp. They were successful, because all seven did agree on the findings.

"I strongly urge a 'yes' vote," said Slipp, in September. "I think it's the right thing to do."

While the shape of the government will change in 2012, Tina M. Davis (15.6 percent), Bob Lewis (13.6 percent), Rick Pluta (13.3 percent) and Tony Tucker (12.9 percent) won four-year terms on Bristol Township Council.

Democrat John P. Monahan (58.8 percent) defeated Republican James H. McCullen, Jr., (41.2 percent) for the position of Bristol Township Executive.

In addition, Kevin P. Wagner and William E. Keyser ran unopposed for the two positions as constable.

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Bristol TWP

Local/State

Last mayor of Bristol Township

Saturday, December 31, 2011



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Action News

BRISTOL TWP., Pa. - December 29, 2011 (WPVI) – Mayor John Monahan retires for good over the weekend. But it is not because of his age. Monahan is 63. It's because he has the distinction of being Bristol Township's last mayor.

Democratic Mayor John Monahan was making the rounds on Thursday as his two year term is winding down.

Before taking office, Monahan was a Bristol Township council member for 8 years and Sergeant at Arms for the House of Representatives in Harrisburg for 13.

When asked what was his favorite part about being mayor? Monahan replied, "Helping people. I enjoyed people calling."

He was over 80 when he entered office but didn't hesitate to run.

"They needed a candidate, and they came to me and wanted me to run; that was enough," said Mayor Monahan.

63 year old Monahan isn't retiring per se; he will be the last mayor of Bristol Township as the township is going to a council-manager form of government.

"We're going through a change in government, so he's actually the last mayor Bristol Township will ever have," said Jeff Bartlett. "It's kind of an honor, a nice way to go out with the New Year."

In the 2009 elections, voters chose to eliminate the position starting in 2012. The new format includes 7 council members, while the prior format had five council members and a mayor.

Among the expected benefits, the new format is seen as a way to expand representation on the council and help address more public complaints.

Monahan says he believes his role will be adequately distributed among other positions, but he will continue addressing the complaints logged in his book until his term officially expires at the end of the year.

Those who know him aren't surprised.

"They don't make many people like Mayor John Monahan," said Bristol Township resident Craig Cummons.

"He always takes time, no matter who it is. He's got a book in there full of complaints, and he calls everyone of them. It amazes me," said Joan Lamina.

So what next for Monahan?

"I've been offered a few jobs, but I think I'm going to take it easy for a few months," Monahan said.

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Bristol Twp

New government is now in place

By **DANNY ADLER** Staff writer | Posted: Wednesday, January 4, 2012 5:00 am

Two years after voters approved a change to their government's structure, Bristol Township's new government is now in place.

While council still has to approve the new government's administrative code, the mayor-less government took effect this week and the now seven-member council held its first meeting on Tuesday. Four new faces joined the council, and new faces joined the township's team, including a new solicitor, engineer and manager, who will make \$27,000 more than the previous administrator.

In addition to those appointments at Tuesday's reorganization meeting, the new majority appointed Councilman Bob Lewis as president and Councilman Troy Brennan vice president of council.

Council members Lewis, Brennan, Craig Bowen, Joe Glasson and Amber Longhitano voted to appoint Bill McCauley as interim township manager at a salary of \$125,000 a year plus benefits. The former manager, Jeff Bartlett, whose employment was effectively terminated when the council appointed McCauley, according to the solicitor, was budgeted to make \$97,594 this year.

McCauley is a former administrative director of Bensalem who resigned from that post shortly after a DUI hit-and-run in 2007.

"My DUI has been well-publicized and reported," McCauley told the council and a room of residents after being appointed. "When you make a mistake, the best thing to do is acknowledge the mistake, learn from the experience and move on with your life. I believe that I have done so."

"There is no doubt in my mind that I can be of service to council as you move forward with implementing a new form of government in Bristol Township," he said. "I look forward to working with all of you and accomplishing great things in Bristol Township."

Councilmen Tony Tucker and Rick Pluta, who along with Lewis served on the previous council, voted against hiring McCauley.

"I've never even seen who this guy is. I don't know his qualifications. I never had a chance to interview this guy. I'm going to vote no," Tucker said.

Pluta said, "We don't have that money in the budget. Where's this money coming from?"

Brennan said he believes that with McCauley's experience, the new manager will save the township more money than the difference between his salary and Bartlett's. Also, he said the new members aren't taking compensation, so that money can be put toward the manager's pay. "He will save this township bundles of money. You ever hear that you get what you pay for?" he said.

The new majority appointed law firm Flager & Yockey as township solicitor and Gilmore & Associates as township engineer. Tucker and Pluta voted against those appointments. The two also voted against naming Lewis president and Brennan vice president.

Voters overwhelmingly approved a ballot referendum in November 2009 supporting the Bristol Township Government Study Commission's recommendations to change its government. About 60 percent of voters agreed to change the government from a mayor-council plan to a council-manager plan, abolish the mayor's office and increase the number of council seats from five to seven.

This is the fourth time Bristol Township has changed its government in the last half century.

BRISTOL TWP.

Council re-opens 2012 budget

By DANNY ADLER Staff writer | Posted: Friday, January 20, 2012 5:00 am

Bristol Township's new council on Thursday charged its new manager with tweaking this year's budget to eliminate a slight municipal property tax increase that was approved by the previous council last month.

The council unanimously voted to re-open the 2012 budget, which is allowed under law, and told township Manager Bill McCauley to present a new version to the board at a meeting on Feb. 1.

The council could then approve a new budget at its Feb. 15 meeting. Also Thursday night, the council had to amend its meeting days for next month so it could meet the law's requirements. Solicitor Randall Flager says that changes to the budget must be approved no later than Feb. 15.

In December, the former council approved a budget that raised municipal property taxes by 0.3 mills, or \$5 for a resident with a property assessed at the township average of \$17,877. That increase brought the total township property tax millage to 24.29 mills, or \$434 for the average property owner.

The 0.3-mill increase was in the fire fund to help handle fire hydrant maintenance.

Council President Bob Lewis had asked the council for a motion to re-open the budget "to eliminate the tax increase on our already overburdened residents."

During Thursday night's council meeting, resident Anne Vesce questioned the council on hiring a new manager at a significantly larger salary than the previous one. At the reorganization meeting earlier this month, Lewis and council newcomers Troy Brennan, Craig Bowen, Joe Glasson and Amber Longhitano voted to hire McCauley at a salary of \$125,000 a year, whereas the previous manager was budgeted to receive a salary of \$97,594 in 2012. Councilmen Rick Pluta and Tony Tucker voted against hiring him.

"How can you justify that? Especially since so many department heads got no increases at all," she said.

Another woman said the \$27,000 increase for the manager's post "was a hard hit" but "if he does his job and lowers our taxes, I don't think anyone will question that \$27,000."

Brennan said that if McCauley is able to open the budget and save tax dollars, "he's worth every penny."

In addition to the slight tax increase approved in December, the previous council used \$771,000 in reserves to balance the 2012 budget.

Some residents also asked officials how the new government, which took effect at the beginning of this year, was operating since the council has not yet adopted a new administrative code.

"I just want to know which set of rules we're running under," Gallus Obert said.

Flager, the solicitor, told audience members that the township is running under the first class township code and the optional plans law, "which is what formed this new government, so it's kind of a hybrid at this point."

After reviewing a draft of the administrative code, Flager said there are "many, many changes that we have made. Some are typos, some are grammatical, some are italics, some are insignificant, and some are significant."

Flager said that in February he will present a proposal to the council and the public for comment. The council will have to advertise the law and hold a public hearing on it.

"Everything is running," Flager said. "The township has a form of government. It's governed by the optional plans law and the first class township code. All the functions of the township can be accomplished. The administrative code will just make it a lot easier."

NOTE:

Flager said the administrative code could be approved in March or April.

MORE BRISTOL TWP

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Bristol Township's top administrator on Wednesday delivered a harsh assessment of the municipality's fiscal health, saying that if the township "is willing to take its medicine and reduce spending, it could avoid a financial Armageddon."

Bill McCauley, the interim township manager, also said a "strong case could be made" that Bristol Township is a candidate for help through Pennsylvania's Act 47. Pittsburgh, Scranton and Reading are among the cities in that state program, which helps municipalities recover financially without filing for federal bankruptcy protection.

McCauley's comments came on the same night that the new township council approved the manager's amended \$43.6-million budget for 2012 that eliminates a slight tax increase approved by the previous council last year. The vote was 6-1, with Councilman Rick Pluta voting against it; Pluta said he didn't want a chunk of the manager's salary coming out of the sewer fund, for which the budget calls.

The newly approved 2012 budget eliminates the 0.3-mill municipal property tax hike, which had equated to about \$5 for a resident with a property assessed at the township average of \$17,877.

"The 2012 township budget is of little consequence in the big financial picture," McCauley said in a presentation. In the past, he said, the township operated "with its eyes closed thinking everything was fine."

"This time, however, the train is not headed off the tracks, but over a cliff," he said.

The new 2012 budget is \$105,249 less than the spending plan approved on Dec. 29. While the original budget called for using \$709,000 in savings to balance the budget, the new budget uses \$587,000.

In his alarm-sounding presentation, McCauley said the remaining general fund reserve will dip to \$3.1 million.

McCauley said that \$16.4 million of the \$19.9 million general fund, about 82 percent, goes toward personnel-related costs: salaries, benefits and FICA.

While salaries account for 45.78 percent of general fund expenses, benefits account for 34.75 percent.

"Unfortunately, because the township spends so much for wages and benefits, there is little money left for operating expenses," he said. "The township will be forced to look at its personnel and benefits costs to get any meaningful reductions in spending."

Bristol Township employs 152 full timers and three part timers. According to officials, there are 71 police employees, 14 full-time and one part-time non-uniform police employees, 23 full timers in public works, nine in finance, eight in the Fire Marshal's office, seven full timers and two part timers in building and planning, six sewer employees, five in parks and recreation, five in the manager's office and four in community development.

"Bristol Township cannot afford the present size of its organization," McCauley said. "It cannot afford the number of employees it has. It cannot afford any of the overly generous collective bargaining agreements that presently exist."

"The remedy is not pleasant as we all would rather work in an environment of growth. Drastic cuts in spending have to take place," he said.

McCauley said the township's last audit stated that the township had an unfunded liability of \$66.9 million for "other post employment benefits." Also, a previous council voted on a taxable bond deal and borrowed \$11.4 million for the police pension fund, he said.

Additionally, he urged the council "to cultivate an environment that encourages development that will have a beneficial impact on the tax base."

Bristol Twp.

When resident Gallus Obert asked about a \$173,124 cut to a line item in the police budget, McCauley said it related to "staff services, these are employees sitting at desks."

"We're going to be reducing spending," McCauley said. "It's a personnel matter so I'm not prepared to get into any specifics."

Moments earlier, McCauley said the administration is going to sit down and talk with the township employee unions and try to negotiate cost savings.

According to McCauley, the next job is going to be to reduce spending and get some money reserved for the unfunded liabilities.

"We're going to hit the ground running," he said.

"You have to find alternative income to the property tax everywhere that you can," he told council. "The township also needs to sow the seeds now to expand its tax base."

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"You sound like you are surprised McCauley is distorting the facts? Look at what he did when he was Township Manager in Bensalem. He wound up being fired and criminally charged for his actions at Bensalem Twp. I hope... how Philly Bristol Twp should be investigated"

Bristol Twp

Former township manager pleads no contest to tampering with records

By Matt Coughlin Staff Writer | Posted: Sunday, March 4, 2012 5:00 am

NOTE:

Former Bristol Township manager Suzanne Newsome pleaded no contest to tampering with insurance forms to drop coverage for two injured cops after they were seriously injured in 2005 by a drunken driver.

Newsome entered the plea bargain Friday afternoon before Bucks County Common Pleas Judge Jeffrey Finley, and after a brief hearing was sentenced to two years of probation.

After a grand jury investigation into the insurance policy changes, Newsome and three USI MidAtlantic insurance executives — Robert J. Brown, Freda Batipps and Linda McGovern — were charged in 2009 with forgery, tampering with public records and related counts. Charges against McGovern were since dropped.

No trial date has been set for the remaining defendants, Batipps and Brown.

Finley listed a series of rights that Newsome was giving up in choosing to plead "nolo contendere" to the charges, including the chance for a trial in which she would be presumed innocent. When asked if she understood that, Newsome replied, "I understand that's the way it's supposed to be."

The judge said that a "nolo contendere" plea carries the same weight and consideration as a guilty plea in terms of sentencing.

"This is not an acknowledgment of guilt, but a desire to move forward," Newsome's attorney, Ronald Greenblatt, said.

Marc Furber, the district attorney's chief of economic crimes, said the prosecutors had discussed the plea bargain with the two injured officers, Mark Buzby and Michael Egan, who believed the deal was appropriate.

The drunken driver who struck Buzby and Egan as they finished up an investigation of an earlier crash at routes 13 and 413 was uninsured. The township appeared to have previously dropped uninsured motorist coverage. However, it was later revealed that Newsome and the insurance company employees had conspired to back-date a waiver form so the company could avoid paying the officers, according to court records.

The case had been sidetracked when county Judge Albert Cepparulo granted the defendants' motion to drop the charges after a phone conversation involving Batipps and one of the officer's attorneys suggested there was documentation of the change but not a waiver. But the state's appellate court sided with prosecutors and ordered the case held for trial. Prosecutors then dismissed the charges against McGovern, saying she played only a minor role in the alleged forgeries.

Finley said Newsome retains the right to appeal on issues such as the county court didn't have jurisdiction over the case, that the sentence was unlawful or that she was not knowledgeable about the plea, didn't enter the plea voluntarily or intelligently.

NOTE:

Furber said Newsome's prior conviction for tampering with records while township manager, played into the decision to come to a plea deal. Authorities believed she had served significant jail time after being convicted in 2007 for altering her employment contract to collect \$14,000 in unused sick time pay.

COUGHLIN MATT
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M/C PAULLY JAN 4 2012 5:00 PM

CHANGE OF GOV. 2012
BRISTOL TWP

Manager wants probe into use of federal funds

By Chris English Staff Writer | Posted: Wednesday, March 7, 2012 11:45 am

Bristol Township Interim Manager Bill McCauley wants the Bucks County District Attorney and state Attorney General to investigate possible irregularities in the use of federal funds allocated to the township.

Bucks County District Attorney David Heckler said he has asked the FBI to investigate and if that agency declines, the DA's office would strongly consider investigating the matter.

In a Feb. 27 letter sent to both Heckler and state Attorney General Linda Kelly, a copy of which was obtained by the newspaper, McCauley said the issue involves "the misappropriation of township funds and evasion of competitive bidding requirements that I discovered when examining a contract from 2011."

McCauley's strongest allegations in the two-page letter are against township Councilman Rick Pluta and former councilwoman Linda Tarlini. Pluta had a copy of the letter and Tarlini was shown a copy by the newspaper. Both denied doing anything improper when contacted by the newspaper.

McCauley was a former high-level administrator in Bensalem and was hired in Bristol Township at the beginning of the year by the new council majority. He said in his letter that money spent on three projects did not follow proper procedures. The projects are a mural being painted for the township building by a Plumstead-based group called the Community Conservatory of Music; new lights for the Bristol Township girls softball field; and a basketball court in the Winder Village section.

The council majority had authorized McCauley, who replaced Jeff Bartlett as manager, to look into past use of federal funds.

"The agreement was for planning, preparation and production of a collage mural for \$32,487," said McCauley's letter. "The executed contract in the possession of Bristol Township was only signed by its Director of Community Development (Tom McDermott). When the community development director contacted the Community Conservatory, they produced an agreement signed by then council president, Rick Pluta and vice president, Linda Tarlini, that did not exist in the township's files."

Tarlini's council term concluded at the end of last year after she was defeated in the May 2011 Democratic primary.

"There is no evidence of this (mural) contract ever being voted on by the township council at a duly advertised meeting of the public body," McCauley's letter continued. "The monies for this project were never appropriated by township council in its 2011 budget. Further, there is no evidence that this project was competitively bid as is required under the First Class Township Code. I also did not find any evidence of the township solicitor telling anyone that such work was exempt from public competitive bidding requirements."

Russ Sacco, the former township solicitor McCauley refers to in the letter, said he could not comment on the matter since he still represents Bristol Township on "miscellaneous matters" and is the sewer system solicitor.

The mural is being painted on panels that will be brought to the township building and put together at some location within the building. McCauley won't say much about the entire federal funds matter but did confirm he has frozen the mural project while the issue is being investigated.

"The mural was in progress but we really can't comment further until the township works out its issues," said Christopher Dwyer, executive director of the Community Conservatory of Music, which also teaches art and drama.

The newspaper was unsuccessful in attempts to reach McDermott, the township's community development director, who oversees federal funds that flow into the township, for comment.

Mural agreement

In his letter, McCauley said he asked Pluta in a recent executive session to explain the mural agreement and whether it was voted on by the council.

"His response in front of several council members was that 'it was political,'" said McCauley's letter. "(Pluta) further stated that the money came from 'UDAG (the federal Urban Development Action Grant) funds' and had never been appropriated and voted upon by the full council as it was used as a 'slush fund.' The Urban Development Action Grant program ended in 1988, so these are most definitely township surplus funds."

Bristol TWP

Both Pluta and Tarlini said there are leftover UDAG funds in the township and that the use of federal money doesn't follow the same guidelines as regular township funds.

McCauley's letter goes on to say that the former manager Bartlett did not agree with spending money on the mural.

"This resulted in the then council vice president, Linda Tarlini, screaming in an executive session to the mayor, John Monahan, 'fire (Bartlett), fire his ass,'" the letter said.

It adds that Pluta "unilaterally" determined that a no-bid \$50,000 contract should be awarded to a firm for installation of lights at the softball field when a lower offer of \$36,000 from another firm was rejected. Again, there was no approval from the full council, McCauley added.

Pluta responded that he did nothing wrong on this matter and that the work went to the higher-priced firm because the company submitting the lower quote was not going to comply with the state's prevailing wage law.

"The last irregularity I discovered was the construction of a basketball court in Winder Village in June 2010," McCauley's letter continued. "Once again, there was no public discussion of this project, nor was it appropriated in an adopted budget. The work was done with township forces and the materials were purchased with township funds from the so-called UDAG fund."

In a lengthy email response to McCauley's various allegations in the letter, Tarlini said she was "appalled at the accusations and piecing of events and situations which were taken totally out of context and pieced together to fit Mr. McCauley's cause, which is securing these federal funds into the township's general budget."

Tarlini continued: "First and foremost, the UDAG fund does exist and there is still federal money in it. This federal money follows entirely different guidelines for approved usage, allowable amounts without a bidding process and expenditures. Projects and usage of these funds have always gone through the (community development) office and that's been done this way for over 30 years.

"I believe federally funded items are governed by an entirely different set of rules than are required by the township and audits on this fund are done yearly and the federal government's audits found no discrepancies or mismanagement."

No ties

Both Pluta and Tarlini said they had no family or any other connections with the firms painting the mural or installing the softball field lights or basketball court.

On her "fire his ass" comment in executive session, Tarlini said it wasn't even about the mural.

"The mural was never a topic of discussion in executive session," said Tarlini. "Jeff (Bartlett) and I butted heads on many things, Rick (Pluta) was always our referee. Mayor Monahan on a daily basis was saying to me and many others he was going to fire Jeff for one reason or another. My comment had nothing to do with the mural."

"During an executive session, Jeff and I disagreed again on another subject and I believe the mayor agreed with me," Tarlini continued. "So I very well may have said to him, 'Fire (Bartlett), fire his ass,' because that was something (Monahan) said he's wanted to do anyway."

The newspaper was unsuccessful in attempts to reach Bartlett and Monahan for comment. Monahan is no longer in office because the mayor's position was eliminated as part of Bristol Township's change in government that took affect at the start of 2012. NOTE:

That change also expanded the still all-Democratic council from five to seven members, with Troy Brennan, Amber Longhitano, Joe Glasson and Craig Bowen joining Pluta, Bob Lewis and Tony Tucker this year.

"There is a dictatorship going on in Bristol Township as directors and employees were told not to speak to anyone, including elected council members and absolutely everything must go through him (McCauley) first," Tarlini said. "At this point, everyone fears for their job, but is afraid to talk (because) they need their livelihood. Bottom line is McCauley wants this money claimed for the township's funds so they can use it for whatever they want instead of community and neighborhood projects as it was originated for."

McCauley said that if the newspaper had a copy of his letter, that it spoke for itself and he would not comment further on the matter.

5/13/06 TWP

"Overall, the letter in my opinion is not accurate," said Pluta. "The manager, I feel, is taking this in the direction of a political nature, and this letter is more self serving than factual."

NOTE

Pluta continued: "While there was no formal vote, to my knowledge the council was aware of the projects being done with this funding. There wasn't a project that was done that didn't benefit the community in some way. To my knowledge, everything that was done was done according to proper procedures for doing these types of projects."

Bucks County District Attorney David Heckler said that since the issue appears to involve federal funds, he has contacted the FBI about conducting an investigation.

"If they don't, than our office could certainly consider doing it," Heckler said.

He added, however, that county detectives have a lot of higher priority matters on their schedules.

"If the FBI doesn't take this on, than we certainly would consider doing it but it's not at the top of the plate and I'm not going to put it there right now," said Heckler.

State Attorney General spokesman Nils Frederiksen said the office as a matter of policy does not comment on correspondence requesting investigations.

"But if this involves county or local elected officials, than I would think it would start with the DA," Frederiksen added.

B R I S T O L T W P



Friday, March 30

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An alleged Bristol Township insurance scam that has been bouncing through the courts since 2009 could soon come before a jury.

Former Bristol Township manager Suzanne Newsome and three USI MidAtlantic insurance executives — Robert J. Brown, Freda Batipps and Linda McGovern — were charged in 2009 with felony forgery, tampering with public records and related counts following a grand jury investigation into the aftermath of a 2005 traffic crash that injured two police officers.

Bristol Township cops Mark Buzby and Michael Egan sustained critical injuries when a drunken, uninsured driver hit them as they stood outside their squad car in August 2005. The crash at the intersection of routes 13 and 413 left both officers with massive injuries; Egan had to have part of one leg amputated.

When the officers looked to the township for an insurance payout, prosecutors say, they were told that Bristol Township had waived its uninsured motorist coverage. The grand jury investigation later showed that Newsome and the insurance company employees had conspired to back-date a waiver form to avoid paying the officers, according to prosecutors.

The case was headed to trial in Bucks County Court in Doylestown in 2009 when new evidence surfaced that seemed to weigh in favor of the defendants.

Two recorded phone messages, from Batipps to one police officer's attorney, showed that the parties had discussed the township's intent to waive uninsured motorist coverage and that the parties knew a waiver hadn't been signed, although there was "documentation."

Based on that evidence, county Judge Albert Cepparulo granted the defendants' motion to drop the charges by finding that prosecutors had not met their burden of proving there was enough evidence to move the case forward for trial.

Prosecutors appealed Cepparulo's ruling to the Pennsylvania Superior Court. Late last year, the appellate court found in favor of Bucks prosecutors, and ordered the case listed for trial.

Deputy District Attorney Marc Furber confirmed the case is now being prepared for trial, although no date has been set yet. He declined to discuss the case further.

Furber said his office recently dismissed charges against McGovern, saying she had only a minor role in the alleged forgeries.

"Her involvement was a great deal more peripheral. Upon evaluating the case, we decided our chances of success are much greater with the other defendants," Furber said.

Newsome was sentenced to one to three years in prison after being convicted in April 2007 of altering her employment contract so she could collect more than \$14,000 in unused sick time pay. The same grand jury that investigated her crime uncovered the insurance case.

As of March 2011, Buzby and Egan had received \$8 million from various insurance companies in recoveries and benefits. A federal jury last year awarded them an additional \$250,000 in compensatory damages.

Laurie Mason Schroeder: 215-694-7489; email: lmason@phillyburbs.com;

Twitter: @bucks courts

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Bristol



Thursday, May 17

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Bristol Township's council on Wednesday voted to advertise a revised 2012 budget that eliminates the slight tax increase approved by a previous council last year.

Council members Bob Lewis, Troy Brennan, Craig Bowen, Joe Glasson, Amber Longhitano and Tony Tucker voted yes to advertise the revised spending plan. Councilman Rick Pluta voted against it.



Interim township Manager Bill McCauley said his proposal is \$105,249 less than the 2012 budget approved in December. The council on Jan. 19 voted to reopen the budget, which is allowed under state law, and have McCauley eliminate the 0.3-mill municipal property tax hike, which equated to about \$5 for a resident with a property assessed at the township average of \$17,877.

McCauley's proposal will bring the millage rate down to the 2011 level of 23.9875 mills.

"I will be making a full presentation at the Feb. 15 meeting," McCauley said. The council will consider McCauley's proposal that night.

The proposal will be available for public display within the next few days, officials said.

Officials declined to address exactly how the tax increase was eliminated.

"In briefly looking at the budget, I'm not comfortable with the way the reduction was created," Pluta said during the meeting. "I would ask that the manager at least look at that again. Maybe there's another way that can be accomplished."

McCauley said it was "a little shocking that the gentleman would be against a tax decrease."

"But I'll be happy to address any issues at the Feb. 15 meeting when council can make any changes to the proposed budget that they wish, and I will be happy to answer any and all questions after my presentation," McCauley said.

Pluta responded: "I tried to be real polite. And for the manager to find it shocking that I have a question about the budget, I find that offensive, especially when he's using separate funds to pay salaries out of. I don't think that's a prudent budget."

The 0.3-mill increase approved by the previous council was in the fire fund to help handle fire hydrant maintenance. That increase brought the total township property tax millage to about 24.29 mills, or \$434 for the average property owner.

Michael Walsh, president of Transport Workers Union Local 282, asked if new proposed contracts for workers were included in McCauley's proposal. If not, "then we're still working under the expired contract."

Solicitor Randall Flager said he didn't want to get into labor negotiations at a public township meeting.

Also on Wednesday, the council unanimously approved a resolution to adopt a draft administrative code pending the adoption of an ordinance "to be totally safe, to have suspenders and a belt on," as Flager put it.

BRISTOL TWP

The resolution came about after Darrell Zaslow, an attorney who assisted the government transition committee, said state law stated that appointed officers and offices "ceased to exist" after the effective date of the new government, which took effect at the beginning of this year.

Flager said officials are still making some changes to the administrative code.

Danny Adler ;

email: dadler@phillyburbs.com;

Twitter: @adleronscene

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ABOUT US

Township Government

In 1987, the voters of Bensalem Township passed a ballot question, which read:
"Shall a government commission of nine members be elected to study the existing form of government and to recommend whether or not an optional form of government should be adopted?"

The voters passed this question by a wide margin. The Commission spent nine intensive months studying and evaluating all available forms of government for a Second Class Township. The Commission strongly recommended the Mayor - Council form of government over the existing Board of Supervisor form of government. The Commission strongly believed that the Mayor - Council form of government was better suited to meet the needs and concerns of the citizens than the existing form of government. An unbiased study, devoid of politics was conducted. The Commission examined the form of government, not the people in the government. While the qualifications of elected officials have been and will remain a very important part of the success of any form of government, the Commission concentrated its efforts solely on the form of government itself. The form, as well as the people is equally important in determining the ultimate success of our local government.

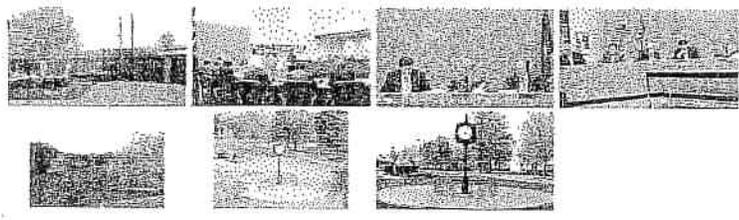
2nd CLASS
OPTIONAL
CLASS

After intense study, research and open public meetings, the Commission recommended the Mayor - Council form of government would best enable our Township to better meet the challenges of the future as well as the present. On November 4, 1987, the voters of Bensalem concurred with the Commission and a Mayor - Council form of government was adopted. In November of 1989, Bensalem Township elected its first Mayor, Ed Burns, who took office in 1990 and served until 1994. Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo was elected in 1994 to replace Mayor Burns and continues to serve the people. The issue of unlimited mayoral terms in a second class township (as classified by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania) was challenged in 2005, with a favorable decision by the Court of Common Pleas ruling the Mayor-Council form of government does not impose term limits.

NOTE!!
CONFLICT

Bensalem Council meetings are open to the public and are held the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. The meetings are held at the Municipal Complex, 2400 Byberry Road, Bensalem, PA 19020 and commence at 7:30 P.M. Agenda's are normally posted on this site and are also available prior to the meeting at the reception area near Council Chambers.

Public portion is held towards the end of the meeting after regular and scheduled agenda items are discussed and voted upon (if necessary). Should you have any questions concerning an agenda or the date of a meeting, please contact the Mayor's Office and ask to speak to Marge Strange at, or e-mail her at mstrange@bensalem-township.org



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MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo



Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo
Improving the Quality of Life in Bensalem
Through Teamwork



Mayor Joseph "Joe" DiGirolamo was born and raised in Bensalem and has served as its mayor for the past 17 years. When asked about his early memories of Bensalem, he remembers a time when it was all farmland. "The dynamics began to change after World War II," he said, when people began to move out of Philadelphia and relocate to Bucks County. He witnessed a small town of less than 5,000 residents grow to its current population of over 60,000.

Born in 1937 to parents who were immigrants from Italy, the mayor grew up working on his family's farm. He attended North Catholic High School in Philadelphia, returning home to Bensalem after school each day, to work on the farm. The mayor thought it was wise for a farm boy to attend a city school. He remembers his first year in the city as being very intimidating, but felt the experience made him stronger.

At 26 years of age, he took over DiGirolamo Farms until the age of 31, when they turned the business over to their children. The mayor retired from the business world 27 years ago. He became involved in community work and spent most of his time volunteering wherever he was needed. He was involved in and chair the tri-centennial celebration in Bensalem. One of the highlights of the tri-centennial program was the hardback volumes of minutes kept by Mrs. Dorothy Call that recorded everything that happened in the tri-centennial. The mayor describes these minutes as "the most incredible work" and they are now the property of the Bensalem Historical Society.

The Mayor's desire to be involved in the community combined with his head for business convinced him to run for Mayor so he would the opportunity to share these talents with the citizens of Bensalem. He was elected as Mayor in January of 1994.

Bensalem has been named "A Model for America" by the Bucks County Courier Times and voted "1 of 100 Best Communities for Young People in the United States" by America's Promise Organization. The Mayor feels that Bensalem is a wonderful place to live and an incredible community recognized throughout the state. He believes that it's the work of teams that creates success. "No one does this work by themselves. You surround yourself with people who believe in you and those who do the work and these teams are responsible and deserve the credit for the success of the Bensalem Community", he emphasized.

When asked what he was proud of in Bensalem, he responds "In my 17 years as the Mayor of Bensalem, I am most proud that we have been able to meet the needs of the entire community from youngsters to the seniors. We've been able to recreate the youngsters through a variety of programs and we've formed a partnership with the school district. We've also been able to building affordable housing for seniors - we have three of



Term Expires - 12/31/13

these beautiful housing developments now. There were senior citizens who couldn't afford their taxes and we've helped them keep their homes. We built a magnificent amphitheater, which provides summer concerts. All in all we have been able to improve the quality of life for the people of Bensalem.

The Mayor is proud of his initiative programs Towns Against Graffiti (TAG), which brought nine communities together in the fight against graffiti and litter, and the Transportation Management Association (TMA), which has grown to a staff of five and handles transportation issues.

The Mayor saw an opportunity to help boost the horse racing industry through offering slot and table games at the Park Casino. The race track is one of the biggest employers in the community owning over 500 acres within Bensalem. The mayor's vision of the casino would allow the race track to remain open and flourish while providing homeowners with a rebate from the proceeds of the gambling revenue. Each household in Bensalem received a \$300 check from a property owner's grant based on the revenue earned from the casino. The Mayor attributes extension planning that included the hiring of extra police and traffic control efforts as key factors that allowed for the successful opening of the casino.

The waterfront development project is the Mayor's pride and joy as it's the area where he was raised and a project that he has been working on for some time. "The riverfront is a place to recreate and live and a great place for office buildings." The zoning has been changed to upgrade the area from an industrial park to allow for beautiful townhomes and condominiums to be built. The mayor faced a challenge, however, and travelled to Washington, D.C., to oppose the building of a trash transfer site close to the waterfront. The Mayor considered this a quality of life issue, fought and won to stop the trash transfer

When asked what he enjoys for relaxation, he says he's not a fisherman or a golfer, but one of his passions is gardening. The Mayor, while a public persona, leads a private life. He lives in Bensalem, off a small gravel road. He surrounds himself with his meticulously manicured grounds with hundreds of home-grown flowers and vegetables, a magnificent pond with cow and a greenhouse. He rises daily at 4:00 A.M. so he can work for two and a half hours before going to the office.

He also enjoys his car collection which includes of corvete that has never been driven and his showpiece, a 1955 Chevrolet that he displays at the Annual Bensalem Fall Festival classic car show.

Today, Bensalem continues to grow. The Mayor added that the township is encouraging people to move up and not move out. Bensalem now offers homes in a wide range of prices with singles homes valued at \$200,000 to \$800,000.

The Mayor points to a poster on a wall with the inscription "DESTINY" and the following quote underneath. "A good leader takes people where they want to go, but a great leader takes people where they ought to be."

The Mayor adds, "You can't always be the "yes" guy. Sometimes I've had to make tough decisions that have gone against what others wanted me to do or say. The business of being Mayor is not easy and it can be challenging at best."

Bensalem Township

A Community of Firsts

Extended Biography

Personal Data

- Married, 3 children, 7 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren
- He is currently serving his 5th term as Mayor and his term expires on December 31, 2013

Education

- St. Charles Borromeo Elementary School
- Northeast Catholic High School

Accomplishments

Elected 5 times to serve as the Mayor of Bensalem Township, population approximately 60,000

Founding Member and Chairman, Bucks County Riverfront Communities Revitalization Study - studying the waterfront throughout Lower Bucks in order to eliminate blight and reclaim the riverfront for aesthetically pleasing and revenue producing development

BENSALEM TWP

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FOR LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania.

IN RE: The Nomination Petition of Joseph DiGIROLAMO for Mayor

IN RE: The Nomination Petition of Joseph DiGIROLAMO for Mayor, Joseph Szafran for Council, Joseph Pillieri for Council and William Maddocks for Council of Bensalem Township. Objection of: Joseph Ciprich. Appeal of: Joseph Ciprich.

Argued April 14, 2005. -- April 26, 2005

BEFORE: COLINS, President Judge, and SMITH-RIBNER, Judge, and FRIEDMAN, Judge.

Lawrence M. Otter, Doylestown, for appellant. Joseph W. Pizzo, Trevese, for appellees.

Joseph Ciprich (Ciprich) appeals from an order of the Court of Common Pleas of Bucks County rejecting his request to set aside the Nomination Petitions of Joseph DiGirolamo, William Maddocks, Joseph Szafran, and Joseph Pilieri (the candidates). We affirm on limited grounds.¹

Ciprich, an elector of the Republican Party residing in Bensalem Township, filed an Objection to the Nomination Petitions of the candidates. Mr. DiGirolamo is the incumbent Mayor of Bensalem. Mr. Maddocks, Mr. Szafran, and Mr. Pilieri are all incumbent councilmen of Bensalem. The candidates are all incumbents of three or more consecutive terms. Ciprich's objections are based entirely upon an allegation that term limits of no more than two consecutive terms apply to the candidates and that they are therefore ineligible to run in the primary elections for the Republican Party in Bensalem.

Bensalem is a second class township. Ciprich claims the term limits were voted for by the people of Bensalem in a referendum in 1987, wherein a new form of municipal government was selected under the Optional Plan. The referendum selected the Mayor-Council Plan B form of government. Ciprich's claim is based upon a recommendation of the Government Study Commission that included among other recommendations, term limits of not more than two consecutive terms. Ciprich claims that in voting in favor of

Bensalem TWP

these recommendations, the people of Bensalem intended to vote in favor of the term limits as well. However, when the new government first convened to adopt a new Township Administrative Code, the term limits provision was not included. Both parties agree that there is no other statutory authority for imposing term limits in Bensalem. The candidates respond that the Government Study Commission was not authorized to recommend term limits and that Bensalem Township is not authorized to enact such term limits. The court below agreed with the candidates. We need not reach these issues here and we do not affirm on these grounds.

This Court affirms the order of the court below on the ground that Ciprich filed Objections to the Nomination Petitions of the candidates and nevertheless failed to allege any defect whatsoever with the Nomination Petitions themselves. Ciprich based his Objections to the candidates' Nomination Petitions on Sections 976 and 977 of the Election Code², 25 P.S. §§ 2936 and 2937. Section 977 states in relevant part,

If the court shall find that said nomination petition or paper is defective under the provisions of section 976 or does not contain a sufficient number of genuine signatures of electors entitled to sign the same under the provisions of this act, or was not filed by persons entitled to file the same, it shall be set aside.

Section 976 states in relevant part,

No nomination petition, nomination paper or nomination certificate shall be permitted to be filed if-(a) it contains material errors or defects on the face thereof, or on the face of the appended or accompanying affidavits; or (b) it contains material alterations made after signing without the consent of the signers; or (c) it does not contain a sufficient number of signatures as required by law.

Nowhere in these sections is there any reference to challenging a nomination petition on the ground that a candidate or candidates may be exceeding term limits. Essentially, Ciprich is bringing a challenge to the candidates' qualifications based upon an as yet unresolved controversy regarding term limits, and not a challenge to the validity of their Nomination Petitions at all. Therefore, Ciprich's objection is procedurally improper and the candidates' Nomination Petitions must stand.

We note also, that the candidates draw this Court's attention to the case of Shrier, et al. v. Kisselback, et al., Court of Common Pleas of Bucks County No.2003-03202-24-5.³ To begin with, this Court recognizes that the issues presented in the Shrier case are nearly identical to the case at hand. Nevertheless, Shrier's procedural posture is that of a quo warranto action, the proper action for challenging the qualifications of a candidate or elected official. However, we reject the candidates' argument that the doctrine of collateral estoppel applies to this action based upon the Common Pleas Court's ruling in Shrier. Collateral estoppel is "an affirmative defense barring a party from re-litigating an issue determined against that party in an earlier action, even if the second action differs significantly from the first one." Black's Law Dictionary, Seventh Edition, p. 256, West

BENSALETTI

Group 1999. The parties in this case and in Shrier are wholly different and only the issues are in common. To apply the doctrine of collateral estoppel in such circumstances is an untenable stretch of that doctrine and we decline to do so.

Accordingly, we affirm.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 26th day of April 2005, the order of Court of Common Pleas of Bucks County is affirmed on the ground set forth in Commonwealth Court's opinion.

FOOTNOTES

1. This Court's standard of review is "limited to determining whether the trial court's findings of fact are supported by substantial evidence, whether the trial court abused its discretion or whether the trial court committed an error of law. In reviewing the trial court's determination, we keep in mind that the Election Code must be liberally construed to protect a candidate's right to run for office and the voters' rights to elect a candidate of their choice." In re Petition of Hanssens, 821 A.2d 1247 (Pa.Cmwlt.2003) (internal citations omitted), petition for allowance of appeal denied, 573 Pa. 692, 825 A.2d 640, (2003).
2. Election Code, Act of June 3, 1937, P.L. 1333, as amended.
3. Shrier has been remanded to this Court from the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and will be argued prior to the next municipal election.

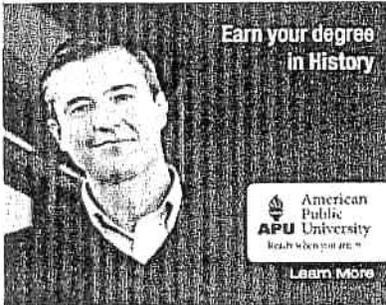
OPINION BY President Judge COLINS.

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Panel Going To Court For Additional Tax Rise February 4, 1990



New Mayor Takes Reins Of Bensalem Government

January 07, 1990 By Mary Gagnier, Special to The Inquirer

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A new form of government ushered in a new era last week in Bensalem Township. Its proponents said it was created with Edward Burns in mind.

Burns was sworn in Tuesday as mayor, along with members of a new Township Council, replacing a township manager/board of supervisors form of government. Darrell Zaslow, an architect of the new government's constitution, was chosen as township solicitor.

Zaslow, an early proponent of the mayor/council government, recently recalled the behind-the-scenes efforts of a nonpartisan group of residents who began more than four years ago pushing for a new form of government.

Story continues below.

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"From day one when we discussed the mayor/council form of government, we had Ed Burns in mind," Zaslow said, though there was no guarantee he could get elected as mayor.

No mention of Ed Burns

Former township manager Natalie "Marge" Strange, also a proponent of the new government, agreed. "A lot of people felt Ed would be a good choice," Strange said.

Zaslow recalled the day in 1987 when a nonpartisan group of residents met with Burns in the kitchen of his Felten Avenue home and told him, "Ed, you've got to do the job."

"He and his wife sat in the kitchen, trying to make a decision," Zaslow said. "He made it clear he would take the job, provided there would be no (election) shenanigans."

Why Burns?

"It's a public demeanor that's important," Zaslow said. "Ed Burns has an even temperament and a genuine concern to do the job right."

Burns, a nine-term Republican state legislator representing the 18th District, said last week that he had no immediate plans to resign from his seat in the House despite his November election as mayor. He earns \$55,000 a year as mayor and \$47,000 as a state legislator.

House Minority Leader Matthew J. Ryan (R., Delaware) said last week, "I would hope he would not resign and that he would fill his term out as a House member."

The term expires next January. Burns' term as mayor will run for four years.

Burns said last month that he expected to spend most of his time in Bensalem and "go up and down the turnpike (to Harrisburg) as necessary."

The new form of township government is a historic change for Bensalem. The township of 56,000 has had a board of supervisors since colonial times, Strange said.

In November 1986, voters approved the formation of a government study

commission. In November 1987, voters approved the study commission's recommendation for a switch from a manager/board of supervisors to a mayor/council form of government, to begin Jan. 1, 1990.

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August 27, 1992

Bensalem Loses Battles To Stave Off Big Lawsuit Mayor Burns Said Losing To The Developers Could Be Economically Devastating.
July 19, 1992

Bensalem Solicitor May Resign Darrell Zaslow Is Being Sued By Three Banks. He Offered To Resign His Township Post.

November 11, 1993 | By Kay Lazar, INQUIRER CORRESPONDENT

The lawyer who advises Bensalem Township on virtually all phases of township government - including the township's \$10.5 million operating budget - has offered to resign because of mounting personal financial difficulties that have led to several lawsuits against him.

Township Solicitor Darrell Zaslow is being sued in Bucks County Court by three banks for failing to pay back lines of credit he took out on three different personal credit cards, totaling more than \$40,000.

In the most recent lawsuit, filed Tuesday, Chevy Chase Federal Savings Bank of Frederick, Md., is seeking nearly \$20,000 the bank says Zaslow owes.

Story continues below.

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DID ZASLOW HAVE PROBLEMS WITH PREVIOUS SUPERVISORS - ERGO PUSH TO CHANGE GOV FOR 9 MONTHS? BURNS? SEE "NEW MAYOR" TAKES REINS...

"I acknowledge the difficulties and have no choice but to commence personal bankruptcy, as painful as that is," Zaslow said in a telephone interview yesterday. He said he had lost nearly half a million dollars in recent years on two real estate ventures in Bensalem and Langhorne.

He said that he told Bensalem Township Mayor Edward Burns several months ago about his money troubles and that he offered, at that time, to resign.

"I indicated my belief that the circumstances would require that I relinquish my position, and I was and I am fully prepared to do so," he said, adding, "my problem had and has no effect on my service to the township."

Contacted by phone, Mayor Burns acknowledged that he and Zaslow had discussed Zaslow's possible resignation. Burns said Zaslow was worried that his financial troubles would be made public and would bring the mayor damaging publicity.

But Burns, who is leaving office at the end of the year, said he stands behind Zaslow and would not accept his resignation. Burns said he needed Zaslow in the last six weeks of his administration to help tie up loose ends before leaving office.

"Knowing Darrell as I have for seven years now," Burns said, "I feel he is one of the most conscientious, honest, ethical persons I have ever been associated with."

Ironically, Zaslow, 39, said he believed his personal financial problems stem directly from his role as township solicitor, a position he was appointed to in January 1990 by Burns, then the newly elected mayor.

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BENSALEM TWP

Township to scale back casino rebate

JUSTIFICATION
FOR CASH BACK
NOW PULLING BACK

By James McGinnis Staff writer | Posted: Sunday, November 27, 2011 5:00 am

Five years after the opening of Parx Casino, officials in Bensalem could begin to significantly scale back on the \$300 rebate checks received by thousands of homeowners in the township.

Residents would receive just \$100 next year under the township budget proposed by Mayor Joseph DiGirolamo.

The total cost of the homeowner rebate program is to be slashed 65 percent as Bensalem deals with another multi-million dollar budget deficit in 2012.

DiGirolamo would draw \$5.3 million from the township's nest egg to balance the books next year. Bensalem withdrew \$6.5 million from the trust fund last year, leaving \$54 million currently in the bank.

FROM SALE OF WATER & SEWER?

A public hearing on the budget is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 5 in the township building, 2400 Byberry Road. The council must review and adopt the \$65 million spending plan.

Township expenses are rising. Income from investments is falling— down \$1.4 million from two years ago. Bensalem's mayor said he has only two real options: raise taxes or trim the rebate.

"In my eyes, as an administrator, it just doesn't make sense to raise taxes," DiGirolamo said. "Why would we take people's money just to give it back to them?"

The homeowner rebates began months after the opening of Parx Casino in December 2006. Bensalem gets \$11 million in taxes on slots and table games, but the lion's share of that money goes to the police department. The police budget has increased \$7 million in five years, officials said.

Giving a \$300 check to every homeowner costs Bensalem \$4.7 million, officials said. A homeowner rebate of \$100 would cost about \$1.6 million, officials estimate.

Like many communities, Bensalem is desperately waiting "for a light at the end of the tunnel" in this economy, DiGirolamo said. "I have people coming into my office every day asking if I can help them get a job," the mayor added.

Instead, Bensalem has eliminated 15 full-time positions and 10 seasonal employees in the last year.

Still, the bottom line remains the same, said township finance manager Jack McGinley.

"Union contract benefits are still going up. Our electric costs are still going up. Everything else is still going up. So, if you're going to keep the bottom line the same, then you have to cut something."

Bensalem has some of the lowest municipal taxes in Lower Bucks and those tax rates have remained relatively stable. The owners of the average property assessed at \$22,000 should pay about \$402 a year to the township. *\$2183 ON \$150,000 HOME*

That's an increase of just \$34 from the average tax bill in Bensalem 10 years ago.

Average tax bills in Bensalem are about \$30 less than what's paid in Bristol Township and about \$100 less than what Middletown collects.

In Bensalem, much of that money goes to police services. The public safety budget makes up 67 percent of general fund budget. The 2012 police budget is projected at \$21 million — the same as this year. *ALMOST 3X M.T.*

The cost of police salaries and benefits is projected to rise about 2 percent, or \$383,000. However, the budget for new police vehicles was slashed \$369,000.

The township budget for intersection improvements was also slashed in half for next year. Bensalem budgeted \$1.1 million for intersection improvements in 2012. Much of that could be spent to improve traffic flow on Route 13, said Bill Cmorey, township administrative director.

Plowing those roads is also a major expense. So far this year, snow removal cost Bensalem \$494,141 — nearly twice what was budgeted for this year, officials said. *\$250,000 BUD X 3 = \$750,000 M.T. EQUIV*

The cleanup after Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee was estimated at \$438,000.

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New Bethlehem Twp. Board Continues To Make Changes * Attendance At Seminars, Manager's Role In Hiring And Firing Are Targets Of Majority.

January 18, 2009 by NICK POLITI, The Morning Call

The new majority of commissioners in Bethlehem Township on Monday continued dismantling the work done by the previous board, rescinding the requirement that a commissioner get approval from his peers before going to a conference.

The new majority also moved closer to stripping the township manager of the authority to unilaterally hire, suspend or fire a township employee.

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And in a controversy that spilled over from the former board, commissioners voted 3-1 to pay the Verdin Co. \$21,440 for a millennium clock even though donations remain a few hundred dollars short of the amount expected.

A commissioner no longer has to get approval from the board to attend conferences, institutes and meetings, as long as money for that travel is in the budget.

New Commissioner Jerry Batcha joined Commissioners Leonard Hudak and Robert Birk voting for the change. Commissioner Timothy Brady voted no. Commissioner Allan Robertson was absent.

Brady, Robertson and former Commissioner Louis Gallucci had instituted the approval policy that was rescinded.

Solicitor Thomas R. Elliott Jr. was directed to prepare an ordinance taking away the power of the township manager from hiring, suspending or firing a township employee.

Batcha said the manager, in consultation with division heads, should make recommendations for those personnel actions to the board, which would have the last word.

Batcha said he is concerned that a manager might use the hiring/firing authority "to accumulate personal power." He said 40% of townships in the state give their boards the final call in personnel issues.

But before bringing the change up for a vote, commissioners agreed to spend up to \$750 for a consultant to discuss the organizational issues involved in such a change.

A public hearing would be needed before commissioners vote on the change.

Over the no vote of Hudak, the commissioners will pay for the township's millennium clock.

Acting Township Manager Jeff Bartlett said \$10,100 in donations have been received or promised for the clock.

FIRING & HIRING

40% TOWNSHIP BOARD APPROVAL

JEFF BARTLETT ACTING MGR

JEFF BARTLETT

Township Manager

The previous majority had said the township would pay \$10,000 for the clock, with the remaining \$11,440 coming from the public. Monday night that promise was \$1,340 short.

"I did not vote for the clock and I would not vote for it now," board President Birk said. "But I don't know how we can refuse to pay the bill. I believe the remaining donations will be received."

Responding to concerns by Robert Serafin, chairman of the township Recreation Board, and Modesto Fiume, chairman of the Open Space Task Force, Bartlett said the township has appraisals for five parcels of land that might be purchased for recreation.

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Bartlett said \$1.6 million is budgeted this year for open space purchases and that could pay for four of the five parcels. He implied that commissioners will consider entering negotiations with property owners soon.

The new majority looked with a bit more favor on the idea of a residential building moratorium. Last year Hudak proposed the moratorium, but he was not supported. Monday night the board agreed to discuss a moratorium at its next meeting. Commissioners declined to support Hudak's proposal that Elliott draft moratorium legislation.

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Lehigh Township appoints first manager in its history

Jeff Bartlett will leave assistant position in Bethlehem Twp.

May 29, 2002 | By Chris Sexton Special to The Morning Call - Freelance

For the first time in its history, Lehigh Township has a manager.

The township supervisors Tuesday unanimously voted to appoint Jeff Bartlett to the full-time position, created through an ordinance earlier this year.

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Lehigh Township

University Center

Bartlett, 42, will begin work on June 17. He is leaving his position as assistant manager of Bethlehem Township, where he served for three years. He was responsible for grants administration and writing, coordinating the recycling program and managing the personnel department.

Bartlett said supervisors felt it was time for a full-time professional to handle the day-to-day responsibilities of running the township, and felt the growth in population there had created a need for more timely reaction to issues.

"My feeling from the supervisors is that there needs to be better coordination of planning and zoning issues, as well as implementing and updating policy and procedure systems to gain more organization," he said.

Bartlett's salary will be \$52,500.

With a population of about 10,000, Lehigh is a second-class township.

Bethlehem Township is considered first class, its population more than 21,000.

Before his Bethlehem Township position, Bartlett spent more than eight years as University Center assistant director at East Stroudsburg University. He managed the conference facility, food service and personnel activities.

He obtained a bachelor's degree in psychology from Moravian College in Bethlehem, and a master's degree in counseling from Kutztown University.

He lives with his wife and two children in Weisenberg Township.

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Lehigh Township's manager still learning the ropes

Official says operations running smoothly with Jeff Bartlett on board.

November 27, 2002 | By Sonia Csencsits Of the Morning Call

As Jeff Bartlett drives north on Route 309 on his commute each morning, hundreds of southbound cars pass by him as he heads to work in Lehigh Township. The scenic drive against heavy commuter traffic is a perk.

"I drive opposite the traffic flow," he said.

"When I get here and walk to the back of the building, I see flocks of turkey and deer. I see old barns. That's all part of this township. It is growing, but it is still rural."

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Important Information

Six months ago, the 42-year-old Bartlett was hired as the first township manager. He also is zoning officer.

Like many rural communities, Lehigh Township is changing, and the supervisors decided they needed someone to handle the day-to-day decisions necessary to run the municipal government.

"I have to make sure they are comfortable with the role they entrusted to me," said Bartlett. "It is still a learning process. There has been a period of adjustment, but it has been good overall."

Supervisor Paul Leibenguth was not always in favor of hiring a manager.

But as the number of calls he was getting at home from township employees and residents grew, he began to believe a person was needed to perform the day-to-day tasks of township government.

"I tried to handle as much as I could," Leibenguth said. "But there are day-to-day things that supervisors cannot handle. These are the things during the day he can do. And now that he is there, I am definitely on board. Things are running so smoothly. At meetings, he tells us what has been done, the grants he received. I recommend a manager to any township that is growing."

Bartlett stepped into the new job as major projects are unfolding.

A \$500,000 Northampton County bond issue grant will be used by the township and Lehigh Township Athletic Association to develop a 48-acre park spanning Lehigh and Moore townships on Delps Road.

A \$500,000 loan will be used to convert the former ambulance squad building into police headquarters.

Two subdivisions will add more than 60 homes to the township.

A Carbon-Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 bus terminal is being built on a 40-acre tract along Mountain View Drive East.

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Lehigh Valley Morning Call

State-mandated building codes will bring changes to the construction process. Blueprints and plan reviews will be required for large and small projects.

Improvements are planned at Indian Trail Park on Route 248, and the park restaurant will be leased to the Lehigh Township Historical Society. Rest rooms and a stage/storage area may be built.

Bartlett's biggest challenge came a few weeks after he started, when fire broke out on the south slope of Blue Mountain.

"The fire on the mountain was a learning experience for us," he said. "People forgot to notify everybody that should have been notified. I did not learn about the fire until the second day, and if I had known, I could've done some things, kept track of things."

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Bartlett was assistant manager in Bethlehem Township before coming to Lehigh.

Lehigh Township, with 10,000 people, is half the size of Bethlehem Township. Lehigh grew by 4.65 percent in the past decade, or 432 people. In 2000, there were 9,728 residents, up from 9,296.

The job brings Bartlett in daily contact with residents.

"Every day is different," he said. "There will be a time when things settle in, but I am still in the learning process."

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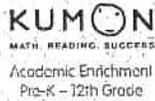
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Lehigh Township removes its manager

Jeff Bartlett was first in the post. Board wants to "change direction."

January 04, 2007 | By Michael Duck Of The Morning Call

Lehigh Township's manager lost his job Tuesday in a surprise vote by township supervisors.

Jeff Bartlett, who was appointed in 2002 as the township's first-ever manager, was dismissed in a 3-2 closed-door supervisors meeting Tuesday night. On Wednesday, supervisors hastily scheduled another closed meeting to work out Bartlett's severance package.

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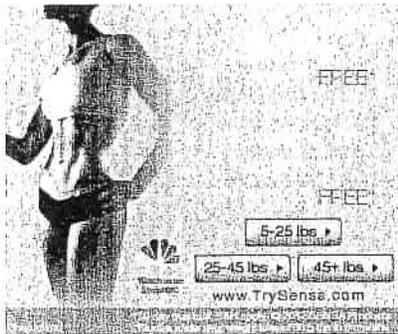
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Vote

Township Manager

"I was kind of blindsided," Bartlett said Wednesday, adding that he had no "formal opportunity" to address supervisors' concerns before he was ousted.

Supervisor Dell Grove, who voted with supervisors Brian Moser and Keith Hantz against Bartlett's reappointment, said there were never problems with the manager's actions or job performance.

"We just wanted to change direction," Grove said, declining to give specifics.

Last January, the board had voted 4-1 to reappoint Bartlett. Moser, who had taken office just a day before, cast the single "no" vote.

Moser said he then believed Bartlett was "pro-development," a key issue in the mostly rural township. "I've never lost that feeling," Moser said after Wednesday's meeting, but he declined to say if that contributed to Bartlett's dismissal.

Supervisor Richard Demko, who on Tuesday joined Supervisors Chairman Paul Leibenguth in voting to retain Bartlett, said he believes a combination of politics and personalities led to the firing.

Officials had disagreed over "some minor, day-to-day operational issues...that I definitely felt could have been worked through," Demko said.

Another factor, Bartlett said, might have been that some residents don't believe Lehigh needs a township manager.

Supervisors appointed Bartlett in May 2002 after creating the position earlier that year. Previously, Bartlett served as Bethlehem Township's assistant manager for three years and, before that, as a manager of the University Center at East Stroudsburg University more than eight years.

Solicitor David Backenstos said supervisors can now advertise for a new manager, promote a current township employee or even eliminate the position.

But they first need to work out details of Bartlett's departure. "We've got to figure all that out yet," Moser said, because "there was no plan" before Tuesday's vote.

Handwritten notes: BARTLETT FILE, 3-2 VOTE, CONFLICT

Handwritten note: ??

Handwritten note: POLITICS OF PERSONALITY

JOHN BARTLETT

For now, supervisors have appointed township Secretary-Treasurer Alice Rehrig as acting township manager, and most supervisors said they don't plan to eliminate the position.

As for Bartlett, he said he's interested in serving as manager in another township.

Bartlett said he's also proud of his work for Lehigh's "good people," despite his frustration with the board's decision.

"Hopefully, I did some good for a lot of folks in the township," he said. But, he added, "when you work in politics...you take your risks."

michael.duck@mcall.com

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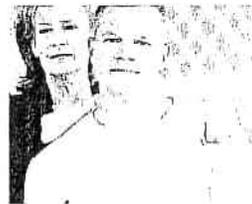
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JEFF BARTLETT
**North Whitehall
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2012 Newsletter

Hired Jan 2012

**Introducing 'Jeff Bartlett'
 Township Manager**



The North Whitehall Township Board of Supervisors are happy to announce the hiring of NWT's first Township Manager, Jeff Bartlett. Since its creation, the day-to-day operations of NWT have been managed by Township Supervisors who were also daytime Township employees in accordance with PA Second Class Township Code.

In most Townships across PA, the number of Township Supervisors who also opt to be Township employees is dwindling. North Whitehall, like many other rural Townships has seen significant growth in the past decade. Increased State and Federal regulations and busy day to day activities have changed the way Townships do business. Few Townships exist in the Lehigh Valley that do not have full-time managers.

Mr. Bartlett was appointed as Township Manager in late January and has been quickly getting up to speed on Township projects and issues. Mr. Bartlett has a dozen years experience in municipal government work including positions in Bethlehem and Lehigh Townships. Most recently, he served as Managing Director of Bristol Township, the 12th largest municipality in PA. Prior to his government positions, Jeff worked in various management positions in higher education.

When asked about coming to North Whitehall, Mr. Bartlett gave these remarks. "North Whitehall is the type of community I have been searching for to continue my career. It is a growing community yet retains the rural character I personally enjoy. The mix of open space, farmland and carefully planned growth was a major draw for me. I believe the residents here enjoy the best of both worlds; rural character yet easy access to more urban settings and major cities. Growth in the community is inevitable for the Township to maintain the revenues needed to sustain the services we provide. As Manager, I see my role as an advisor to the Board of Supervisors, assisting them to deal with development issues. Dealing with the day to day operations also allows me to review how we conduct business and improve what we do for the residents. I'm looking forward to working with the staff and residents to continue advancing the great community that already exists."

Board of Supervisors

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Stephen A. Pany
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Jeff Bartlett
 Township Manager

2012

Township Meeting Schedule

Board of Supervisors

1st Monday of each month
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4th Tuesday of each month
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Recreation Board

3rd Monday of odd months
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Zoning Hearing Board

3rd Wednesday of each month
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 (as needed)



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LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP

Lower Providence manager fired in executive session

Published: Wednesday, December 07, 2011

Odigg

DUNBAR - FIRED
GELTRICH - HIRED
3 JOBS 6 YRS

0

By Carl Rotenberg
crotenberg@journalregister.com

LOWER PROVIDENCE — Township Manager Joseph Dunbar was fired Thursday night by the Board of Supervisors in a closed executive session held after the regular supervisors' meeting.

Supervisors' Chairman Richard Brown said the board reconvened the board meeting at 10:30 p.m. and voted in public 3-to-1 for a resolution cancelling Dunbar's contract. Brown, Supervisors' Vice Chairman Chris DiPaolo and Supervisor Don Thomas voted to end the contract. Supervisor Colleen Eckman voted against the resolution. Supervisor Marie Altieri did not attend the executive session and did not vote on the contract. Brown said Altieri did not know about the subject of the executive session.

BOARD
CONFLICT

"We have been cautioned by our solicitor not to mention personnel issues," said Brown in declining to detail the reasons for the sudden firing. "We cannot go into that."

Brown said Dunbar was "fired, effective immediately. We terminated his contract."

Geri Golas, the township's human resources director, was named interim township manager.

In a telephone interview with The Times Herald Friday afternoon, Dunbar said he "was caught off guard to say the least," by the board vote.

“There was no indication leading up to last night that the board was not satisfied with my performance or the staff. They explained that there was not a role for me going forward. And that they were going to terminate my services,” Dunbar said. “I was given the opportunity to resign in lieu of termination.”

Dunbar said he asked the board in executive session for time to consult an attorney but the board was not willing to wait.

“It has been a pleasure serving the community. There was no sense in talking about it,” he said. “I asked if Mr. Sorgini and Mrs. Zimmerman agreed. Sorgini said he was in agreement with DiPaolo.”

Zimmerman was not in agreement with the firing, Dunbar said. Continued...

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VIDEO: New township manager takes reigns in Lower Provide...

LOWER PROVIDENCE TWP

Montgomery News (montgomerynews.com)

Montgomery Life > News

VIDEO: New township manager takes reigns in Lower Providence

Tuesday, April 24, 2012

By Carl Rotenberg

crotenberg@journalregister.com

After a two-day drive from Oviedo, Fla. last weekend, new Lower Providence Township Manager Richard Gestrich settled into his new job by meeting with department managers, getting orientation tours of the township and preparing for the April 19 board of supervisors meeting, where he was introduced to township residents.

The former Bucks County resident was offered the \$105,000 per year township manager's job from a field of four candidates interviewed by the board. Gestrich replaces former Township Manager Joseph Dunbar, who was fired by the board in December 2011 after serving as township manager for seven years.

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"I want to bring economic development and fiscal conservancy to the township," Gestrich said. "Sustaining the businesses we have and encouraging them to expand and attracting new businesses. The business park is 20 percent vacant."

Gestrich met for more than four hours with Assistant Manager Geri Golas and took orientation tours with police Chief Francis Carroll and Public Works Director David Shaffer Jr.

The 58-year-old administrator plans to become familiar with the current township budget and learn about the township's five legal cases, he said.

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NEWS FLASH

MOBILE ALERTS

Golas takes reins as interim township manager

By CARL ROTENBERG
crotenberg@timesherald.com

Posted: 12/26/11 12:01 am
Updated: 12/26/11 12:29 pm

PHOTO

LOWER PROVIDENCE — Two weeks after Human Resources Director Geri Golas replaced outgoing Township Manager Joseph Dunbar as interim township manager, Golas got a \$17,600 pay hike from the Board of Supervisors to compensate for the added responsibilities.

CONTRIBUTE

Story Ideas

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After an executive session on Dec. 1, the board in a 3-to-1 vote fired Dunbar after he had served the township for seven years. Golas was promoted to the interim position to give a three-person board committee time to find a permanent replacement for Dunbar.

On Dec. 15, the board unanimously increased Golas' salary from \$62,400 to \$80,000. "My key goal is to continue the initiatives that are in place," Golas said. "We are tasked with the health and safety of our residents. That is not going to change."

Golas was hired in January 2002 by township officials as a financial coordinator. She was promoted to finance and human resources administrator in December 2004 and to human resources coordinator in March 2006.

Golas is now supervising 61 township employees as township manager.

Township employees were as surprised as residents by the unexpected firing of Dunbar.

"I share the sentiments of the other employees," Golas said. "We were surprised and shocked. I'm confident that I can fill the role the board has entrusted with me."

Golas is performing both jobs with help from Casey Snyder for administrative duties. In the township succession plan, Snyder is in place to learn Golas's job to replace her.

The 11-year resident of East Coventry, Chester County, returned the township manager's car to the township fleet after her temporary promotion.

"I'm very aware who pays my salary," she said. "I'm going to continue using my own vehicle."

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Board of Supervisors
MONDAY, JANUARY 04 2010

**WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

VAN DE VELDE
FILED
CONFLICT

January 4, 2010

The Annual Organizational Meeting of the Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisors was held on Monday, January 4, 2010 at 8:00 PM, in the Whitemarsh Township Building, 616 Germantown Pike, Lafayette Hill, PA.

Supervisors Present: Robert R. Hart, Chair; Leslie S. Richards, Vice-Chair; Sara J. Erlbaum; David E. Brooke; Melissa S. Sterling

Also Present: Bruce G. Horrocks, Acting Township Manager; Sean Kilkenny, Township Solicitor; James C. Sullivan, PE, Township Engineer

OATH OF OFFICE

- The Honorable Seamus McCaffery, Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, administered the oath of office for Melissa S. Sterling and Robert R. Hart as members of the Board Supervisors.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR ARMED SERVICES

SELECTION OF TEMPORARY POSITIONS

- On a Motion by Supervisor Brooke, seconded by Supervisor Hart (Vote 5-0-0,) Supervisor Leslie Richards was appointed as the Temporary Chair for the Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisors.
- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Hart (Vote 5-0-0,) Bruce Horrocks was appointed as the Temporary Secretary of Whitemarsh Township.

ELECTIONS OF BOARD CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Sterling (Vote 4-0-0 Supervisor Brooke no vote), Supervisor Robert Hart was appointed Chair of the Board of Supervisors for Whitemarsh Township.
- On a Motion by Supervisor Sterling, seconded by Supervisor Hart (Vote 4-0-0 Supervisor Brooke no vote), Supervisor Leslie Richards was appointed Vice-Chair of the Board of Supervisors for Whitemarsh Township.

Chair Hart called the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisors to order.

APPOINTMENTS

- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Richards (Vote 5-0-0,) Bruce G. Horrocks was appointed Secretary of Whitemarsh Township.
- On a Motion by Supervisor Richards, seconded by Supervisor Erlbaum (Vote 5-0-0,) Thomas M. Mullin was

appointed Finance Director/Assistant Secretary of Whitemarsh Township.

- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Richards (Vote 5-0-0,) Eileen W. Behr was appointed Chief of Police of Whitemarsh Township.
- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Sterling (Vote 5-0-0,) Elizabeth De Cordova was appointed Zoning Officer of Whitemarsh Township.
- On a Motion by Supervisor Brooke, seconded by Supervisor Erlbaum (Vote 5-0-0,) Sean P. Kilkenny of the Friedman Schuman Law Firm was appointed Solicitor for Whitemarsh Township.
- On a Motion by Supervisor Brooke, seconded by Supervisor Erlbaum (Vote 5-0-0,) James C. Sullivan, P.E. of the CMX Engineering Firm was appointed Engineer for Whitemarsh Township.
- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Richards (Vote 5-0-0,) the following Nominees were appointed to serve on the Vacancy Board for 2010:
 - o Debra Brenner (Supervisor Sterling's Nominee)
 - o Dr. Richard Cutler (Supervisor Brooke's Nominee)
 - o Carole Lukoff (Supervisor Erlbaum's Nominee)
 - o Sheri Risler (Supervisor Richard's Nominee)
 - o Timothy Ferris (Supervisor Hart's Nominee)

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- There were no meeting minutes to approve.

AMEND AGENDA

- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Richards (Vote 5-0-0,) the Board of Supervisors amended the agenda to adopt a resolution.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution #2010-01 – Various Board, Commission, and Committee Member Reappointments

- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Richards (Vote 5-0-0,) the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution #2010-01, which appoints/reappoints the following individuals to the following Boards and Commissions for the appropriate terms as listed in the Resolution:
 - o Zoning Hearing Board: Robert Bacine, Randi Rubin Goldstein (Alternate)
 - o Planning Commission: William O'Donnell, Scott Quitel
 - o Parks & Recreation Board: Jonathan Picker
 - o Whitemarsh Township Authority: Jonathan Riesberg
 - o Library Board: Stan Finegold
 - o Emergency Services Board: Teresa V. Ferris
 - o Historical Architectural Review Board: James P. Dodrill, Jr, John Loughridge
 - o Open Space Committee: P. Randolph Gray, Deidra A. Lyngard
 - o Media Communications Advisory Board: Suzanne Ryan
 - o Building Code Board of Appeals: Mike Pasceri
 - o Traffic Impact Fee Advisory Committee: Jeffrey Bryan, Dennis Campbell, Dennis Dougherty, Marcia Fluhr, Christopher Gubeno, Robin Straff

2. Resolution #2010-02 – Establishing Board of Supervisor Meeting Schedule Format

- Mr. Horrocks explained that the Board of Supervisors Meetings will be held at 7:00 PM on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month, with certain exceptions.
- On a Motion by Supervisor Brooke, seconded by Supervisor Erlbaum (Vote 5-0-0,) the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution #2010-02, which lists the planned Board of Supervisors Meetings for 2010.

3. Resolution #2010-03 – Establishing Travel and Business Expense Policy

- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Brooke (Vote 5-0-0,) the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution #2010-03, which outlines the travel and business expense re-imbusement policies for individuals traveling on Township-authorized business.

4. Resolution #2010-04 – Establishing Holidays for Non-Uniformed, Non-Union Township Employees

- On a Motion by Supervisor Richards, seconded by Supervisor Brooke (Vote 5-0-0,) the Board of Supervisors

WHITEMARSH TWP.

adopted Resolution #2010-04, which lists the approved employee holidays for non-uniformed and non-union Township employees.

MOTIONS

1. Certify Delegates to PSATS Annual Conference

- Mr. Horrocks explained that this is an annual conference sponsored by the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors.
- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Richards (Vote 5-0-0,) the Board of Supervisors certified Supervisor Erlbaum, Supervisor Brooke, Supervisor Richards, Supervisor Hart, Supervisor Sterling, and Bruce Horrocks to the 2010 PSATS Annual Conference, and certified Supervisor Erlbaum as the "voting" delegate.

2. Selection of Township Depositories

- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Richards (Vote 5-0-0,) the Board of Supervisors approved all Township depositories as recommended by the Finance Director in a memo dated December 28, 2009.

MOTION TO RECESS

- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Richards (Vote 5-0-0,) the Board of Supervisors recessed to hold an executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Chair Hart announced an executive session held during the Public Meeting to discuss personnel matters.

REOPEN AGENDA

- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Richards (Vote 5-0-0,) the Board of Supervisors re-opened the Agenda.

MOTION

3. Appoint Special Counsel

- Mr. Kilkenny explained that Mr. Hugg from Obermayer, Rebmann, Maxwell & Hippel, LLP will be used as Special Counsel related to the HMI litigation matters. He added that Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel LLP was chosen based upon qualifications and additionally offered the lowest hourly rate.
- Amy Neering (Church Road) expressed concern about rushing into choosing special counsel so quickly. Mr. Kilkenny explained that the decision was made to meet deadlines.
- Joe Meo (Jackson Drive) inquired about the nature of the lawsuit. Mr. Kilkenny explained that Mr. DePaul is claiming that Board of Supervisor members and Township officials conspired to deprive him of his land development rights. Mr. Meo inquired about the status of Judge Albright's case. Mr. Kilkenny explained that a land development application is on the agenda for review at the next Board of Supervisors Meeting. Mr. Meo requested that this litigation gets resolved quickly and inexpensively.
- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Sterling (Vote 5-0-0,) the Board of Supervisors appointed Jonathan Hugg as Special Counsel to Whitemarsh Township.

RESOLUTIONS

5. Resolution #2010-05 – Removing Township Manager

- Mr. Kilkenny explained that on December 18, 2009, Supervisors Erlbaum and Brooke notified Mr. Christopher R. van de Velde that the Board of Supervisors will be moving in a different direction in 2010. Mr. Kilkenny added a severance package was offered, but he has chosen not to resign.
- Mr. Meo requested more information about the Board of Supervisors different direction. Mr. Kilkenny explained that the Board has been advised by the Township labor attorney not to discuss details regarding this personnel issue.
- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Richards (Vote 4-1-0, Supervisor Brooke opposed) the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution #2010-05, which removes Christopher R. van de Velde as Township Manager.

BOARD
CONFIDENTIAL

6. Resolution #2010-06 – Announce Acting Township Manager

- Ms. Neering acknowledged Mr. van de Velde's accomplishments and inquired about the process to appoint a

WHITEMARSH TWP

new Township Manager.

- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Sterling (Vote 4-0-1, Supervisor Brooke abstained,) the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution #2010-06, which names Bruce Horrocks as acting Township Manager, while a search is commenced.

7. Resolution #2010-07 – Advertisement of Open Position of Township Manager

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- Mr. Kilkenny reviewed the process and described requirements for the position.

- Jean McLenigan (Sumac Place) encouraged a requirement that the Township Manager live within the Township. Mr. Kilkenny will review that requirement.

- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Richards (Vote 5-0-0,) the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution #2010-07, which authorizes the Township Solicitor to prepare an advertisement to commence a search for a new Township Manager, to place the advertisement in appropriate publications and/or online job listings in order to solicit applications for the position of Whitemarsh Township Manager, and to receive applications in response to such advertisement.

BOARD OF SUPERVISOR COMMENT

- There was no Board Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- There was no Public Comment.

ADJOURNMENT

- On a Motion by Supervisor Erlbaum, seconded by Supervisor Sterling, the Board of Supervisors Annual Organizational Meeting for January 4, 2010 was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bruce G. Horrocks
Assistant Township Manager

[View the minutes prior to this list](#)

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Administration

Township Manager	"Vacancy"		
Administrative Asst.	Debi Tindall		dtindall@forkstownship.org
Human Resources	Barbara Bartek		bbartek@forkstownship.org
Finance Manager	James Farley	(x104)	jfarley@forkstownship.org
E.I.T. Tax Collector	Mary Ann Kessler		mkessler@forkstownship.org
Asst. E.I.T. Tax Collector	Carolyn Bucar		
Accts.Receivable	Sharon Fisher		sfisher@forkstownship.org
Accts. Payable	Sandi Rossi		srossi@forkstownship.org
Utility Billing	Irene Hess		ihess@forkstownship.org
Township R.E. Tax Collector	Anne Bennett-Morse	Ext. 110	abmorse@forkstownship.org
Easton Area School District Tax Collector	Anne Bennett-Morse		abmorse@forkstownship.org
Facilities Director	Peter Gheller		pgheller@forkstownship.org
Zoning Officer	Tim Weis		tweis@forkstownship.org
Asst. Zon. Officer	Loretta Fuehrer		lfuehrer@forkstownship.org
Admin Asst.	Carolyn Bucar		
Building Inspector	Matt Miller		mmiller@forkstownship.org
Dir of Public Works	Mark Roberts		mroberts@forkstownship.org
Public Works Garage			
Parks/Maint.Bldg.	Ed Kleppinger		
Chief of Police	Gregory Dorney	(x131)	gdoorney@forkstownship.org
Secty/Police Dept.	Jennifer Balek		
Fire Chief	Charles Chapman		fire_chief_2551@forkstownship.org

Community Center

Parks and Recreation

Director	Rachel Sulzbach		rsulzbach@forkstownship.org

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Hilltown manager to step down

Recommend 0

Chris Christman says he leaves township with age-restricted ordinance in place.

0 0

May 03, 2011 By Melinda Rizzo, SPECIAL TO THE MORNING CALL

Tweet

Hilltown Township supervisors accepted the resignation of the township manager at their regular business meeting last week, but weren't offered many details.

Chris Christman, the township's top chief for three years, declined to discuss his plans or where he was going. Christman gave supervisors three weeks' notice.

3 YRS RESIGNED

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"I can't say anything more about my next opportunity," Christman said.

Christman said he leaves Hilltown on good terms, and supervisors Chairman John "Jack" McIlhinney agrees.

"Chris is a hardworking young man, and he's been an excellent manager. It was a surprise, but we wish him all the best," McIlhinney said.

Christman's last day is May 13. Christman earned \$100,750 per year as township manager.

SCHNAEDLER SALARY AT FORCES \$85,000 NOW \$100,000

Assistant Township Manager Bill Wert will step in as interim manager until a replacement is found.

Christman said he sought to maintain Hilltown's rural nature and he leaves the township with new zoning in place for age-restricted development.

Recently, Toll Brothers, based in Horsham, Montgomery County, proposed a 313-unit age-qualified development on about 182 acres fronted by Route 313.

Christman said another builder in the past two years withdrew a proposal for age-restricted housing. "The property had been available when Toll Brothers approached the township recently," Christman said.

If completed, the Toll Brothers project would be the first age-restricted community in Hilltown Township, Christman said.

Hilltown Township is roughly 27 square miles. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, Hilltown's population is 15,029.

Melinda Rizzo is a freelance writer.

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Forks Township manager to resign

Recommend 0

Supervisors seek outside help in search for replacement.

0

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November 04, 2011 | By Adam Clark, Of The Morning Call

Tweet

Forks Township Manager Rick Schnaedter is resigning at the end of 2011 to stay closer to home.

Schnaedter, 63, lives in a one-bedroom apartment during the week and travels home to Upper Providence Township, Montgomery County, on the weekends. He has led the township administration for nearly five years.

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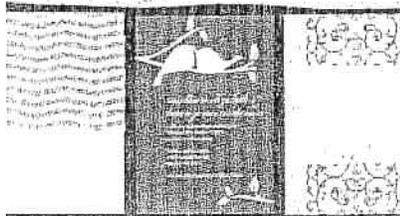
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He announced his resignation, effective Dec. 31, at the end of Thursday's Board of Supervisors meeting.

The board issued a statement saying Schnaedter "leaves behind a legacy of community accomplishments in which he can take great pride." He oversaw "explosive growth," it said, referring to Forks Township's status as Northampton County's fastest growing community

Supervisor Lilly Gioia said after the meeting Schnaedter will be a tough act to follow.

4+ YRS

Schnaedter served almost five years as township manager and said the staff and facilities were the best he's ever experienced. He also praised the Forks community.

"It's tough to leave here," Schnaedter said.

The township board also approved spending up to \$5,000 to hire David Woglom, associate director for public service at Lafayette College, to spearhead its search for a new manager. Woglom spent 20 years as borough manager in Quakertown, Bucks County.

Schnaedter's exit coincides with the departure of two of the five township supervisors at the beginning of 2012. Incumbent supervisors C. David Howell and Gioia were defeated in the spring primary election.

NOTE

Board Chairman David Billings said their replacements, who will be chosen in Tuesday's election, will likely have a say in the board's hiring decision. The township traditionally allows supervisors-elect to participate in major board decisions before they're sworn in.

SCHNAEDLER TO HILLTON TWP.
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Schnaedter's salary was \$85,000 a year.

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Forks Township manager jumps ship to Hilltown Township

Published: Tuesday, December 13, 2011, 4:07 PM Updated: Tuesday, December 13, 2011, 11:05 PM



By **Rudy Miller | The Express-Times**

Forks Township manager **Rick Schnaedter** was hired Monday as the new manager for Hilltown Township, Bucks County.

Schnaedter announced last month he planned to leave Forks Township, where he's been the manager for the past five years. Schnaedter will take over in Hilltown Township on Jan. 3, according to the Hilltown Township website.

He earned \$84,930 a year in Forks and will earn \$100,000 a year in Hilltown Township.

Forks Township supervisor David Howell said Schnaedter is expected to submit a formal resignation letter Thursday.

Schnaedter lives in Oaks, Montgomery County, but had been staying in an Easton apartment five days a week to work in the township. He said earlier this month the commute had been tiring.

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Express Times
File Photo

Rick Schnaedter

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Forks picks new township manager

John Cornell was formerly borough manager in Tyrone, Blair County.

April 08, 2012

Forks Township has selected John V. Cornell, a veteran of municipal government, as its new township manager.

Cornell, most recently borough manager of Tyrone, Blair County, was formally introduced at Thursday night's Board of Supervisors meeting. He will make \$92,000 with a monthly \$200 automobile stipend.

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50
APPLICANTS

Cornell, of Souderton, emerged from more than 50 applicants for the position, Supervisor Bob Egolf said. He was previously manager for Worcester Township, Montgomery County, and East Rockhill Township.

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Cornell also served as assistant manager at New Britain Township, Bucks County, where he first worked as a zoning code officer.

"Applicants also do their homework and research and I have heard nothing but great things about Forks Township," Cornell said.

Cornell replaces Rick Schnaedter, who resigned at the end of 2011 to become township manager in Hilltown Township, Bucks County. Schnaedter was making \$85,000 and had been with the township for nearly five years.

Forks used David Woglom, of Lafayette College, to guide their search for a new manager. Woglom spent 20 years as borough manager in Quakertown.

Cornell will begin work Monday.

— Adam Clark

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Forks picks new township manager

Recommend 0

John Cornell was formerly borough manager in Tyrone, Blair County.

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April 06, 2012

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50 APPS.

Cornell, of Souderton, emerged from more than 50 applicants for the position, Supervisor Bob Egolf said. He was previously manager for Worcester Township, Montgomery County, and East Rockhill Township.

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— Adam Clark

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ANCKAITIS RETIRES. CHRISTMAN
REPLACED AFTER HILTON TWP
MGR JOB FOR 4 YRS

Photos (2)

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Come June 1, Palmer Township will have a new township manager at the helm.

On Monday, the township Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to hire Christopher Christman, effective May 16. He will replace Robert Anckaitis, who is retiring on May 31.

RESIGNED
FROM
HILTON
TWP, MAY 3

"A couple months back we kind of got the bomb dropped on us," said Supervisor David Colver of Anckaitis' retirement announcement.

SEE FORMS
HILTON
TWP

In March, Anckaitis announced that he would be retiring after 11 years as township manager. Calling it "bittersweet," Colver said although he is happy about hiring Christman, he is sad to lose Anckaitis.

Palmer 2/20/09

"It's an opportunity for me to work in a community that I grew up in," said Christman of the new position.

A graduate of Freedom High School in Bethlehem Township, Christman currently resides in Hanover Township with his wife, Teena, and their 5-month-old daughter, Emily Rose. Most recently he was township manager for Hilltown Township, Bucks County, where he was on staff since April 2008. Christman is a graduate of Lehigh University, where he earned his master's degree in political science.

In Palmer, his annual salary will be \$92,000. He earned \$100,750 as Hilltown's manager.

\$8,750
REDUCTION
???
WHY??

Christman said he announced his resignation to the Hilltown Board of Supervisors on April 25. That board has yet to determine the next step for a replacement. The assistant township manager will fill the position in the interim, he said.

"We have a lot of faith that we have the right person coming on board," said Colver.

"We made an excellent selection from those choices," said Supervisor Robert Lammi.

"There's a lot of opportunity here," said Christman. "I knew that it would be a unique opportunity."

Christman said he is excited to be working in a township that has a larger population, operating budget and lots of businesses.

\$\$\$

"They're big shoes to fill," he said. "I'm looking forward to stepping in...anxious to come in."

!!!!

One day after Anckaitis' retirement announcement, the township hired the consulting firm the Davidson Group from Mechanicsburg to start the search for a new township manager. Nearly 100 candidates applied, and that number was reduced in a three-round process, according to township officials.

100
APPLICANTS

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WARMINSTER

Warminster welcomes new township manager, solicitor and police promotion

By Manasee Wagh Staff writer | Posted: Friday, January 6, 2012 12:00 am

Warminster Township congratulated police Cpl. Michael Schmalz for his promotion Thursday evening.

As a corporal, Schmalz will be responsible for supervising a nine-man squad, including training and overseeing the men, as well as more paperwork, he said.

A graduate of Central Bucks East High School, Schmalz began his police career in 1984, attending Temple University Police Academy and rising to the rank of senior sergeant before he joined the Warminster Police Department in 2002. He has attended the FBI Inter-County Detective School and several crime scene schools during his career, said police Chief S. Michael Murphy.

Schmalz is also a member of the Bucks County Mobile Incident Response Team and has received commendations for bravery and heroism, as well as unit citations.

Prior to his promotion, Schmalz served in the patrol division as a crime scene technician.

MANFREDI
TOWNSHIP WITH
PLUMSTEAD
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In other news, the board of supervisors welcomed Richard J. Manfredi as the new township manager. Chairman Leo Quinn III had nominated Manfredi as interim township manager, and he is now established in the position.

Manfredi, who has served as manager for Plumstead and Mount Union, Huntingdon County, replaces Bob Tate. Quinn and new Vice Chairman Tom Panzer repeatedly had questioned Tate's budgetary planning for more than a year.

PANZER
QUINN
QUESTIONS

The board also welcomed new township solicitor Mary Eberle, an attorney with Grim, Biehn and Thatcher in Perkasio, and asked her to do a complete examination of current projects and legal proposals, including some items that were on Thursday's agenda.

They included a five-year payment in lieu of taxes from Abington Memorial Hospital, and a property agreement with the hospital that would allow a roughly 2-acre tract to be developed for townhouses.

The payment of \$30,000 for 2011 and then \$15,000 annually in lieu of taxes needs to be examined more closely to be sure it makes sense for nontaxable, nonprofit parts of the hospital, said Supervisor Ellen S. Jarvis. The rest of the board agreed to table the vote on this agreement, as well as the vote on the property agreement, until all questions are answered.

The board also asked for interested volunteers to apply to an ad hoc information technology committee.

The committee would review all technology used by the township with the goal of making improvements that would save money and increase efficiency. The scope of the review would include communications devices and all computers.

"Some of our hardware is 20, 30 years old. It's time it was looked at. For example, we have many phone lines right now. Maybe we could look at having one that pushes out to different extensions. It's time we look at new technology that is more cost effective and gets swifter responses to residents," said Quinn.

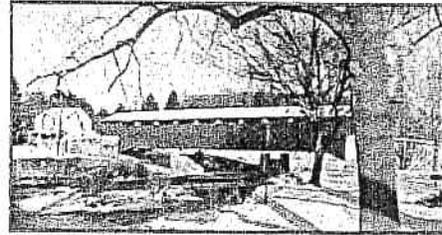
Interested volunteers can email township Manager Richard J. Manfredi at rmanfredi@warminsterpa.org.

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"L. M. TWP. MGR. FIRED"

LOWER MACUNGIE TWP

Lower Macungie Township Citizens for Change

First Class People deserve a 1st Class Township!



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Thought you would like to know what the media, organizations and the people of Lower Macungie Township think of our efforts to create positive governmental change - restoring the public trust in the governance of our township. The First Class People of Lower Macungie Township deserve a 1st Class Township Government.

"The Morning Call Inc., Copyright - November 01, 2007" - Our View

Growing township needs first class status, not more old-style seat warmers

Judging from the number of letters, phone calls and op-ed submissions to The Morning Call about next week's election, no matter has attracted more attention than a pair of questions on the ballot in one second-class township in the southwest corner of Lehigh County. The municipality happens to be Lower Macungie Township, the fastest-growing municipality in Pennsylvania. It is the Lehigh Valley's third most-populous municipality, bigger than the city of Easton, with more than 28,000 residents. In fact, its growth since the 1990s—about 66 percent—ties into the questions its voters will decide.

Voters will see two questions. The first asks whether Lower Macungie should change its form of government from second class to first class township. The second question, we believe, is a bit of mischief by the incumbent township supervisors who put it on the ballot either to confuse voters or cut into "yes" votes for the first question. It would add two supervisor seats to the current structure.

The Morning Call recommends a "yes" vote on Question No. 1 regarding first class status, and a "no" vote on adding two supervisors. Here is our reasoning.

Lower Macungie's past and future argue for a more modern government. More than \$2.5 million was allegedly embezzled from township sewer funds and a former supervisor, Marge Szulborski, is charged with stealing it between 1999 and 2006 while serving as the full-time sewer department director in addition to being an elected supervisor. Lower Macungie's other two supervisors also are municipal employees.

Becoming a first class township does not automatically make stealing extinct, but it would make it far more difficult for it to go undetected. The change would call for five elected supervisors and an elected treasurer. If it passes, Lehigh County judges would appoint people to serve in those offices starting in January. Then, voters would elect supervisors and a treasurer in 2009. The new commissioners would not be eligible to also be township employees. The commissioners would hold at-large seats, though wards could be created later.

This common-sense change would go a long way to providing modern checks and balances and would make corruption more difficult. The elected, independent treasurer is the key.

The campaign against first class status is based on the fear of higher taxes, but that argument is not persuasive. For instance, first class townships could create a police force, but so could a second class township. (Lower Macungie now has no police.) First class status does not mandate a police department. The first class millage cap is higher than the second class cap, but Lower Macungie is far under that cap now. So, while future tax increases could happen under either form, there are more opportunities to run the government efficiently under first class status.

MIL
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LOWER MACUNGIE TWP

Opponents also point to the prevalence of second class over first class township in the state. However, since population density is one criterion for first class, that fact reflects Pennsylvania's largely rural nature, not the comparative desirability of the two forms. (For the record, a township can be first class if it has 300 residents per square mile; Lower Macungie has 850.)

The addition of two more supervisors, meanwhile, would not improve anything. In fact the question that would accomplish this was put on the ballot by the incumbents who presided over so much of the township's folly, we can't imagine why township residents would sign on for more of the same.

Therefore, The Morning Call recommends a "no" vote on Question 2, adding two more supervisors.

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1ST CLASS
5 COMMISSIONERS
CAN NOT WORK FOR TWP.
ELECTED TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

"The Morning Call Inc., Copyright January 19, 2007" - Our View

Restore trust in Lower Macungie, step up to first-class status

Lower Macungie Township Citizens for Change launched its campaign yesterday to convince residents of the state's fastest-growing municipality to change its status from second-class township to first-class township.

This is an outstanding example of public citizenship: people identified a problem that was going unsolved by the incumbent officials and took action. The effort to create a better system of checks and balances gained momentum when Lehigh County District Attorney James Martin last year charged former Lower Macungie Supervisor Marge Szulborski with forgery, theft by unlawful taking and other offenses. Records show about \$2.5 million missing from the township.

As bad an idea as it is, in second-class townships, supervisors also can work as township employees. While serving as supervisor, Ms. Szulborski was employed as public works coordinator, responsible for collecting wastewater treatment allocation fees and sewer connection fees in the burgeoning Lehigh County community.

Members of Citizens for Change, a new political action committee, need to get the signatures of 10 percent of registered voters—1,800 signatures—on petitions in support of a public referendum in order to get it on the November ballot.

The petition drive probably will run from May 1 to July 1, according to two Citizens for Change organizers, Grayson McNair and Larry Schneider. If successful, voters would be asked whether to convert Lower Macungie to a first-class township.

Here's the difference, and it is significant: Second-class townships were designed for relatively small, often rural townships with minimal personnel resources. Residents elect three to five supervisors for six-year terms—with no prohibition of simultaneous employment by the township—and have the option of creating a police force and appointing a township manager. The township treasurer is appointed by the supervisors.

In contrast, the larger, first-class townships elect five commissioners for four-year terms, and they are prohibited from taking paid employee positions. The creation of a police force and appointment of a township manager still are optional. However, the treasurer would be an elected position, providing independent accountability and defined checks and balances.

If voters approve, Citizens for Change would aim for a 2008 ballot question to appoint a Home Rule Charter Study Commission to carry out the voters' wishes. Two of Lower Macungie's three supervisors, Kenneth DeAngelis and

1ST CLASS
TOWNSHIP
ELECTED

Lower Macungie Twp

Dennis Hinkle, so far oppose the change; they expected to discuss yesterday whether to advertise for a township manager.

But, with more than 47 percent population growth since 2000—more than 28,000 residents—Lower Macungie should pursue first-class status as a step toward restoring trust in local governance. ?

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"The Morning Call Inc., Copyright February 28, 2007" - Our View

Restore public trust in Upper Macungie

Upper Macungie ethics violations - the misuse of township credit cards by former and current supervisors - and a Lower Macungie criminal case, a \$2.5 million embezzlement by a supervisor who also served as a township employee, are entirely different. But from the perspective of taxpayers, there is a common denominator in the cases of Upper Macungie Supervisor Porter E. Krisher and former Supervisor Thomas C. Gorr, and Lower Macungie's former supervisor, Margaret Szulborski. **There is a serious need in Upper Macungie for residents to rise up and emulate the hard work and wisdom of Citizens for Change, a relatively new political action committee in neighboring Lower Macungie.**

Here's some advice for Upper Macungie residents, including Christopher C. Casey who first brought attention to allegations against Messrs. Gore and Krisher. **Contact Grayson McNair and Larry Schneider, Lower Macungie organizers of Citizens for Change, for tips toward the goal of voter approval to change Upper Macungie from a second-class township to a first-class township - Citizens for Change's ultimate goal.**

The state Ethics Commission made public Friday its investigation and conclusions about the use of Upper Macungie-issued credit cards by Messrs. Gore, previously an administrator for Lehigh County and for the Saucon Valley School District; and Krisher, a retired state police officer. Basically, the Ethics Commission said their violations pertained to financial-disclosure requirements and prohibitions against conflicts of interest.

Mr. Krisher, the supervisors' vice chairman, was ordered to pay a \$10,000 fine. Mr. Gorr, who resigned as a supervisor in July 2005 and moved to Delaware, was ordered to pay a \$4,000 penalty - all related to credit-card spending over five years. Among the violations: payment by Mr. Gorr for an Orlando, Fla. conference that had nothing to do with township business; and Mr. Krisher's routine approval of payments for no-bid township work by his son's tree service company.

With populations of about 15,598 in Upper Macungie and 26,200 in Lower Macungie, the townships are eligible for petition drives by citizen groups to put a change from second-class to first-class township status on the November ballot, followed by a charter study commission in each township. A more modern, professional structure is the best way for both to restore taxpayer trust in local government.

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"The Morning Call Inc., Copyright November 26,2006" - Our View

Burgeoning Lower Macungie should let voters consider first-class township status

The state's fastest-growing municipality got the go-ahead last week from the Lehigh County commissioners to consider a "promotion" from second-class township to first-class township. In a procedural move required by the state, the commissioners certified that Lower Macungie, along with Hanover, North Whitehall, Upper Macungie, Upper Milford and Upper Saucon, has at least 300 residents per square mile.

The county vote is a technicality, rather than an opinion on whether the municipalities should become first-class townships. However, with news this fall of major embezzlement in Lower Macungie, its citizens should give serious consideration to instituting the checks and balances that come with first-class status.

Lehigh County District Attorney James Martin has charged former Supervisor Marge Szulborski with forgery, theft by unlawful taking or disposition, theft by failure to make required disposition of funds received, and misapplication of entrusted property of government or financial institutions. She will be arraigned on Dec. 4. Records show about \$2.5 million missing. It might be more, but bank records date only to 1999.

Ms. Szulborski began working in 1991 for Lower Macungie as public works coordinator, responsible for collecting wastewater treatment allocation fees and sewer connection fees. The fees cover system maintenance and improvements, and payments to Lehigh County Authority for sewage transmission and Allentown for sewage treatment. Second-class townships allow people to serve in both elected and employed positions; Ms. Szulborski also had been a supervisor since 2001. The district attorney surmised that the primary cause of the alleged embezzlement was that accounting duties weren't segregated.

A group of Lower Macungie residents want to have a referendum in next year's general election asking township voters to support the change to a first-class township. If supervisors refuse to approve an ordinance for that, the group must get signatures from 10 percent of registered township voters to force it on the ballot. Two supervisors, Kenneth DeAngelis and Dennis Hinkle, went on the record last week as opposing a change. The third supervisor, Marilyn Jones, said she wants to think about it.

First-class townships are governed by five elected commissioners who are not permitted to be employed by the township and have an elected treasurer. Lehigh County already has three first-class townships: Salisbury, South Whitehall and Whitehall. Northampton County only has one, Bethlehem Township. **Experience shows that Lower Macungie and its 26,199 residents should move up to first-class status.**

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LOWER MACUNGIE TWP



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Lower Macungie Township manager fired

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Board president cites "disagreement in management style."

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February 22, 2008 | By Kevin Amerman Of The Morning Call

Lower Macungie's new commissioners fired the township manager late Thursday.

At the end of a meeting that lasted more than four hours, the commissioners announced they are placing Rick Prill on paid leave for three months and will replace him.

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Board President E. Keller Kline III said a "disagreement in management style" led to Prill's dismissal.

NOTE CONFLICT

His interim replacement will be Richard Klotz, a former Lehigh County administrator. Klotz is also a former director of the county prison, Kline said.

Kline said Prill's contract allows for a severance package that includes three months' pay.

Prill could not be reached for comment.

In May 2007, he was hired by the former township supervisors at an annual salary of \$70,000.

Those supervisors were ousted from office last month when a shift from second to first class went into effect. That switch, promoted by the activist group Lower Macungie Citizens for Change, was approved by voters last November.
It was sparked by the alleged embezzlement of \$2.5 million in township funds by Margaret Szulborski, a former supervisor and township employee.

Prill hired by former supervisors who were ousted from office when switch from 2nd to 1st class was approved by voters last Nov. Sparked by Margie Szulborski

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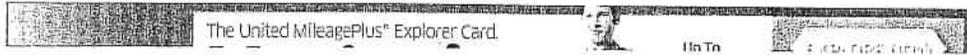
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Board president cites "disagreement in management style."

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February 22, 2008 | By Kevin Amerman Of The Morning Call

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Lower Macungie plucks Fosselman from Emmaus

Township manager will be first hired under new board.

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Tweet

September 19, 2008 | By Patrick Lester Of The Morning Call

Lower Macungie has its new township manager and it didn't have to look far to find him.

Township commissioners have named Bruce Fosselman, the manager in neighboring Emmaus, as the second manager in their township's history, voting Thursday night to hire him at a \$100,000 salary.

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Fosselman, a 53-year-old Lower Macungie resident, leaves a borough of about 11,500 people where he has served two stints as its top administrator for a total of 17 years. He moves to a township of about 30,000 people recovering from an alleged \$2.5 million embezzlement.

"Oh, it was very tough," Fosselman said of the decision to accept the job. "I really love Emmaus. I'm looking forward to a good career here in the township. I'm going to be very busy."

Fosselman, one of about 30 applicants, has worked in local government for 31 years after graduating from the University of Pittsburgh with a master's degree in public administration.

"I think, not to pat ourselves on the back, we did a really good job ... in finding a township manager," said Commissioner Deana Zosky. "We had some candidates from out of state. Our goal was to get the most qualified candidate."

Michael Waddell, the president of Emmaus Borough Council, called Fosselman's departure a loss for Emmaus, saying the manager did "excellent work."

"I think they've hired a very good person," Waddell said. "If anyone can help over there and get things tied up, he's certainly the person to do that."

Waddell said it was too early to say whether council would bring in an interim manager until a replacement is found.

Fosselman is scheduled to begin his new job Sept. 29. He'll replace Richard Klotz, a former Lehigh County administrator and director of the county's prison, who took over the job in an interim role in February.

Klotz replaced Rick Prill, Lower Macungie's first manager hired in 2007.

In February, the commissioners, all five of whom took office in January after the township was switched from second class to first class by voter referendum, dismissed Prill.

The referendum was sparked by the alleged embezzlement of \$2.5 million in township funds by Margaret Szulborski, a former supervisor and township employee, who has since died.

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1ST M.
70,000

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FOSSELMAN \$100,000
(AT EMMAUS \$82,000)

Lower Macungie Twp

Interim
New Township

Prill was paid a salary of \$70,000. When a resident Thursday night questioned why commissioners decided to pay Fosselman \$100,000, Zosky said her board hired a consultant to come up with salary range based on manager pay in the region.

Emmaus was paying Fosselman an \$82,000.

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DICKINSON TWP



Dickinson Township supervisor won't contest ethics report

Published: Thursday, December 02, 2010, 11:54 PM Updated: Friday, December 03, 2010, 8:53 AM



By **ELIZABETH GIBSON, The Patriot-News**

Township supervisor Jonathan Reisinger repeatedly ignored warnings when he was Dickinson's sewage enforcement officer to stop doing work for other clients while he was on the clock, according to a state Ethics Commission report.

The commission ruled that Reisinger, who left the job in 2008 then was elected to the supervisors board, profited by \$2,683.

He billed Dickinson and other clients for the same hours, and he performed work for others on days Dickinson had paid him sick leave, the report stated.

Dickinson Manager Ron Reeder — who Reisinger now supervises — had warned Reisinger his actions violated township policy. Reisinger disagreed and quit the enforcement officer post in 2008.

Reeder 100% says & goes to East Handover TWP CONFLICT?

While working for Dickinson, Reisinger also worked as sewage enforcement officer for North Middleton, Cooke, Hopewell and Lower Mifflin townships.

Reisinger has waived his right to contest commission findings, which were given to him last month. He announced during the supervisors' Nov. 15 meeting that he had repaid \$2,683 and apologized.

Dickinson Twp



Dickinson Township supervisors look into ethics charges against colleague

Published: Wednesday, December 08, 2010, 1:59 PM Updated: Wednesday, December 08, 2010, 2:02 PM



ELIZABETH GIBSON, The Patriot-News

By



Dickinson Twp. Supervisors Allyn Perkins and Ray Jones voted this week to ask Cumberland County District Attorney Dave Freed and state Attorney General Tom Corbett to see if ethics charges should be filed against fellow Supervisor Jonathan Reisinger.

CONFLICT

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DAN GLEITER,
The Patriot-
News/file

Jonathan Reisinger

Reisinger voted against the measure and rejected a suggestion he resign from the board.

The vote followed a probe by the state Ethics Commission into

Reisinger's actions as Dickinson's sewage enforcement officer — a job he left in 2008 before his election as supervisor. The commission found he billed

Dickinson for time he worked for others and he worked for others on days Dickinson paid him sick leave. It ruled that Reisinger profited by \$2,683, which he said he repaid.

The state attorney general's office would only look into criminal charges if Freed's office requested it, spokesman Nils Frederikson said. Freed is off this week, an office worker said.

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Lawyer: Dickinson Township supervisor would be hard to remove

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Lawyer: Dickinson Township supervisor would be hard to remove

By Lauren McLane, Sentinel Reporter, August 2, 2011 The Sentinel - cumberlink.com | Posted: Tuesday, August 2, 2011 9:00 am | (0) Comments

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A petition is circulating in Dickinson Township calling for the removal of township Supervisor Allyn Perkins.

While those circulating the petition hope it will force him to resign and thus leave office voluntarily, involuntary removal of an elected official in Pennsylvania is not so simple.

State decision

The commonwealth has a procedure in place for removing fairly elected officials set down in the state constitution.

Article VI, section 7, states, "All civil officers shall hold their offices on the condition that they behave themselves well while in office and shall be removed on conviction of misbehavior in office or of any infamous crime."

The procedure, however, neither requires nor benefits from the presentation of signatures from the electorate.

According to Professor Michael R. Dimino Sr., a professor of law at Widener University in Harrisburg, the procedure for removing an elected official is clear:

"The governor must get Senate approval by a two-thirds majority to remove an elected official at any level. There are no official rules otherwise." Dimino said.

The constitutional provision does not apply to the governor, lieutenant governor, members of the general assembly or judges, he added.

Looking at the Constitutional provision, Dimino continued, the phrase "infamous crime" has been defined in other contexts to mean a felony.

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Local precedent

A case decided in 2007 involving South Newton Township helped to provide some framework for removing officials, he said.

"South Newton was a major case. It says you can't file the case in the court of common pleas," Dimino said.

The case - S. Newton Twp. Electors v. S. Newton Twp. Supervisor - was dismissed by the state Supreme Court because the case was not appropriate for any court to decide and thus violated Article VI, section 7 of the state constitution.

"The only way to remove someone is that it must be presented to the governor," Dimino said. The governor must then call a hearing before the Senate, which afterwards must vote by a two-thirds majority to remove the elected official.

'Zero chance'

In its current form, the Dickinson Township grass-roots petition has "zero chance of forcing the guy to resign," at least in terms of a legal manoeuvre, Dimino said.

Elected in 2007, Perkins has a little more than two years left in his six-year term of office. His tenure on the board of supervisors has been marked with strife, discord, malcontentedness and angry accusations. *NOTE!* *CONFLICT*

Residents have been calling for his voluntary resignation for several months now, to no avail.

Perkins could not be reached for comment for this story. A phone call to his listed number in the phone book went to voicemail and a recording said the voicemail box was full and could not receive any new messages.

Other avenues

The only way for the residents to succeed in having Perkins removed, according to Dimino, is to convince Gov. Tom Corbett that Perkins' removal is necessary for the good of the township.

"It would depend on how serious a problem the supervisor is, and it depends on how good a case they can make to the governor," Dimino said. "The governor is within his authority to look at whether all other avenues have been exhausted."

Although there are no other legal avenues for removal, he said, the governor "could ask what people have tried to do to get him to behave differently - have you appeared at meetings, have you written letters," he said.

"The reason we don't have recall provisions is because we do this once and then we don't have to worry about who's in office anymore. It allows elected officials to do things that may get them into political controversy or be unpopular for a while but allows them to exercise some kind of leadership, at least for a while," he explained.

A recall provision, "defeats the purpose of giving him the security of a term in office," he added.

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Posted in Local on *Tuesday, August 2, 2011 9:00 am* | Tags: Dickinson Township, Petition, Removal, Allyn Perkins, Township Supervisor, Elected Official, Removal Of Elected Official, Pennsylvania, Law, State Constitution, Removal Procedure, Michael Dimino, Senate Approval, Governor,

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Dickinson Township manager Ron Reeder resigns

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Dickinson Township manager Ron Reeder resigns

By Lauren McLane, Sentinel Reporter The Sentinel - cumberlink.com | Posted: Thursday, October 20, 2011 6:19 pm | (0) Comments

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Ron Reeder

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The agenda for the Dickinson Township Board of Supervisors' budget workshop meeting had a surprise item Thursday night announcing the resignation of township manager Ron Reeder.

After significant board discussion and public comment, the board unanimously voted to accept Reeder's resignation. His resignation is effective at the close of business on Monday, Oct. 31.

Reeder told the board he has accepted a position of township manager with East Hanover Township in Dauphin County. He starts there Nov. 1.

In his resignation letter to the board, Reeder suggested that assistant township manager Laura Portillo be promoted to manager and that the position of assistant manager be eliminated.

Portillo's other role of township treasurer would need to be filled.

A motion by supervisor Jonathan Reisinger to follow Reeder's advice died for a lack of a second.

Chairman Allyn Perkins said that although he was likely to support such a motion, he did not want to act hastily. He also said that there was "no urgency" to make the decision.

With Reeder's resignation, Portillo will become the acting township manager until other arrangements are made.

Reeder's resignation came during the second of four scheduled budget workshops to discuss the proposed 2012 municipal budget for Dickinson Township. ??

Further workshops are scheduled for Monday, Oct. 24 and Thursday, Oct. 27. Both meetings will start at 6 p.m.

Reeder also recently resigned from his position as South Middleton Township supervisor after selling his house in the township. In May, Reeder got married and moved to Lower Paxton Township.

Meeting

Thursday's meeting started at 6 p.m. Immediately following the Pledge of Allegiance and the approval of the agenda, the board adjourned to an executive session to discuss the so-called "Breslin litigation."

The lawsuit is more than two years old and alleges that the township instituted public meeting policy that the plaintiffs claim violated their First and Fourteenth Amendment rights.

It was filed in federal court.

The executive session lasted about 45 minutes. When it was over, the board announced there had been no decisions made during it and proceeded with the budget workshop.

After discussion about the budget, supervisors directed Reeder and Portillo to update the year-to-date numbers for the Monday night meeting as well as prepare figures for the cost to the township if a 4 percent raise is given to all employees, as proposed in the preliminary budget, is approved.

Cumberlink.com: Dickinson Township manager Ron Reeder resigns

Dickinson TWP

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Posted earlier on Cumberlink:

The township supervisors voted to accept Reeder's resignation at 7:20 p.m. His final day will be Oct. 31.

Posted earlier on Cumberlink:

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LAAL SUIT

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It was filed in federal court.

DICKINSON TWP

Posted earlier on Cumberlink:

According to the agenda for Dickinson Township's meeting tonight, Township Manager Ron Reeder will be announcing his resignation tonight.

The agenda says Reeder's resignation will be effective Oct. 31.

Reeder recently resigned as a township supervisor in South Middleton because he planned to move to Dauphin County.

Check back to Cumberlink for more details as they become available.

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Posted in Local on *Thursday, October 20, 2011 6:19 pm* Updated: 10:44 am. | Tags: Ron Reeder, Agenda, Resignation, Dickinson Township, Supervisor, Politics, Google Reader, Ipad, Iphone, Religion And Spirituality, Ios Apple,

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By ELIZABETH GIBSON, The Patriot-News

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Dickinson Twp

RISINGER

burnthouse1 December 02, 2010 at 5:47AM

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It would have been nice to have known these facts when he was running on the "honesty and integrity" platform for DT Supervisor. I hope he now has the honesty and integrity to resign from this position.

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scherny December 02, 2010 at 6:08AM

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Yet another example of a lightweight local pol with a sense of entitlement due to perceived local celebrity. But, \$2600 is chump change. How much did the commission spend on the investigation?

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burnthouse1 December 02, 2010 at 7:56AM

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I think the \$2600 was just what he owed back to Dickinson Township. When reading it, I get out of it that there be more \$\$ involved.

<http://www.ethicsrulings.state.pa.us/webLink8/DocView.aspx?ld=192312&page=1&searchId=50cc514d-5c08-4639-b666-d7122f83f28a>

Just wish the voters and papers would have known about this before he ran for supervisor. Now we are stuck with him as our leader. You're right on with your example.

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Three vs Five Supervisors - The Referendum

The question to appear on this November's ballot is -

"Should two additional supervisors be elected to serve in this Township?"

Note: The bulletin board for this referendum was taken off-line 03/26/00.

This referendum is the result of efforts by [Charlestown Green](#). Charlestown Green has provided the a statement in support of this referendum. The Charlestown Civic Association has provided a statement opposing this referendum. Both are posted below. Review others' opinions and post your own thoughts on this issue by clicking the links above. Click the "?" icon for some help with using this bulleting board.

Why we should increase to five supervisors

Position of [Charlestown Green](#)

(09/01/98) At the January 5th Annual Reorganization Meeting of the Charlestown Supervisors, [Robin Kohn](#) resigned stating he did not feel he had been effective in the position. This followed many months of gridlock and constant bickering between the two remaining Supervisors on numerous issues regarding the governing of our township. After numerous attempts and meetings, the one member Vacancy Board was required to assist in

Why we should continue with three supervisors

Position of [Charlestown Civic Association](#)

(09/19/98) In February of this year, after the process of selecting a supervisor to replace Robin Kohn, [Kevin Kuhn](#) from Charlestown Green announced that his organization was going to sponsor a referendum to increase the present Board from three Supervisors to five. At the time, the referendum was developed over the frustration felt by some individuals that the remaining

CONFLICT!

CHARLESTOWN TWP

NOTE: →

selecting Mr. Kohn's successor, as the two remaining Supervisors could not agree on even this issue.
Charlestown Green, Inc. has taken the position that increasing the Supervisors from a three-member board to a five-member board would help eliminate gridlock and foster a more proactive board.
The board of directors of Charlestown Green approved a motion to petition the Chester County Board of Elections, collected the requisite signatures and filed their petition on July 27th.
The referendum question that will appear on this November's ballot is as follows:

Should two additional Supervisors be elected to serve in this Township?

Charlestown Green supports this referendum and is actively encouraging residents of the township to vote yes in November. The only individuals who have been vocally opposed to the idea of a five-member board are the three incumbent Supervisors, and you have to wonder why? While initially this was done in an attempt to bring civility to the board, there are numerous advantages and few potential disadvantages to an expanded board, such as:

- When one or two members cannot make a meeting or are unable to vote on an issue due to a conflict of interest, we still have the ability to resolve the situation

NOTE: →

two Supervisors were not able to come to a consensus on a replacement. It was felt that had more representatives been on the board, they would have been better able to reach an agreement on one individual. Our view is that, even with a five member Board, the possibility of a consensus not being reached exists. In both of these cases, the course of action would lead to a vacancy Board decision.

When Charlestown had a two member Board, the business of the Township proceeded without impedance. Since Bob Wert's appointment, the Board has continued to run with the best interests of the Township in mind. All three current Supervisors have expressed their opinion that the Board should continue to consist of only three members.

It has been our experience that finding a qualified candidate who is willing to run actively for office can be difficult. Should a five member Board be chosen, it could mean reducing the caliber of our Board. In this situation, it would be difficult to return to a three member Board. There has been no absenteeism with our board this year, compared to, for example, the seven member Planning Commission, which has one to three members absent almost every meeting.
A larger number of members on the Board of Supervisors will allow for a greater chance of someone being absent.
 With one person absent, it will allow for a split decision and

ABSENTEES:
LESS WITH 5 MEMBER BOARD.

CHARLESTOWN IWD

without having a stalemate.

- Division of power and responsibilities: A supervisor wears many hats, it's a great deal of work. This would give the board the ability to have sub-committees for various projects and would allocate the work to more bodies. At the present time the Supervisors rarely attend the Planning Commission meetings, and they should be more in tune with this board so they are not re-doing the board's work.
- Eliminate the "odd-man-out" situation that has existed on the board from time to time over the last seven plus years.
- Bring more and diverse talent to the board and hopefully better reflect our divergent population, especially our newest residents.

NOTE →

Will it cost the taxpayers more?

Yes, based on the number of meetings the supervisors attend each year and the present salary (\$50.00 per meeting), the cost to the taxpayers of Charlestown Township would be in the range of \$4,000. This represents approximately 1/2 of a percent of the Township's annual budget.

delay the business of the Township. One member could also influence greater power on the board by abstaining during close critical votes causing inaction and delay.

One of the difficulties with the present Board is trying to match their schedules when trying to have an executive session or a road inspection tour. This will be made more difficult when trying to match five schedules. Also, when a member misses a meeting, we will see as with the planning commission, that person as having to be brought up to speed. This could also create delay in conducting business.

We will also be faced with the difficulty of reaching a consensus, delaying decisions to the detriment of the Township.

There will be an additional cost to the Township. The Green estimated that cost to be \$4,000 with the additional supervisors. We believe that there will be a higher administrative cost as well. We have had discussion with a supervisor in Schuylkill Township where they increased their board to five members, and were surprised at the increase in office work.

We have to ask ourselves do we want to go from small government to big government.

The Charlestown Web page is sponsoring an on-line debate on this issue. Please take the time to examine both sides of the issue and please make your comments known.

We respect Charlestown

DONT NEED CONSENSUS - UNEVEN # ON BOARD MAJORITY DECIDES THIS CAUSES CONFLICT

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Green's effort in pushing for the referendum but after careful consideration, the Charlestown Civic Associations Board of Directors recommends to the residents of the township to vote NO on the referendum to increase the Board of Supervisors to five.

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Charlestown Green, Inc.

Charlestown Green, Inc., a non-profit organization, was established in 1987 to promote and support the conservation and development of natural resources in Charlestown Township, including the preservation of areas and facilities of historical significance in the township. This organization publishes a very comprehensive quarterly newsletter focusing on planning issues. The newsletter sometimes includes inserts such as lists of township officials and maps of areas before the planning board.

Click [here](#)
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The organization's goal is to educate the general public in terms of resource planning, conservation and preservation. This goal includes monitoring development in the township and reporting the facts via its newsletter.

Charlestown Green has been very supportive of this web site, providing information assembled by the organization and published in the Charlestown Green Newsletter. Charlestown Green, Inc. has the following officers:

- Ellen Behrle - President 935-2802 (H)
- Sharon Shoemaker - Secretary 933-8132 (H)
- Ray Hallett - Treasurer 933-7271 (H)
- Carol Armstrong, Ph.D. - Board Mbr. 644-4627 (H)
- Sarah Willig, Ph.D. - Board Mbr. 933-3539 (H)

Membership in Charlestown Green, Inc. costs \$25 per year, and contributions above that amount are gratefully accepted. To join or send a contribution (tax deductible), mail your check payable to

Charlestown Green, Inc.
P.O. Box 469
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HANOVER TOWNSHIP

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About Us at Hanover Township (Lehigh County)

REGIONAL LOCATION

Hanover Township, Lehigh County is a township of the second class with a total area of approximately 4.3 square miles; it is located to the north of the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem. It is the only township in Lehigh County that lies east of the Lehigh River. Its location, on the county's eastern border, places it near the geographic center of the Lehigh-Northampton bi-county region. This centrality has made the Township a strategic location for major regional and inter-regional transportation facilities such as the Lehigh Valley International Airport and Route 22. Location on the periphery of both Allentown and Bethlehem has placed the Township in the path of outward expansion of the two cities.

Route 22, the major regional east-west thoroughfare, links the Township with the three cities-Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton. Beyond the ABE region, Route 22 extends to the major metropolitan centers of New York and New Jersey and west to Harrisburg and central Pennsylvania. Airport Road is the only north-south road of any importance in the Township. It connects the Township with the cement and slate belt areas to the north and the cities of Allentown and Bethlehem to the immediate south.

The Township is located in the heart of the Lehigh Valley, a gentle undulating limestone valley, which is part of the greater Ridge and Valley Physiographic Province extending diagonally from the south-central to the northeastern borders of Pennsylvania. The rich soils of this area made the Township an early agricultural area. However, the relatively level farm land, the proximity of the area to the two major cities, and accessibility to major transportation facilities such as the Lehigh Valley International Airport have given the Township a rapidly expanding industrial and commercial land use pattern.

OUR HISTORY

Hanover Township was formed from the southern portion of Allen Township by decree of the Bucks County Court in 1798. Its geographic limits at that time included the present area plus that which comprises Hanover Township, Northampton County, and the area immediately south of the current Township to the Lehigh River. This original territory was retained until 1812 when Lehigh County was established and the Township was divided; approximately two-thirds of its area went to Lehigh County and one-third remained in Northampton County.

With the exception of an annexation by the Borough of Catasauqua in 1895, the Township's political boundaries did not change until early in the 20th century. At that time, growth of the major cities began to extend into the surrounding townships. Allentown and Bethlehem grew toward one another until their borders met. This, of course, occurred at the expense of Hanover Township; through annexation it was reduced in size to about one-third of its original area. Additional annexations produced further loss of territory (i.e., in 1982, the Township shrank by 2.3 acres in the northwest corner with respect to land annexed to Catasauqua in connection with the Strawberry Hill Development).

Hanover Township was settled later than most of the other townships of the region during the 18th century because approximately 23,000 acres contained within its area belonged in the "Manor of Fermor" which was privately owned by the Penn family and not officially open to settlement. In 1795, the proprietaries brought ejectment suits against the squatters to the U.S. Circuit Court at Philadelphia. Settlement of the suits was made out of Court and the land was sold to the settlers at a cost of \$1.75 per acre. The land was re-surveyed and then divided into 196 tracts. Another reason why the township was not extensively developed immediately was the popular misconception that its soils were not good because of an inadequate water supply. In fact, during the mid-1700's the area between the Lehigh River and Schoenersville was referred to as the "Barrens" or "Drylands". The Borough of Catasauqua derived its name from the Native American word for "dry ground". This misconception prevailed until the 19th century when the soils were discovered to be quite fertile. Agriculture then developed as a major industry in the Township.

With the settlement came the establishment of a number of small villages. These were: Nain, established in 1758; Rittersville, established around 1808; Schoenersville, established around 1794; and East Allentown, founded in 1828. All but Schoenersville were located in the southern portion of the Township in proximity to the Lehigh River and between Allentown and Bethlehem.

Nain, the earliest village established, was located about one mile east of Rittersville and two miles northwest of Bethlehem. It was originally intended to serve as a living place for Native Americans who were converted to Christianity. However, the village was removed in 1753 because of antagonisms and conflict between the settlers and Native Americans.

Schoenersville and Rittersville developed along early roads serving the region. Schoenersville was located at the intersection of two roads connecting Allentown and Bethlehem. Typically, each village was named after an early settler who was proprietor of a roadside tavern strategically located to serve travelers. In each case, a number of families decided to live in proximity to one another; a general store was established along with a blacksmith shop and post office, and a village was formed. Basically, however, the early roads were the primary factors influencing development.

East Allentown was founded on the east side of the Lehigh River at the east end of a bridge crossing the river. Its initial establishment also began with a roadside tavern. With the coming of the canal in 1829 and a railroad in 1855, East Allentown, along with Rittersville and the entire area along the Lehigh River between Allentown and Bethlehem, began to develop.

The combination of road, railroad, and canal spurred development of both residential and industrial land uses between Allentown and Bethlehem. Early in its history, terminal facilities were erected in East Allentown. Later, grist mills, lumber mills, lime kilns, and brick refractories were also constructed. The beginning of the industrial revolution in the late 19th century saw the development of an industrial concentration in and around Rittersville. Industries involved in the manufacture of machinery, textiles, apparel, and carriages all located in the vicinity. This urban oriented development set the stage for the annexation into Allentown and Bethlehem. Between 1910 and 1930, the entire area between the two cities, including the villages of East Allentown and Rittersville, was annexed. The remainder of the Township continued as it had been since settlement began, predominantly open and agricultural.

In 1929, the Allentown Chamber of Commerce purchased land in the center of the Township for construction of an airport. Subsequently, in 1937, the City of Bethlehem and later Easton joined in developing the airport. Today, the airport is controlled by the Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority.

Geography and roads have played key roles in the Township land development patterns. In the 1950's, the new Route 22, a major east-west inter-regional

highway, was constructed. Its effect was to split the southern portion of the Township (one-third) from the airport dominated northern portion (two-thirds). The road stimulated development of new roadway oriented commercial and industrial uses in the proximity of its interchange on Airport Road. In addition to the influence of the airport and the road system on land development, purchase of large tracts of land on all sides of the airport by Bethlehem Steel and Lehigh Valley Industrial Park preempted a large portion of the Township for industrial development.

On November 15, 1961, the Hanover Township Planning and Zoning Commission was formed by the Township Board of Supervisors, the three elected officials who performed both administrative and legislative functions for the Township. Realizing that new industries, a concentration of regional transportation facilities, and an upward growth trend were beginning to exert profound development pressures on the Township, the Planning Commission immediately began to study various means available for carrying out a planning program to assure orderly future growth. The Township's first Comprehensive Plan was developed and completed in May, 1964. The Plan was updated in April, 1974 to reflect influences on the Township which had either taken place or became more definitive since the preparation of the original Plan. The Update also included new concepts and more specific goals and objectives. Once again, in April, 1995, the Township Governing Body adopted an Update to the Comprehensive Plan reflecting the Township's current status and providing a new vision for the future, building upon experiences of the past.

1961
START
3 SUPERV.

As reflected in the 1995 Update to the Township's Comprehensive Plan, since the preparation of the 1974 Comprehensive Plan, dramatic changes which altered the Township's direction have not occurred. The changes have more represented the further evolution of past events. However, since 1995, as a result of changes which have occurred in and around the Township, the Township has recently prepared a Proposed Amendment to the 1995 Comprehensive Plan Update, which is currently under review.

The proposed Amendment focuses on those changes which include, in part, the following issues: 1) The decline in population in the Township reflects a growing industrial, commercial and airport character of the Township; 2) The extensive land acquisition by the airport would eliminate substantial areas of planned commercial, planned industrial office, and planned residential development zones in the Township, replacing same with runways and other uses associated with the airport. Such expansion, if it occurs, will increase the airport's role as a dominant factor in the character of the Township and further diminish the compatibility of residential uses in the vicinity of the airport; and 3) The transportation system in and around the Township has been modified, including improvements along Race Street, Schoenersville Road, and Airport Road; the completion of the American Parkway from the Lehigh River to Airport Road entirely through the City of Allentown; new turning lanes, intersection controls and crossover barriers on Airport Road between the Route 22 interchange and the American Parkway; and the improvement of Route 22 and, in particular, the Airport Road/Route 22 interchange, especially at its intersection with Catasauqua Road.

The growth of the airport has been noteworthy. To provide up-to-date facilities, to meet increased demand for services and to take advantage of business opportunities, the airport has been upgraded, modernized, and expanded. The use of the airport has increased. New air carriers have been introduced to the airport. In 1985, the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton Airport expanded its scope of activities by becoming an international airport. This change introduced direct international flights from the airport and provided customs services for air cargo. In 1994, the name of the airport was changed to the Lehigh Valley International Airport. The expansion of the airport has had extensive off-site effects in the Township as noted above.

The Township's position as an employment and commercial center for the Lehigh Valley has been reinforced over the last two decades. Lehigh Valley Industrial Parks II and III have been developed. Major retailing operations and numerous commercial uses have located in the Township.

With respect to the Township's current form of government, in 1976 voters chose to change the form of government from a three member Board of Supervisors (responsible for both legislative and administrative actions). The voters endorsed the recommendations of the Hanover Township, Lehigh County Government Study Commission, which recommended that a Council-Manager form of government be used pursuant to the Home Rule Charter. The substitution of the Council-Manager form was found to offer a stronger form of government, more clearly responsible and accountable to the people and more efficient in operation. The Study commission reported that by the township's operating under its own administrative code "this improves the capability of the township government to respond to future developments in a flexible fashion as well as to handle present problems efficiently and in keeping with the desires of the citizens". In contrast, the then existing second class code-based form was found to allow "very little latitude in which to innovate and meet the needs and desires of individual townships". Since that time, the Township has been governed by a five person elected Council which is responsible for legislative actions. The appointed Manager is responsible for administrative actions.

1976 TO
STUDY
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COUNCIL
MANAGER

In recent years, Township facilities have been expanded, to include among other things an expansion of the Township Municipal Building, the construction of additional storage and garage facilities, and extensive work to create a passive recreation park (Canal Park) located off of Dauphin Street in Hanover Township.

Today, Hanover Township, Lehigh County, operates as a second class Township, Home Rule Government Community which provides fire, ambulance, and garbage/recycling services to its residents. Well over 200 years old, the Township looks forward to a bright and prosperous future for Township Government, benefiting its residents and businesses well into the 21st Century and beyond.



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Cherry Hill N.J.

5 TIM.
OVGRU 30
Y.R.S.

Government

Local government

Created as Delaware Township in 1844, the community was first governed by a Township Committee. On May 19, 1951, the citizens adopted, in a special election, a Walsh Act Commission form of government, consisting of a three-member Board of Commissioners. In 1962, the Township's population passed the 30,000 mark and two additional Commissioners were elected.

Following a study made by a Citizen's Advisory Committee, a special election was held in 1962.^[30] The township voted to change its form of government to the Council-Manager Plan A under the Faulkner Act. Five Council members were elected at-large in a May election to serve concurrent four-year terms. The Council members elected one of their own as Mayor, and a Township Manager served as the Chief Administrator of the Township.^[30]

By 1975, after a Charter Study Commission report and the passage of a ballot referendum, the township adopted the Council-Manager Plan B form of government. Two features of the government were changed: council members were to be elected every two years for overlapping terms of four years and the number of Council members would increase from five to seven.^[30]

After a 1981 referendum, the government changed yet again, this time to a Mayor-Council Plan B form of government. A full-time 'strong' mayor was elected directly by the people and seven Council members were elected at-large for staggered four-year terms.^{[30],[31]}

The most recent change, resulting from a ballot referendum in November 1986, changed the elections from a non-partisan May election to a partisan November election.^[30]

The current Mayor of Cherry Hill is Chuck Cahn (D).^[2] Members of the Township Council are Council President Dave Fischer, Council Vice President Sara Lipsett, Council Members John Amato, Dennis Garbowski, Jim Banner, Susan Shin Angulo, and Jacqueline Silver.^[32]

Mayors since 1962 referendum:

- Bernard A. Platt (second term) 2002-2011 (D)
- Arthur Simons 2002-2003 (D)
- Susan Bass Levin 1988-2002 (D)
- Maria Barnaby Greenwald (second term) 1981-1987 (D) (*deceased*)
- Bernard A. Platt (first term) 1979-1980 (D)
- Maria Barnaby Greenwald (first term) 1977-79 (D) (*deceased*)
- Howard Gall 1980-81 (D) (*deceased*)
- Dr. John A. Rocco 1975-77 (R)
- John Holden 1971-1975 (D) (*deceased*)
- John Gilmour, Jr. 1962-1971 (R) (*deceased*)

Federal, state and county representation

Cherry Hill Township is in the 3rd Congressional district and is part of New Jersey's 6th state legislative district.^[33] The legislative district was kept unchanged by the New Jersey Apportionment Commission based on the results of the 2010 Census.^[6]

New Jersey's Third Congressional District is represented by Jon Runyan (R, Mount Laurel Township). New Jersey is represented in the United States Senate by Frank Lautenberg (D, Cliffside Park) and Bob Menendez (D, Hoboken).

The 6th District of the New Jersey Legislature is represented in the State Senate by James Beach (D, Voorhees Township) and in the General Assembly by Louis Greenwald (D, Voorhees Township) and Pamela Rosen Lampitt (D, **Cherry Hill**).^[34] The Governor of New Jersey is Chris Christie (R, Mendham).^[35] The Lieutenant Governor of New Jersey is Kim Guadagno (R, Monmouth Beach).^[36]

Camden County is governed by a Board of Chosen Freeholders, its seven members elected at-large to three-year terms office on a staggered basis, with two or three seats coming up for election each year.^[37] As of 2012, Camden County's Freeholders are Freeholder Director Louis Cappelli, Jr. (Collingswood, term ends December 31, 2014)^[38], Freeholder Deputy Director Edward McDonnell (Pennsauken Township, 2013)^[39], Rodney A. Greco (Gloucester Township, 2012)^[40], Ian K. Leonard (Camden, 2012)^[41], Scot N. McCray (Camden, 2014)^[42], Jeffrey L. Nash (**Cherry Hill**, 2012)^[43] and Carmen Rodriguez (Merchantville, 2013).^{[44][45][46]}

Emergency services

Police

The Cherry Hill Police Department (CHPD) is the second largest police department in the tri-county area. It employs over 130 sworn officers as well as 21 civilians. The current chief of the department is Rick Del Campo. The department's TRT (Tactical Response Team) responds to requests for the service of high risk warrants, the resolving of barricaded and/or hostage situations, and dealing with suicidal individuals just to name a few of their assignments. TRT responds to requests for mutual aid throughout the tri-county area as needed. CHPD is home to its own 9-1-1 public safety answering point (PSAP), when a resident of the township dials 9-1-1 they are routed directly to the CHPD, which provides a significant advantage in response time to the caller, the 9-1-1 center is the hub of the department's 800 Mhz Digital Radio System, as well as an advanced CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) system, and RMS (Records Management System). Both systems work together to provide patrol units up to date information directly to their patrol car computers. CHPD's Community Policing Unit provides many services for residents including child fingerprinting, neighborhood watches, and drug & alcohol awareness seminars.^[47]

Fire department and EMS

The Cherry Hill Fire Department (<http://www.cherryhillfire.org/>) consists of 8 fire companies, including the Cherry Hill Fire Police Unit (<http://www.cherryhillfirepolice.org/>), along with several units spread throughout the town. The fire chief is Robert Giorgio, who was appointed in 2001. The department also has emergency medical services (EMS). The only hospital in Cherry Hill is Kennedy Memorial Hospital, located on Chapel Avenue. Residents also have access to nearby Virtua Hospitals, in Voorhees, Marlton and Berlin.

List of fire companies

- Engine 22 is located on North Kings Highway and Chelton Parkway. It was built in 2005 and began operating in 2006. This is Cherry Hill's newest fire station.
- Station 2 (Erlton Fire Company No. 1) is located on Route 70. It was established in 1927.

Cherry Hill N.J.

Seven census-designated places or unincorporated areas are located within the township: Ashland, Barclay-Kingston, Cherry Hill Mall, Erlton-Ellisburg, Golden Triangle, Greentree and Springdale.^[20] Woodcrest is one of Cherry Hill's oldest neighborhoods.

Cherry Hill's eastern border with Burlington County is defined by the Pennsauken Creek. The creek separates Cherry Hill from the communities of Maple Shade Township, Evesham Township (or colloquially, 'Marton'), and Mount Laurel Township.

The Cooper River forms the southern border with Haddon Township, Haddonfield Borough, and Lawnside Borough, through the Maria Barnaby Greenwald Park and parallel to the east-west Route 70.

To the north, Cherry Hill borders Merchantville Borough and Pennsauken Township, while Voorhees Township shares its southern border along County Route 544 (Evesham Road).

Climate

Cherry Hill has a humid subtropical climate, with cool to cold winters and hot, humid summers.

Climate data for Cherry Hill

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Average high °F (°C)	41 (5)	46 (8)	55 (13)	66 (19)	76 (24)	84 (29)	88 (31)	86 (30)	79 (26)	68 (20)	56 (13)	46 (8)	65.9 (18.8)
Average low °F (°C)	23 (−5)	25 (−4)	32 (0)	41 (5)	50 (10)	60 (16)	65 (18)	63 (17)	56 (13)	44 (7)	36 (2)	28 (−2)	43.6 (6.4)
Precipitation inches (mm)	3.90 (99.1)	2.95 (74.9)	4.17 (105.9)	4.02 (102.1)	4.35 (110.7)	3.93 (99.8)	4.84 (122.9)	5.18 (131.6)	4.17 (105.9)	3.53 (89.7)	3.51 (89.2)	3.69 (93.7)	48.25 (1,228.6)

Source: ^[21]

Economy

Pinnacle Foods, Subaru of America and TD Bank, N.A. have headquarters in Cherry Hill.^{[22][23][24]}

Most adult citizens of Cherry Hill work elsewhere. Cherry Hill is a "bedroom community" within a one hour commute to Philadelphia, Camden, Trenton, and Princeton. A lesser number of individuals commute to Atlantic City.^[citation needed]

Demographics

2010 Census

As of the 2010 United States Census, there were 71,045 people, 26,882 households, and 19,301 families residing in the township. The population density was 2,948.3 inhabitants per square mile (1,138.3/km²). There were 28,452 housing units at an average density of 1,180.7 per square mile (455.9/km²). The racial makeup of the township was 78.06% (55,459) White, 6.14% (4,360) African American, 0.11% (78) Native American, 11.69% (8,304) Asian, 0.02% (13) Pacific Islander, 1.83% (1,302) from other races, and 2.15% (1,529) from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 5.64% (4,005) of the population.^[5]

There were 26,882 households out of which 31.2% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 58.6% were married couples living together, 9.6% had a female householder with no husband present, and 28.2% were non-families. 24.2% of all households were made up of individuals and 11.6% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.60 and the average family size was 3.12.^[5]

In the township the population was spread out with 23.0% under the age of 18, 6.7% from 18 to 24, 23.1% from 25 to 44, 29.5% from 45 to 64, and 17.7% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 43.1 years. For every 100 females there were 92.2 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 88.4 males.^[5]

The Census Bureau's 2006-2010 American Community Survey showed that (in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars) median household income was \$88,183 (with a margin of error of +/- \$2,748) and the median family income was \$105,786 (+/- \$2,321). Males had a median income of \$72,128 (+/- \$2,699) versus \$48,937 (+/- \$3,321) for females. The per capita income for the township was \$41,252 (+/- \$1,504). About 3.0% of families and 4.2% of the population were below the poverty line, including 3.9% of those under age 18 and 5.9% of those age 65 or over.^[29]

2000 Census

As of the census^[9] of 2000, there were 69,965 people, 26,227 households, and 19,407 families residing in the township. The population density was 2,884.9 people per square mile (1,114.0/km²). There were 27,074 housing units at an average density of 1,116.4 per square mile (431.1/km²). The racial makeup of the township was 84.67% White, 8.87% Asian, 4.46% African American, 0.10% Native American, 0.03% Pacific Islander, 0.70% from other races, and 1.16% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 2.54% of the population.^{[27][28]}

There were 26,227 households out of which 32.1% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 62.8% were married couples living together, 8.3% had a female householder with no husband present, and 26.0% were non-families. 22.5% of all households were made up of individuals and 11.0% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.61 and the average family size was 3.08.^{[27][28]}

In the township the population was spread out with 23.5% under the age of 18, 5.4% from 18 to 24, 26.4% from 25 to 44, 26.6% from 45 to 64, and 18.0% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 42 years. For every 100 females there were 91.6 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 87.2 males.^{[27][28]}

According to a 2010 estimate, the median income for a household in the township was \$87,392, and the median income for a family was \$104,983. Males had a median income of \$82,325 versus \$49,129 for females. The per capita income for the township was \$43,192. About 2.6% of families and 4.7% of the population were below the poverty line, including 5.8% of those under age 18 and 9.7% of those age 65 or over.^{[27][28]}

Historical populations

Census	Pop.	%±
1910	1,706	—
1920	2,331	36.6%
1930	5,734	146.0%
1940	5,811	1.3%
1950	10,358	78.2%
1960	31,522	204.3%
1970	64,395	104.3%
1980	68,785	6.8%
1990	69,348	0.8%
2000	69,965	0.9%
2010	71,045	1.5%

Population sources: 1910-1930^[22]
1930-1990^[24] 2000^{[27][28]} 2010^{[21][29][30]}

Cherry Hill N.J.

Coordinates: 39.904611°N 74.997°W

Cherry Hill, New Jersey

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Cherry Hill is a township in Camden County, New Jersey, in the United States. As of the 2010 United States Census, the township had a population of 71,045^[9] representing an increase of 1,080 from the 69,965 residents enumerated during the 2000 Census. The township ranked as the 14th largest municipality in the state in 2010 after having been ranked 13th in 2000.^[12]

Cherry Hill is in the Delaware Valley coastal plain about five miles (8 km) southeast of Philadelphia. Cherry Hill is considered an edge city of Philadelphia.^[13]

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History

The area now known as Cherry Hill was originally settled by the Lenni-Lenape Native Americans who coexisted peacefully with the first settlers from England, Quaker followers of William Penn who arrived in the late 17th century.^[14] The first settlement was a small cluster of homes named Colestown, in the perimeters of what is now the Colestown Cemetery on the corner of Route 41 (King's Highway) and Church Road. The municipality was founded on February 25, 1844, in Gloucester County as **Delaware Township** from half of the area of Waterford Township, and became part of Camden County at its creation some two weeks later on March 13, 1844.^[15] At its territorial peak, Delaware Township was composed of modern-day North Camden, present-day Cherry Hill, Merchantville, and Pennsauken (including Petty's Island in the Delaware River).

The township grew explosively after World War II, and continued to grow until the 1980s. Today, the municipality's population is stable with new development generally occurring in pockets of custom luxury homes or through the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of commercial and industrial areas.

Origin of the name

Cherry Hill was a 19th-century farm on Kaighn Avenue/Route 38 which was owned by Abraham Browning. The farm property later became the Cherry Hill Inn (now an AMC-Loews movie theater complex), as well as an RCA office campus (now a shopping center), and today's Cherry Hill Towers and Cherry Hill Estates housing developments.^[16]

Adding to the prevalence of the Cherry Hill name, developer Eugene Mori branded several properties similarly, including the Cherry Hill Inn and Cherry Hill Lodge hotels, Cherry Hill Apartments, and Cherry Hill Estates.^[17] Cherry Hill Shopping Center (now known as Cherry Hill Mall) opened in 1961 opposite the old Cherry Hill Farm site, featuring 75 stores all in a single enclosed space.^[18]

In time, the township also sought a new post office, but another New Jersey town already claimed the name Delaware Township. The postal service suggested a name change, and Delaware Township mayors Christian Weber and John Gilmour pursued public write-in campaigns to select possible titles. The name 'Cherry Hill' was chosen by the township's citizens in a non-binding referendum in 1961, and was officially adopted November 7, 1961.^[15]

Geography

Cherry Hill township is located at 39°54'17"N 74°59'49"W (39.904611,-74.997). According to the United States Census Bureau, the township had a total area of 24,244 square miles (62,792 km²), of which, 24,097 square miles (62,410 km²) of it is land and 0.147 square miles (0.382 km²) of it (0.61%) is water.^{[19][3]}

Cherry Hill, New Jersey

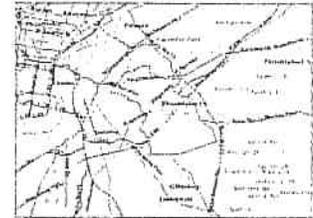
— Township —

Township of Cherry Hill

Motto: *You couldn't pick a better place*^[1]



Location of Cherry Hill Township in Camden County.



Census Bureau map of Cherry Hill, New Jersey.

Coordinates: 39.904611°N 74.997°W

Country	United States
State	New Jersey
County	Camden
Incorporated	February 28, 1844, as Delaware Township
Renamed	November 7, 1961, to Cherry Hill Township
Government	
• Type	Faulkner Act Mayor-Council
• Mayor	Chuck Cahn (D) ^[2]
Area ^[3]	
• Total	24,244 sq mi (62,792 km ²)
• Land	24,097 sq mi (62,410 km ²)
• Water	0.147 sq mi (0.382 km ²) 0.61%
Elevation ^[4]	82 ft (25 m)
Population (2010 Census) ^{[5][6][7]}	
• Total	71,045
• Density	2,930.42/sq mi (1,131.434/km ²)
Time zone	Eastern (EST) (UTC-5)
• Summer (DST)	EDT (UTC-4)
ZIP codes	08002, 08003, 08034 ^[8]
Area code(s)	856
FIPS code	34-12280 ^{[9][10]}
GNIS feature ID	0882155 ^[11]
Website	http://www.cherryhill-nj.com

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The following article is part of our archive

Jon Hammer leaving Bethlehem Township, Pa., manager position after eight years for new job at South Whitehall Township

Saturday, July 10, 2010

By COLIN MCEVOY

The Express-Times

BETHLEHEM TWP., Pa. | After eight years at the helm of the township, manager Jon Hammer is leaving his position for a new job as manager of South Whitehall Township.

Hammer, who expects to leave Bethlehem Township for the new job in August, was chosen from 64 candidates for the South Whitehall job.

"I love it in Bethlehem Township. Great staff, great people, great community," Hammer said. "I was just looking for some new challenges over at South Whitehall."

Paul Weiss, township supervisor vice president, said supervisors have not yet discussed whether they will fill the position internally or seek outside applications.

"Their gain is our loss," Weiss said. "He really is a great guy. He knows municipal finance, he handles people well. I really have heard no complaints about him."

If necessary, Weiss said, Assistant Township Manager Doug Bruce could step into the top position on an interim basis until a permanent candidate is chosen.

Hammer will earn \$102,000 per year at South Whitehall, an increase from his 2009 base salary of \$87,526.

Among the highlights from his eight years at the township, Hammer cited construction of the Southmont Shopping Center, major township traffic improvements and the start of a 500-acre St. Luke's Hospital Riverside campus.

He expressed particular pride in the Bethlehem Township Community Center, which was constructed in 2006 as part of a more than \$10 million project.

"We've built probably the most successful community center in eastern Pennsylvania," Hammer said. "It's a jewel in our community, and it's well used by the residents."

But Hammer stressed these accomplishments were not his alone, but those of the board of supervisors, township staff and residents of the community.

"Nothing's done by one person," he said. "There's so many people who have contributed to what we've done here in Bethlehem Township."...

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Lack of debt allows Tyrone to add officers

February 6, 2012
The Altoona Mirror

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TYRONE - Borough Manager John V. Cornell has more than 25 years' experience with municipal government in several eastern Pennsylvania counties and recently sat down with Mirror staff writer Greg Bock to talk about what goes into running a small municipality such as Tyrone.

Mirror: What led you into your field, public administration, and how did you get your start?

Cornell: Basically when I decided to go to college, I was always interested in government and history and that sort of thing. I completed two years of community college and then transferred to Temple University and majored in political science.

I got my first job working as a township code enforcement officer and then became assistant manager, and in another community, they were actually just creating a manager job, and I applied and got the position.

What I found during my time as township code enforcement officer and assistant manager was that my personality really worked well for the position.

Q: How has the field changed since you began your career?

A: I think it has changed significantly. A lot of it has changed as in who we work for. People are more demanding. The national tone has trickled down locally. Now it's: "What can you do for me?" as opposed to "What's good for the general welfare of the community?"

The other thing is social media and technology. In the mid- to late-80s, people didn't use computers. Now when you get an email, people want an immediate response.

People expect websites and for you to have a presence on Facebook. This takes staff and resources that smaller communities may not have.

Overall, I've seen the greatest change is, it's all about me as an individual person; what are you going to do about my problem?

Q: What advice do you have for those in public administration just starting out their careers?

A: You must stay apolitical. We don't advocate anything political; we're professional managers.

You don't see younger people getting into the profession, so you do see some seasoned managers out there. As a municipal manager, you're wearing many hats.

Most small municipalities don't have the resources to have different people for each job, so you have to be a manager and maybe also the code enforcement officer.

Most managers in this line of work last three to seven years. The best analogy is we're a lot like football coaches.

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THE BOARD EXERCISES THE POLITICAL PROCESSURE

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Fact Box

Cornell file

Name: John V. Cornell

Age: 55

Education: Graduate of Temple University, political science

Experience: 14 years as Rockhill Township manager, Bucks County, before taking job as Tyrone Borough manager in September 2010

Family: Married with five children

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My advice would be, strive to do it the right way, don't be pressured by politics, don't take it personally and try to be flexible. You have to be able to roll with the punches and not compromise your beliefs.

Q: It's been said that municipalities have to be run like a business, but obviously there are differences. How is it the same and how is it different?

A: For one, it's not a business. Businesses typically run on a profit and loss perspective. How it can run like a business is by being efficient and cost-effective.

In business, you answer to the profit and loss statement, the shareholders and board of directors, and if you don't, then you're out of business.

In government, you answer to the taxpayers. In Tyrone, we have 5,300 residents. I answer to them and the board of elected officials who are subject to the will of the residents.

Q: Unfunded mandates are often brought up as a barrier to local governments keeping costs down. Are there any in particular that stand out to you?

A: A small one everyone's got to face is the federal government came down and said you have to take your street signs and enlarge them and have them a certain way.

Some guy at the Department of Transportation came up with this idea, and so everyone now has to pay for new signs.

It's just spending dollars we don't need to spend.

Another one, a bigger one, is the prevailing wage. Normally, in my experience, the prevailing wage adds 20 percent to a building project, such as streetscape.

Once you get more than \$25,000, prevailing wages kick in, and it's an extra expenditure of dollars.

People say government is inefficient, but when you impose something like [the prevailing wage], it's like taking 20 percent of that money and throwing it out the window.

Q: Tyrone Borough is in the black financially while other municipalities, big and small, struggle to make ends meet. How does Tyrone do it?

A: You have to live within your means. The problem in our culture for the past 20 to 30 years is that we haven't been doing that.

Fortunately, the borough councils here and former managers kept control of spending and borrowing.

There's no debt.

That's a real advantage for Tyrone.

Q: Tyrone is expanding its police force by three full-time officers at a time when small communities are having a hard time maintaining their level of policing. How is the borough able to afford this?

A: One, we don't have any debt. We are going to reduce the number of part-timers.

The whole purpose of new police officers is better community policing.

Part-timers come and go and don't really get to know the community. So [Chief John Romeo] wants to get people out onto the street - out on foot patrols - and has talked of bringing back bike patrols.

It also frees up people to go get training and that leads to better police officers.

Q: What are some challenges facing Tyrone?

A: Trying to lure business and take advantage of the available properties and opportunities that exist. Getting people on the outside to see those opportunities.

That's what intrigues me about Tyrone. There's so much potential.

That's what's so exciting about it.

NOTE!!

N. WHITEHALL TWP



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North Whitehall to appoint first manager tonight

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Supervisors have traditionally held full-time salaried jobs with the township.

January 05, 2012 | By Marlon Callahan, Of The Morning Call

The North Whitehall Board of Supervisors plans to appoint its first township manager at a Jan. 23 meeting, a move that represents a new way of doing business and costs a longtime community leader his job.

At its first meeting Tuesday, the three-member board did not reappoint former Supervisor Ron Stahley, who has helped run the township since 1994 and has worn everything from a fire helmet to a hard hat as both an elected official and a township employee.

CONFLICT

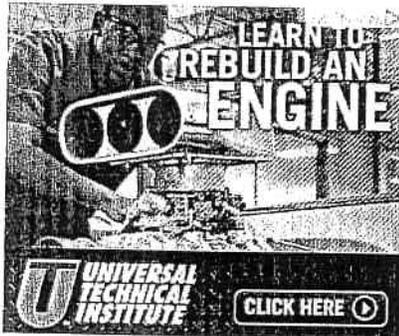
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Township Manager

In the fall, Stahley, 61, announced he was not seeking reelection and cast a vote to hire a township manager, though he knew the decision would put his job in jeopardy.

North Whitehall has traditionally been run by supervisors who hold full-time salaried jobs with the township, such as director of public works and manager of community services. It's a practice that Supervisors Jerry Joseph and Steve Pany have pledged to phase out.

Brenda Norder, the township's secretary and treasurer, said Stahley's employment ended Dec. 31. Supervisor Ronald Heintzelman, however, still holds his salaried position of community services coordinator.

The decision to hire a manager was made in August after Stahley, who also worked as a full-time township employee, announced he would not seek reelection. Supervisors in September voted 3-0 to create a township manager position.

The board then estimated that the position, including benefits, could cost North Whitehall \$120,000 a year.

Joseph has said a township manager is needed to run the township of nearly 16,000 residents and to provide options for future supervisors who have careers and may want to serve the public without committing to a township job.

Though he approved the decision, Stahley said the decision left his \$80,000-a-year job as public works and municipal coordinator on unstable ground.

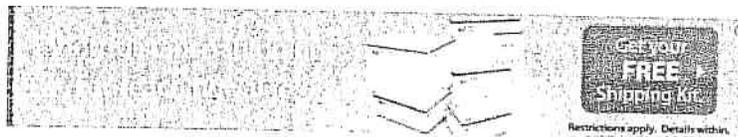
At the time, he said: "I don't know what will happen to my job; it was a very emotional and difficult decision. It will be up to the new manager to determine how my responsibilities are parceled out."

Norder said about 30 applications for the position were received when it was advertised in September.

*?
30
APPLICANTS*

mtcallahan@mcall.com

N. Whitehall Two



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North Whitehall to hire its first township manager

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Motion passes despite some public opposition. Position may be filled by January.

September 21, 2011 | By Marion Callahan, The Morning Call

By January, a full-time township manager may oversee everything from budgets to building repairs in North Whitehall.

The Township Board of Supervisors on Tuesday voted 3-0 to create a township manager position, despite public outcry over the timing and potential costs.

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Whitehall

Parkland

It has long been the practice in North Whitehall, which became a township in 1810, to have supervisors who hold full-time salaried jobs with the township, such as director of public works and manager of community services.

Supervisor Jerry Joseph, the sole part-time official, said a township manager is needed to run the town of nearly 16,000 residents and to provide options for future supervisors who have careers and may want to serve the public without committing to a township job.

"We have to ask ourselves: Do we want a supervisor who wants a job or a supervisor who wants to serve the township?" Joseph said.

WHAT?

Township resident Ron Roth asked the board to hold off until the November election, when residents will have their chance to vote on expanding the board from three to five members. "Shouldn't the newly elected members have a say in this?"

REPLY TO D W 11/1

Joseph said the township is long overdue for a leader to take charge. He said 17 of the 24 townships of comparable size in Lehigh and Northampton counties employ managers who supervise everything from drafting spending plans to dispatching road crews.

The move to consider a manager came after Supervisor Ron Stahley, a full-time township employee, announced he would not seek re-election. Stahley, who has helped run the township for 18 years, said he's juggled a variety of township roles over the years.

His support for the new position comes with mixed emotions, he said. The new measure leaves his \$60,000-a-year job as public works and municipal coordinator on unstable ground.

"I don't know what will happen to my job; it was a very emotional and difficult decision," said Stahley, who will not be seeking the township manager position. "It will be up to the new manager to determine how my responsibilities are parceled out."

Still, he believes that supervisors should be setting township policy and a manager should be in place to make sure those policies are followed.

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Logan Township seeking manager

Supervisors ready for a few changes during the new year

January 10, 2010

By Kay Stephens, kstephens@altoonamirror.com

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Logan Township is starting a new fiscal year with the single priority task of finding a new manager.

Beyond that, supervisors are in a position to consider new efforts because they have been resolving others.

In May, the township moved into a new municipal complex, replacing the building and site it outgrew. In December, supervisors approved land development plans for a proposed wind turbine farm on Chestnut Flats after months of concentrating on efforts to head off potential complaints.

Also In 2009, supervisors made a decision to influence where future Penn State Altoona students might live and took a stance to preserve residential housing around the campus.

Meanwhile, the township's financial picture remains strong, keeping supervisors from having to consider major budget cuts or a real estate tax increase.

"The tendency would be to rest on your laurels," said Supervisor Ed Frontino, who is starting a six-year term on the board after serving two years by appointment.

But Frontino and fellow supervisors say they expect new and old issues will provide plenty of work in 2010.

"I'm sure some of the old issues will become new issues, because some things are never resolved," supervisors Chairman Frank Meloy said.

Stormwater management and flood control might fit into the category of never being resolved. Those issues attract attention and controversy during rainy weather and less when there's a dry spell.

Supervisors Vice Chairman Jim Patterson said the township has to be ready for anything.

"Years ago, no one could have predicted that we would have windmills as quick as they came up," Patterson said.

Supervisor Joe Metzgar, starting his third year as a supervisor after serving on the planning commission, which initially researched the wind turbine issue, agreed with Patterson.

"We have to make sure we're prepared to face whatever comes forward," Metzgar said.

David Rhoads, starting his first year as a supervisor, said he recognizes efforts made to adopt a no-tax-hike budget during a tough economy and praised his new colleagues.

"I hope we'll be saying no tax increase next year," Meloy said. "But you never know."

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Logan Twp

Meloy, starting his 15th year, said the current economy generates constant issues for supervisors and other elected officials who work on behalf of others to make sure they have services such as fire and police protection.

"We live in very challenging times," Meloy said. "We have a lot of citizens on fixed incomes."

Yet the township must keep working on improvements to its services, Patterson said.

"Our police department has to keep chasing crime out of Logan Township," he said.

The township's financial picture has improved in the last decade with an increase in housing developments and the opening of the Logan Town Centre shopping complex.

It also received a boost about 10 years ago when amusement tax revenue started pouring in after the Blair County Ballpark opened. The township uses that money to buy new equipment.

The 2009 and 2010 budgets, however, show evidence of slowing growth and the drop in amusement tax revenue because of the drop in attendance at the ballpark.

Also, the township's 2010 budget shows higher estimates for utilities and cleaning the new municipal complex.

For the township to be ready for future growth, Meloy said it has to figure out how to maintain and replace aged infrastructure.

Sewer Director Dave Pozgar, who is acting as township manager until one is hired, already recommended an increase in sewer rates over three years and had supervisors approve the first increment for 2010.

As for a new township manager to replace longtime Manager Bonnie Lewis, who retired in December, Patterson said Pozgar is doing well in the interim position. Supervisors interviewed three candidates and have plans to interview three more.

"There's no hurry on that decision," Patterson said.

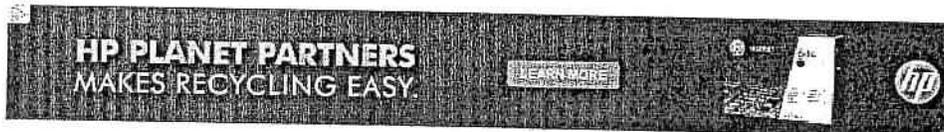
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S. FAYETTE TWP



South Fayette manager resigns amid controversy over Marcellus Shale

By Andrea Iglar /

Mike Hoy, the South Fayette manager for nearly 11 years, announced Monday night that he is resigning from the township, effective Nov. 11.

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette received reports after the meeting that Mr. Hoy is planning to take a job at MarkWest Liberty, the natural gas processing firm. In an email Wednesday, he wrote, "I have not officially accepted any employment at this time."

His departure comes amid the township's battle over Marcellus Shale development and the legal challenge by gas firm Range Resources of the municipality's natural gas drilling regulations. MarkWest is a strategic partner with Range Resources.

Mr. Hoy could become the second township administrator to resign this year to take a job with MarkWest Liberty, an affiliate of drilling firms Range Resources and Chesapeake Energy that processes and transports natural gas extracted from the Marcellus Shale.

Former engineer David Gardner quit in April and took a job with the company.

MarkWest, with offices in Southpointe, is the Marcellus segment of the Denver, Colo.-based MarkWest Energy Partners LP. Liberty is the largest natural gas processor in the Marcellus Shale, according to the company's website.

Mr. Hoy's last day of work will be three days after the general election when three or four new faces will have been voted onto the five-member board of commissioners. The manager's resignation was added to the meeting agenda Monday night following a brief closed-door session. CONFLICT? MGR VS BOARD

In his resignation letter, Mr. Hoy wrote that South Fayette will face challenging issues in the coming years that will require leaders who can unify the community.

"Unfortunately, I do not necessarily foresee that the future political environment will lend itself to creating this clear direction and community unity," he wrote. "Therefore, it would make the most sense to step aside and allow the community to hire a new township manager that will proscribe... to the needs and direction of the newly elected leadership." NEW BOARD MEMBERS.

Mr. Hoy said Monday he was in the process of obtaining a position in the private sector, but he declined to specify the employer until the hiring could be finalized next week. On Tuesday,

S. Fayette 12/15/12

reports came in that Mr. Hoy planned to take a job with MarkWest, an energy business that builds natural gas pipeline systems, processing plants and compressor stations.

Over the past couple of years, he has helped to develop the township's drilling and processing regulations as well as a proposed overlay plan that would have expanded the areas where drilling is permitted.

Mr. Hoy, 42, became manager Jan. 1, 2000. His children attend South Fayette School District. The township manager's salary is listed as \$91,047 in the 2011 budget.

"I wish the community the best," he said.

Commissioners Tom Sray, Sue Caffrey, Cindy Cox and Deron Gabriel voted 4-0 to accept the resignation. Greg Curl was absent.

In his letter, Mr. Hoy thanked Mr. Sray, Ms. Caffrey and Ms. Cox for being professional, supportive and pleasurable to work with. He did not mention Mr. Gabriel, the only incumbent who is running for re-election. CONFLICT?

Ten candidates are vying for four commissioner seats Nov. 8. Most, including Mr. Gabriel, support township's ban on surface drilling development in neighborhoods, schools, parks and farms.

Ms. Caffrey, Ms. Cox and Mr. Curl are not running for re-election. Mr. Sray's term is not up.

"It's really such a loss for the township," said Ms. Caffrey, who works for MarkWest.

Andrea Iglar, freelance writer: suburbanliving@post-gazette.com. Staff writer Erich Schwartzel contributed: eschwartzel@post-gazette.com or .

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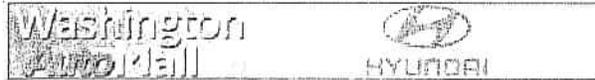
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South Fayette hires township manager

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After a four-month for a new township manager, commissioners in South Fayette Township voted unanimously Wednesday to hire Ryan T. Eggleston.

Under a two-year agreement, Eggleston, who is the city manager for Oil City, will be paid \$82,500 plus benefits as well as a \$500 per month car allowance. Eggleston will start on June 4. Marshall Bond has been serving as interim township manager since November 2011 after former manager Mike Hoy resigned to pursue a job in the private sector.

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West Norriton Closer to Finding New Township Manager

The thirty three applicants who responded to the township's request for qualifications have been narrowed down to three finalists.

33
APPLICANTS

- [By James Myers](#)
- [Email the author](#)
- April 29, 2012

According to *The Times Herald*, West Norriton's search for a new township manager may be nearing its end as the board of commissioners plans to hold interviews with three applicants on May 10.

"A discussion of the three candidates will take place right after the interviews to make a final choice," Acting Township Manager Joseph Hein told the *Herald*. "[Solicitor Robert] Kerns will draw up an offer and we'll see if it is accepted."

The original field of 33 applicants were whittled down to seven who were interviewed by phone a few weeks ago. Of the seven, three were selected for the final, in-person interviews.

No word on what the salary would be for the position and the request for qualifications stipulates that a contract won't be considered until after "one year of successful service."

The township has been looking for a new manager since the beginning of February when the board inexplicably voted unanimously to terminate former Township Manager Karen Madden's contract. Since then, Hein, who served as township manager for almost ten years until his retirement in 2006, has been filling in at the request of the board.

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Hein told the *Herald* the commissioners expect to officially hire someone in either a June board work session or possibly before that in a special meeting.

Read more about the West Norriton township manager search [here](#).

W. Donegal accepts resignation of Viscome

Manager had served township for 9 years, region for 30 years

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By KEN E. BRANDT
Correspondent

West Donegal Township supervisors voted 3-2 Monday to accept the resignation of township manager Nick Viscome. CONFLICT?

At an executive session, supervisors received a one-sentence letter from Viscome stating he resigned "effective Dec. 31."

The issue was taken up by supervisors in an executive session lasting about 45 minutes Monday. They resumed the public meeting, and the resignation was accepted in a vote in favor by Roger Snyder, Clair Hilsher and Nancy Garber. It was opposed by Ralph Horne, township chairman, and Charles Tupper.

Viscome, who was absent from the meeting, has accepted the position of manager of the newly established Elizabethtown Regional Sewer Authority.

He will oversee the operation on an hourly fee basis for 25 to 30 hours per week, according to Keith Murphy, chair of ERSA.

Viscome said he offered to work for the township for 15 to 20 hours per week as a consultant, but supervisors did not accept that offer.

Snyder finding a candidate to replace Viscome may take a couple months.

Tupper suggested Viscome got disgusted with the sniping he was receiving from several of the supervisors, but he would not identify them.

Tupper said the new board of supervisors must fill the position of manager with a person such as Viscome who has the honesty, integrity and expertise of managing a 2nd class township.

Horne, who made a comment during the meeting about "what happened today," explained Snyder and Garber had a disagreement with Viscome earlier in the day in regards to Viscome being able to access his computer and personnel office items.

Hilsher and Snyder said after the meeting that they agreed with Horne's statement.

Garber offered "no comment" when asked about the resignation.

Viscome has served 30 years in municipal government. A graduate of Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government and courses at Elizabethtown College, he served 21 years as manager and co-manager of Elizabethtown Borough.

He filled the position of manager of West Donegal Township for nine years.

His contract with the township was for 25-30 hours per week. He also did municipal consulting for other local governments.

Supervisors were castigated Dec. 5 by a resident critical of the 3-2 vote that led to the immediate elimination of the position of assistant township manager on Nov. 23.

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Neshannock Township Supervisor Ed Stevens questions a resident. Erica Galvin

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Nancy Lowry
New Castle News (<http://www.ncnewsonline.com>)

NEW CASTLE — *(Video screen appears below story.)*

After only two weeks on the job, Neshannock Township manager Craig Altman has resigned.

At a special meeting Thursday morning, Supervisors Ed Stevens, Joe Gierlach and chairman Ralph Sheen approved the resignation.

That was the first yes vote on the topic cast by Gierlach, who opposed creating the position, advertising for it and hiring someone to fill it.

Reading Altman's letter, Sheen noted "personal reasons" were cited for the sudden departure.

"That said, we'll go ahead and look for a manager as (we did) before," Sheen said.

This prompted comments from township resident John DiCola Sr.

"You say you're seeking volunteers," DiCola said. "A very well-qualified person had volunteered to take that position and you never considered him."

Among the applicants for manager was former township supervisor Gale Measel Jr., who had served 24 years as supervisor, many as chairman.

Prior to Altman's hiring, Measel had said he would take the manager's job on a volunteer basis, saving the township the \$40,000 salary budgeted for the post.

Altman's letter was dated April 13 — two days after he attended his first and only supervisors' meeting as manager. It stated his resignation was effective April 16.

NESHANNOCK TWO

This raised Gierlach's ire.

Following the meeting, Gierlach said he had not been told of the resignation in a timely manner.

"Yesterday (Wednesday), I sent Ed Stevens a text asking him what was going on," Gierlach said. "As of 4 p.m., he had not responded."

Gierlach said he found a copy of Altman's letter of resignation in his office at the township building yesterday morning, prior to the meeting. "And (Stevens) said he'd known of the resignation since Tuesday."

Attempts to reach Altman by phone and Stevens by phone and email were unsuccessful.

The New Castle News filed an open records request March 22 for Altman's resume and job application and the resumes of other applicants for the manager's post. The information still has not been provided.

On March 26, Sandra Snyder, the township's open records officer, sent a letter informing The News that additional time was required to process the request and information would not be available for 30 days.

Yesterday's meeting, advertised as a "general purpose meeting," had been scheduled at the supervisors' April 11 meeting. At that time, the supervisors indicated they were planning a meeting to discuss "personnel." No personnel issues were raised yesterday and the supervisors did not have an executive session with solicitor Lou Perrotta.

(Email: nlowry@ncnewsonline.com (<mailto:nlowry@ncnewsonline.com>))



New Castle News 27 North Mercer Street New Castle, PA 16101

ESTABLISHED POLICY

PaFOIC

Township manager's spending draws questions in Radnor

March 04, 2009 | Filed in: [RTK request stories](#) | [Open records](#) | [Radnor Twp](#)

By **WILLIAM BENDER**

Philadelphia Daily News

Imagine a job that includes a six-figure salary, a generous benefits package, an interest-free loan for a new house, an SUV for personal use and the ability to award yourself no-questions-asked bonuses every year.

Welcome to Dave Bashore's world.

The manager of affluent Radnor Township, on the Main Line in Delaware County, could be fired as early as tomorrow in the wake of the discovery that he was distributing annual lump-sum payments to himself and other employees since 2000.

And Bashore had been working under a lucrative contract - which some commissioners say they never voted on - that included a \$175,000 signing bonus for a down payment on a home.

"I've never seen a contract like that before, with that extent of benefits," said attorney Neil A. Morris, whom the board of commissioners appointed last year to help clean up Radnor's finances.

Bashore, a former Congressional Budget Office analyst, was suspended last week after Radnor commissioners obtained financial documents detailing nearly a decade of questionable bonuses. Last year, his total cash compensation was \$177,000, including a \$15,000 "miscellaneous" bonus he gave himself.

At last week's board meeting, Board President Thomas Masterson Jr. grilled Bashore about the payments and later referred the matter to District Attorney G. Michael Green. Masterson also said he was "shocked" to learn that township Solicitor David Blake's compensation had mysteriously increased this year.

"This board decided in December that there should be no increases, no raises, nobody was supposed to get any more money," Masterson said at the meeting. "And now I find out on this disbursement list that the solicitor's fee was raised \$8,000. So how did that happen?"

"I'll have to look into what actually did happen and get back to you," Bashore said.

"Tell me," Masterson said. "What are the possibilities?"

"The possibilities are endless," the manager responded.

ESTABLISHED POLICY ALLEGEDLY

Township records show that Bashore has paid himself \$128,000 in annual bonuses since 2001. Over the last four years, he has awarded more than \$500,000 in bonuses to 38 employees. Bashore has said the payments were based on a policy that he drafted, but which was never approved by the board.

LABOR OF THE BOARD

"There's absolutely no authority for you as township manager to be creating policy documents, signing them, dating them and putting them in a drawer and making decisions about important things like compensation to yourself without bringing it to the board's attention," Masterson said.

Bashore disagreed, citing Radnor's administrative code. On the advice of his attorney, he declined to comment this week, but in a prepared statement denied any wrongdoing.

"I am confident that a fair and impartial review of my actions - especially viewed in the context of peer municipalities and related governmental entities - will reaffirm their appropriateness," he said.

The board will meet tomorrow night and could vote to terminate Bashore.

Bashore's contract and other previously undisclosed documents were pried loose in recent months by residents who filed records requests under Pennsylvania's Right to Know Law, which was strengthened this year.

"The law was finally on our side, to increase transparency," said Christina Perrone, a Democratic committeewoman who filed some of the requests. "If we found all this stuff in one month, I can't imagine what's out there."

Radnor's board of commissioners consists of five Republicans and two Democrats.

Assistant D.A. Michael Mattson confirmed that his office was reviewing the "propriety of the payments" to Bashore and other employees.

"At this time, there's no indication that any other employee has done anything improper," said Morris, the board's special counsel.

Morris, a lawyer with Archer & Greiner in Philadelphia, was appointed by the board last fall to probe the township's finances after it was revealed that employees had accumulated millions of dollars in comp time, and vacation and sick days.

Radnor Treasurer John Osborne, an elected Republican and a former FBI agent, said he had fought with the board for years to

RADNOR TWP

determine how money was being spent, with little success. Osborne said that his signature automatically is added to township checks, but that he now plans to sign each check by hand, "so I see what's going on."

Commissioner Harry Mahoney, who signed Bashore's 2001 contract while vice president of the board, did not return a phone call or e-mail seeking comment. Neither did Blake, who also signed the contract.

The contract included an unusual \$175,000 non-interest-bearing loan for a Radnor house that Bashore wouldn't have to pay back if he held the job at least 12 years. Bashore was already the assistant township manager, but was living in Chester County.

In letters to the township's auditors, Radnor officials said they would "prefer not to disclose" details of Bashore's loan because it is a "personnel matter."

The letters were signed by Bashore, Mahoney and the township's finance director.

ARTIS TWP.

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Township manager making early exit

Penska leaving for Adams County after just 4 months

December 30, 2010

By Amanda Clegg, aclegg@altoonamirror.com

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BELLWOOD - Antis Township Manager Albert Penska, who has held the municipal position only a few months, is moving on.

Penska was hired Wednesday as Adams County manager at a salary of \$87,500, according to the county's human resources office in Gettysburg.

Antis Township supervisor Ken Hostler said the supervisors will officially accept Penska's resignation at the annual re-organization meeting at 7 p.m. Monday in the municipal building.

The supervisors hired Penska, a one-time Johnstown city councilman and Cambria County Controller, at a salary of \$57,500 in August. He replaced former manager Jeffrey Ziegler, who took a job in Moon Township in July.

Hostler and Chairman Ray Amato said Wednesday they were surprised at Penska's leaving.

"He had a lot to offer," Hostler said.

Supervisor Charles Taylor said why Penska is leaving is a personnel matter and he could not comment on that.

Penska did not return a phone message Wednesday.

The supervisors said they plan to hire a new manager at the re-organization meeting. Hostler declined to give the candidate's name, but said he was among the pool of about 40 applicants for the job before it was offered to Penska. He was re-interviewed for the position.

Amato wished Penska luck and said the man filling his vacancy will "have his hands full" with matters such as Community Development Block Grant money and meeting the township's needs for the upcoming year.

Mirror Staff Writer Amanda Clegg is at 949-7030.

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Originally Published: 9/2/2010

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Township manager, on job 6 months, fired

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By Brett Hambright
Reading Eagle

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After only six months on the job, Shea Brianna Scharding has been fired as Cumru Township manager.

More

The commissioners voted 4-1 Tuesday in favor of Scharding's immediate termination. Ruth O'Leary cast the only no vote.

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"We agreed she should be terminated in regard to her performance," Michael A. Setley, township solicitor, said after the meeting. "She was not taking this township in the direction we wanted."

Efforts to reach Scharding were unsuccessful.

Scharding was placed on paid administrative leave Aug. 17, and township officials deliberated for two weeks on whether to make her dismissal permanent, Setley said. She was hired in February at an \$80,000 annual salary.

There wasn't one specific incident, or any criminal reason, she was let go, officials said.

"There were several issues that came up. This has been going on for months," said Edward L. Gottschall, commissioners vice president. "I wasn't alone" in wanting her dismissal.

O'Leary, who opposed the firing, said she didn't feel there were inadequacies in Scharding's performance.

"I disagreed with the decision," she said after the meeting. "I was happy with her performance."

Officials declined to discuss specific incidents, explaining that they are expecting litigation in the matter.

The commissioners discussed the dismissal during a 20-minute closed-door session before voting on the action in public.

Scharding, 28, held a similar position in Delaware County before leaving that post for Cumru. She was picked from more than 100 applicants.

She was an active proponent in fighting state storm water regulations that could cost the township more than \$1 million. The Department of Environmental Protection recently agreed to extend its deadline for compliance until spring.

Contact Brett Hambright: or bhambright@readingeagle.com.

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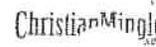
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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REORGANIZATION MEETING AGENDA JANUARY 7, 2008

Call to Order 6:30 p.m.

Board of Supervisors to appoint a Temporary Chairman.

1. Public Comment
2. Organization of the Board of Supervisors:
 - a. Election of Chairman.
 - b. Election of Vice-Chairman.
3. Appointment of a Voting Delegate and Alternate to the Annual Convention of the State Association of Township Supervisors.
4. Consideration of appointing Township Manager for 2008.
Resolution No. 2028
5. Consideration of setting appointments of various Township Officials for 2008.
Resolution No. 2027
6. Consideration of approving Resolution appointing a Township Secretary/Treasurer and Authorizing the Secretary/Treasurer to sign all contracts, plans, documents and legal papers on behalf of and in lieu of the Board of Supervisors.
Resolution No. 2029
7. Consideration of approving the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month as Supervisors' Regular Business Meetings and the 3rd Wednesday of each month as a Work Session.
Resolution No. 2030
8. Consideration of approving a Resolution setting the amount of the Treasurer's Bond for 2008 at \$3,000,000.
Resolution No. 2031
9. Consideration of approving appointments to fill the vacancies on the various Township Boards and Commissions for the year 2008.
Resolution No. 2032

2500

Mr. Forest noted that agenda items are in a different order from when he picked up his electronic packet.

Kevin Corrigan questioned the motion on the floor. Solicitor Smith replied there was a motion on the floor that did not receive a second, therefore there is no motion on the floor to discuss.

Mrs. Rash said there was no motion on the floor to discuss, but there were two people who want to make a comment.

*FIRING
TWP. MGR.
CONFLICT!!*

Kevin Corrigan thanked Mrs. Rash. He expressed dismay, and requested an explanation of why the township manager might not have a job at the end of the night.

Lori Rosolowsky requested clarification on the process, specifically that there is an agenda item, and a motion must be made, and then before a vote is taken, the public has an opportunity to give comment? Mrs. Rash explained you make a motion and get a second, and then open to the floor for comment.

Lori Rosolowsky questioned if there was a motion made. Solicitor Smith responded there was a motion that Mr. Rowan made to reappoint Mr. Stepnoski as township manager, and there was not a second yet, and until there was a second the motion was pending.

Mrs. Rash placed a new motion on the floor, amending the first motion. Mrs. Rash moved not to reappoint Mr. Stepnoski as township manager, and to discontinue his services as of January 7, 2008. Mrs. Rash thanked Mr. Stepnoski for his dedication and service to this township as supervisor and township manager. Mrs. Rash stated the second part of the motion was to move that the township hire labor counsel to negotiate a severance package for Mr. Stepnoski. The third part of the motion was to appoint Dana Cozza as Acting Township Manager during which time the manager position will be advertised and prospective candidates will be interviewed by the Board of Supervisors for the manager position. Mr. Forest seconded the motion.

Solicitor Smith said due to the second on the motion, it can be opened to public comment.

Eddie Sharp, a resident of Buckingham Township, asked why there was no second on the motion for Ray.

Mrs. Rash explained she amended the motion because in her opinion, we need to move forward in a different direction, which is not a comment on skills, its not something legally that was done wrong and it is a personnel issue as far as having a discussion about it.

Al Becker stated he was very concerned about changing upper management while there are contentious issues in Buckingham Township, specifically traffic, development and

BRONKHAM TWP

land preservation. He stated that he thought Mr. Stepnoski raised a lot of professionalism to his job, and that he has been able to run this township correctly.

Mr. Rowan stated that he received a call from Mrs. Rash at 4:00 this afternoon telling him she was going to make this motion, and remove Mr. Stepnoski as township manager. He said there has been no discussion amongst the Board about this action. He said there was not one negative review in Mr. Stepnoski's personnel file, and that this action was a total surprise to himself and to Mr. Stepnoski.

Mr. Forest stated in response to Mr. Becker's comment that Mrs. Cozza has been an employee of the township for seven years, has a law degree, and that he does not think we are going to have any problems with her being the township manager. Mr. Rowan disagreed.

Mr. Forest stated that he valued the service Mr. Stepnoski has given the township, that for two years now he voted for him to be township manager and that this was a personnel issue and he respects Mr. Stepnoski's privacy.

George Michel of Pineville stated that he thinks a great mistake is being made, with a great loss to our township. He wished Mr. Stepnoski the best, and said he was the best township manager in Pennsylvania. He also stated that he thought the three consecutive court hearings that happened in the summertime may be the impetus for what may be happening here, and that he forgave anybody that made mistakes that they may be sorry for. He wished Mr. Stepnoski good luck.

Bill Yerkes stated he has lived in the township his entire life of 78 years, and had the good fortune about 25 years ago to represent this township. He requested the audience to be mannerly and polite and to show respect. He stated he owes his allegiance to the present board and looks forward to continued good decisions being made by them.

Alan Weiss asked if the board was engineering Jeffrey Haberkern for the township manager position? Mr. Forest responded no.

Tom Baldwin of Wycombe stated he was dismayed and disappointed at the manner in which this decision was made, without board discussion or warning about this meeting.

Ginger Hardwick asked that Mr. Stepnoski stay on due to the contentious issues at hand.

Lori Rosolowsky stated that regarding the element of surprise, she found out about this around 4:00 or 5:00. Mr. Forest asked how she found out. Mr. Rowan stated he told her.

Lori Rosolowsky asked if this must be decided on tonight. Mr. Forest replied yes.

Mr. Rowan stated they do not have to appoint a township manager yearly. Solicitor Smith explained that legally Mr. Stepnoski could continue in office until such time as the Board

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takes public action to reappoint him or someone else; that it takes public action at a public meeting.

Lori Rosolowsky asked if the board could decide that given the public interest in both sides of the issue, and that all members of the board discussed it as a board, if they were not able to table the issue. Solicitor Smith replied the board may do whatever the majority of the board wants to.

Lori Rosolowsky then requested that the Board reconsider voting on this issue tonight, out of respect to everyone in this room that was there possibly for support for or against the motion. She then asked Mrs. Rash for her motive in her principles on this matter.

Skip Salvesen, Board of Auditors, Buckingham Township, commended the actions by Supervisor Forest and Supervisor Rash, and stated he thought they were doing the right thing. He then shared a concern with the township offices having been closed on Election Day without notice.

Mrs. Rash requested the public voice their opinion, but not get into specifics. She explained this decision was made on her own, and the board will need to vote on it.

Skip Salvesen asked if Mr. Rowan supported the actions of Mr. Stepnoski as township manager. Mr. Rowan replied that he absolutely supported every single one, and that Mr. Stepnoski is the best manager this township, county and region have ever seen.

Paul Leventhal requested an answer from Mrs. Rash and Mr. Forest. Mrs. Rash replied that she thought the job and management style needed to be changed. Mr. Forest said he respected Mr. Stepnoski's privacy.

Paul Leventhal asked Solicitor Smith about the legality issues and potential cost in fees and lost wages, and he felt that should be considered in the decision making process. Solicitor Smith explained Pennsylvania is an at-will employment state. He said that a part of the motion was that the township negotiates a severance fee and that there will be costs associated with that.

Paul Leventhal asked Mr. Stepnoski if he had any freedom to speak tonight, because the township deserves to know the story. He stated he supported Mr. Stepnoski and some of the supervisors. Mr. Stepnoski replied that the township manager position is at the will of the board, and the issue has not been voted on yet.

Mr. Rowan stated when the budget was passed it went down and the township has maintained that direction. He stated the township has a good staff and he likes the direction we are going. He said he wanted to know what the new direction was.

Buckingham
 Two

Ginger Hardwick said she was dismayed at the decision and the process. She requested of Mrs. Rash what the new direction is to be, what the basis is for her opinion, and for an explanation for this major change.

Ronda Stowe stated she was angry and that she wanted an explanation of what was happening, that she had a right as a tax-paying citizen to know. Mrs. Rash replied that this is a personnel issue, that Ms. Stowe was entitled to her opinion, and that each board member must make their own decision.

William Kates of New Hope Road stated he has been a resident of the township for 31 years, and his family longer than that. He stated in his opinion Mr. Stepnoski has been an asset to the township and he was appalled by the actions tonight. He also believed Mr. Rowan is an asset to the Township, and was upset that Mrs. Rash and Mr. Forest made a decision without discussing this with Mr. Rowan.

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Gloria Corrigan asked what the change of direction is. Mrs. Rash replied she did not want to get into a controversial issue.

Mr. Rowan stated that Mrs. Rash was not talking about personnel issues, but changing the direction of the township, and that he thought the audience should demand an answer.

Mrs. Rash replied, stating there was tension with the staff, that work was suffering, that it was hard to get information out of the township, and that there were elements in the township that had found it difficult to get things accomplished. Mr. Forest said specifically homeowners and farm owners.

Lori Rosolowsky asked if there were comments in the ex-employees files about these problems. Mrs. Rash replied she did not know. Mr. Rowan said there had better be, and warned the township was looking at a lawsuit.

Greg Dubas of Forest Grove congratulated Mrs. Rash on her position as Chairperson. He commended her motion and agreed the township needs a new direction or change.

Paul Calderaio of Buckingham Township also supported the motion, and questioned where all the people in the room were a few years ago when former manager Max Weisman was not being re-appointed. Mrs. Rash replied this issue was not about Mr. Weisman.

Paul Martissa of Mechanicsville expressed his concern with process and stated that if it had not been for the advertisement of this meeting, the majority of these faces would not be here tonight; that it smacked of political meandering. He stated that what the community can do is to remember that it can change in two years by a vote.

Janet French praised Mr. Stepnoski and Mr. Rowan for their accomplishments, specifically for their work on the 202 expressway, but also stated that as a previous

supervisor she had, at times, felt marginalized on a number of occasions, and that her contribution sometimes got lost in the shuffle. She also stated that personnel should not be discussed in public.

Robert Jeter said he has been in Buckingham for thirteen years, and said that he thought that Mr. Stepnoski had done a marvelous job, and that the Board of Supervisors, in looking at changing direction, may want to take another good look.

Ginnie Preston said she was disturbed to hear the news, and said she had not been given a good reason for this change; that she thought things had been working beautifully for years, and that she did not want to see things change too drastically.

Ginnie Preston then asked Mrs. Rash and Mr. Forest what the reason was for Mr. Stepnoski to leave and be replaced by someone else.

Mrs. Rash said she thought we needed to have a different management style at the top. She stated this is only one position changing, not a change in any other way. Mr. Forest stated it is a change in management. Mr. Rowan said there does need to be a change in management, at the top.

Ginnie Preston said she didn't see how anybody could top what Ray, Henry and Janet did in the years they were in charge, and thanked them.

June McWilliams expressed her shock at the determination the Board was reaching.

Beverly Kates questioned the process and urgency of the action being taken.

Ed Gridbow addressed his statement to Mr. Forest, that he is a homeowner in Buckingham Township that Mr. Ron Myers and Mr. Stepnoski helped him with; that he didn't know what other homeowners' had problems, but they did not have one with him.

Paul Leventhal asked Mr. Smith what this going to cost the township, and what level of responsibility did Supervisor Forest and Supervisor Rash have towards the cost that may be incurred. Solicitor Smith responded that Pennsylvania is an at-will employment state, which means as long as you don't violate any federal guidelines in terms of age discrimination, sex discrimination, religion, national origin, etc., you can fire someone for any reason without notice, without rationalizing. He stated that part of the Chairman's motion was to hire separate labor counsel and see if a severance package could be worked out, but could not speculate on any of the arrangements.

Paul Leventhal asked what the rush was. Mrs. Rash responded it was a reorganization meeting and we are starting the year fresh. Mr. Leventhal asked if this was motivating Henry, also. Mrs. Rash said Mr. Rowan has the ability to make his vote.

Board of Supervisors
 Minutes of Reorganization Meeting – January 7, 2008
 Page 8 of 13

Buckingham Township

Arline Soffian stated she has been a resident of the township for over 30 years, that we have a unified board and management, and that this change is quite dramatic without giving reasons. She asked Mr. Forest if in the two years had there been any discussions with Mr. Stepnoski that you didn't like the way he was handling his job. Solicitor Smith advised the board not to discuss personnel issues.

Arline Soffian said as a taxpayer she needs to know why we are going in this direction. She asked Mr. Forest again if he had spoken with Mr. Stepnoski, and/or had any discussion with the Board about the ability of him and his job. Mr. Forest replied yes.

Mr. Rowan stated this board has not had any personnel discussions with Mr. Stepnoski. Mrs. Rash replied that was not true. Arline Soffian asked Mrs. Rash what she said, and she replied they have discussed issues.

Mark Weinberg stated there should some formal discussion, a procedure when firing somebody.

Kevin Corrigan thanked Mr. Yerkes for his remarks about civility. He said he has trusted Mr. Stepnoski and Mr. Rowan, and that he has been a friend with Mrs. Rash, and that he felt things were done above board previously, but not now.

Ed Deschamps stated that everyone in the room ought to realize the three people up front were elected by whole township.

Cathy Pinchek stated she has lived in Buckingham for over 20 years, and is very sad about what is happening tonight, and that Ray has done a great job for this township.

Don Chalkey proposed it might be time for a five-member council, so that one person doesn't bear the burden of blame or credit.

NOTE!!!

Harry Veni wished Mr. Stepnoski well, and said that he supports Mrs. Rash.

Mrs. Rash thanked everybody who had a public comment.

Mr. Rowan stated there were differences of issues and differences of opinion, but that both he and Mr. Stepnoski had no idea this was coming. He stated that since Mr. Stepnoski will no longer be an employee, the money to pay counsel to negotiate would come out of the budget. He said the board had not discussed the issues, and that he was appalled at the behavior of Mrs. Rash and Mr. Forest. He stated Mr. Stepnoski was not given the opportunity to have the tools needed to work within and make changes, and that he had not been given the support that he needed. Mr. Rowan demanded to know what the new direction is.

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Former commissioner Petrilla hired as Butler Twp. manager

Published: January 30, 2012

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Petrilla

After a stint leading Luzerne County government, Maryanne Petrilla is back in Butler Township.

Butler's supervisors voted 2-0 today to hire Petrilla as township manager, a position she held for 11 years before winning election as Luzerne County controller in 2005. She ran for and won election as county commissioner in 2007, but a switch to home rule government and an 11-member county council this year left Petrilla without a job.

Supervisors Charlie Altmiller and Brian Kisenwether voted to appoint Petrilla, who will begin work Feb. 6. Supervisor Ransom Young abstained because he donated to Petrilla's previous political campaigns, though Young said he supports her as manager.

The board of supervisors, which gained a new political majority when Altmiller came on board at the start of the year, fired township manager Steve Hahn earlier this month. Hahn at the time said political favoritism was at play.

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WEST PIKELAND TWP

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

JERI L. DIESINGER, : CIVIL ACTION
Plaintiff :
 :
v. : NO. 09-1237
 :
WEST PIKELAND TWP., :
Defendant :

MEMORANDUM

STENGEL, J.

September 2, 2009

Jeri Diesinger, a former employee of West Pikeland Township, claims she was wrongfully terminated in retaliation for certain public statements she made regarding the township's financial situation. West Pikeland has moved to dismiss. The issues are whether Ms. Diesinger's statements are protected under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and whether the Pennsylvania Constitution creates a private cause of action for alleged violations of the right to free expression. I will grant the motion and dismiss the complaint.

I. Background

Jeri Diesinger was employed by West Pikeland Township from on or about March 5, 2007 to on or about October 31, 2008. (Compl. ¶ 7.) She held the position of Township Manager. (Id. ¶ 8.) Her job performance was excellent, and she fulfilled all of her employment duties and obligations. (Id.)

In June 2007, a local youth association sent a letter to the township requesting a

W. PICKELAND TWO

soccer field for the township's youth. (Id. ¶ 9.) In November 2007, the township's Board of Supervisors resolved to build a new soccer field. (Id. ¶ 10.) As Township Manager, Diesinger's duties included overseeing the township's finances and ensuring the decision to build was implemented. (Id. ¶ 11.)

OLD BOARD OLD

In January 2008, three new board members were elected to the Board of Supervisors. (Id. ¶ 12.) These new members halted the building of the soccer field because they wanted to look into the project and get more information from the youth association. (Id. ¶ 13.)

NEW BOARD HALTED

Ms. Diesinger alleges she was fired for certain statements she made during public meetings of the Board of Supervisors. The first occurred on or about July 21, 2008. Three members of the township's Finance Review Committee stated (falsely, according to Plaintiff) to the Board that the township lacked sufficient funds to build the requested soccer field. (Id. ¶ 14.) Ms. Diesinger corrected the misstatement and informed the Board that there were sufficient funds to proceed with construction.

The second incident occurred at another public meeting of the Board of Supervisors held on or about August 18, 2008. Certain Finance Review Committee members had again falsely represented the township's ability to build the soccer field. (Id. ¶ 16.) Ms. Diesinger responded by characterizing the Finance Review Committee's assessment as inaccurate, and she "stated her intention to provide the [township] with an accurate financial report in order to demonstrate that the [township] indeed had sufficient

funds in the budget to build the requested field.” (Id. ¶ 17.)

On or about August 27, 2008, Ms. Diesinger met with members of the Finance Review Committee and a member of the Board to discuss the township’s financial situation and to show that sufficient funds existed. (Id. ¶ 18.) On October 31, 2008, Diesinger was “abruptly” terminated from her position. (Id. ¶ 19.) She was told the Board decided to make a change because they “had some complaints from some of the committees.” (Id.)

On March 20, 2009, Ms. Diesinger filed her complaint against West Pikeland. It contains two counts, which are claims for violations of her right to free speech as protected by the United States and Pennsylvania Constitutions. West Pikeland moved to dismiss on the grounds that Diesinger’s speech was not protected by the First Amendment and the Pennsylvania Constitution does not provide a private cause of action. (See Mem. to Dismiss (Document #7) at 4–6.) West Pikeland also moves to dismiss any request for punitive damages. (See id. at 6.)

II. Standard of review

A motion to dismiss under Rule 12(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted examines the legal sufficiency of the complaint. Conley v. Gibson, 355 U.S. 41, 45-46 (1957). The factual allegations must be sufficient to make the claim for relief more than just speculative. Bell Atlantic

Howell Twp



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Davis named Howell township manager

By Lynn K. Barra
Staff Writer

By Lynn K. Barra
Staff Writer

HOWELL — He did the job so well, it's now his permanently.

At the Sept. 9 meeting of the Township Council, officials voted 4-1 and took the "interim" out of Bruce Davis' title, appointing him township manager. Councilwoman Cynthia Schomaker voted no.

August marked one year that Davis had served as interim manager. He received that appointment after the council fired the former manager, Jacqueline Ascione. Davis has been Howell's municipal clerk for almost 24 years.

Davis is the seventh person to fill the position of manager since Howell switched to a strong manager form of government in 1994.

Since that time Howell had, in the words of Councilman Fritz Kirchof, "gotten a reputation for revolving doors when it came to managers."

Mayor Timothy J. Konopka told Greater Media Newspapers, "You know, sometimes you have a treasure right there in front of you, and you don't even know it."

Speaking a few weeks before Davis' permanent appointment, Konopka characterized Davis as an "articulate, intelligent and effective manager."

Of his performance of the duties of manager, the mayor said the past year had been a "test" and that Davis "passed it with flying colors."



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Said Konopka after the Sept. 9 vote: "His (Davis') appointment was well-deserved. He's the right man for the job. We have the utmost confidence, respect and admiration for the man."

Konopka said that along with Davis' talents for managing the town and its employees, the new manager had innovative ideas.

Konopka said when the council turned its attention to expanding township recreation, Davis was the person who had come up with the idea for Howell's walking trails and three regional kiddie parks.

"This is what he brings to the table. You see, we can come up with all these wonderful ideas and pieces of legislation but you need competent people to execute the direction and will of the mayor and governing body," the mayor said.

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Ex-city administrator fired from municipal job

BY SAM GALSKI (STAFF WRITER)

Published: April 19, 2012

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A former Hazleton City administrator said a "difference of opinion" with Silver Spring Township officials led to his termination from a township manager post earlier this month.

Sam Monticello, who served as city administrator and community development director in Hazleton from the early 1980s through 2009, was fired as Silver Spring Township manager on April 11. The Harrisburg Patriot-News reported.

The township supervisors terminated Monticello by a 3-2 vote at the conclusion of a recent meeting. He was hired as township manager last July and was the second manager dismissed in the past two years.

A township supervisor reportedly accused Monticello of insubordination after he was asked to justify an expense on a list of bills. Monticello told The Patriot-News that he retrieved information from a vendor about a bill questioned by one of the supervisors but that a supervisor had asked for even more information. Monticello reportedly disagreed, saying he provided "voluminous" information regarding the expense.

Monticello said Wednesday that the developments were a result of "nothing more than a difference of opinion expressed by myself with one or two members of the board."

"It kind of took a life of its own and resulted in the termination, which came upon very swiftly and in a clandestine manner," he said.

Monticello resigned as city administrator and director of economic development in Hazleton in August 2009 to pursue job opportunities in California before returning to Pennsylvania.

He served as city administrator from 1981 through 1995 and from 2000 until his resignation.

In the five years between, he handled West Hazleton's finances.

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SILVER SPRING TWP

At the township's March 28 supervisor's meeting, officials questioned whether the bill for the services was justified and required that Dawood produce documentation that better explained the duties performed.

Spade said he needed more information before he'd vote to pay the bill.

The township has yet to pay the bill, officials said.

"That invoice has not been paid," Spade said Thursday, "because there are certain questions that have not been answered."

Monticello contends he did all he could, and more.

"I gave them more than enough information to justify that expenditure," Monticello said, adding that Spade claimed he was insubordinate for not producing a comprehensive result. "If there's a problem, I think he should pursue the questions themselves. There's nothing wrong with that... invoice."

Bony Dawood, the company's president, said he supplied Silver Spring Twp. with everything they needed. "We've been working with them for eight years and this is the first time we've had a problem," Dawood said. But Spade was unsatisfied, Monticello said, adding the supervisor called him "insubordinate."

In an email, Monticello said he disagreed with Spade's decision not to approve the invoice and that not paying the bill would disparage Dawood's reputation.

About three weeks later, Monticello, an at-will employee, was fired.

Spade would not comment Thursday on the specifics of Monticello's firing, as it is a personnel matter.

And Vincent DiFilippo, who cast the third vote to dismiss Monticello, would not comment, either.

"I think it was personal," Monticello said. "It seems like someone had an ax to grind."

As far as he can tell, Monticello said Silver Spring Twp. supervisors fired him because he offered an opinion of how leadership managed municipal business.

When the board hired him in July 2010, Monticello said, officials told him that's what they wanted — his opinion — because his expertise was valued.

The 56-year-old Monticello, a former 27-year Hazleton administrator, found the national spotlight when the city under then-Mayor Lou Barletta took contentious measures to prosecute and deport illegal immigrants. Monticello testified to support the law in court but said he did so in his administrator role, not as the author of the law.

He has yet to receive a reason for his firing.

Monticello said he wouldn't be surprised if officials fired him for an unfounded conflict of interest. His wife has been employed by Dawood for years.

"Knowing the personalities involved, I would not say that they did it spitefully, but I would not put it past them," Monticello said.

That doesn't seem to be the case.

Dawood confirmed that the company has an in-house rule that keeps Monticello's wife out of any dealings with Silver Spring Twp. And Spade, who made the motion at the April 11 meeting to dismiss the township manager, said he had no idea Monticello's wife worked for Dawood.

"This is the first I've ever heard of that," he said. "That was never something that Sam Monticello shared with me."

Theresa Eberly, whom Monticello hired as township treasurer, has been named acting township manager. Her stint is scheduled to last until May 23, she said.

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Silver Spring Township

Officials could not confirm when they plan to begin interviewing for a new manager.

Monticello's firing has left a dent in some residents' faith in municipal government.

John Diener, a township resident who witnessed Monticello's firing April 11, said the board was insubordinate for pitting officials against each other. "With that vote, they fractured the board," Diener said.

The vote to fire Monticello followed an angry statement made by Supervisor Chairman Mary Lou McLain.

Diener said McLain opposed the firing, saying it was unwarranted and wrong.

McLain and Supervisor Dave Lenker opposed Monticello's firing. Supervisors Spade, DiFilippo and Nancy Griffie voted to fire Monticello. All supervisors refused to discuss the firing when contacted Thursday.

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Silver Spring Township

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everything is political...I mean EVERYTHING

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kennpaul April 23, 2012 at 7:56AM

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Two township managers fired in two years.....and all of it hidden away under the cowardly device of "personnel issues". How convenient. This is BS. There may be a rule somewhere that allows this, but the commissioners have now cost SS Township two otherwise apparently competent managers, loss of momentum in running the place, and considerable cost, and exposed the Township to wrongful discharge actions, ill will and now a loss of confidence in the elected body of commissioners - WITHOUT ADEQUATE EXPLANATION. Makes one ask how actually competent these commissioners really are when all this sounds like some sort of high school clique childish spat. What the h...is wrong with you people?

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but1 April 23, 2012 at 10:22AM

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The mgr had a conflict of interest (wife) he should have reported to the twp. but hid the fact instead. So he should be fired. There is definitely the appearance his wife could be receiving favorable treatment from her employer, Dawood. She doesn't have to be involved with twp matters to receive favors. This has nothing to do with whether the invoice is valid or not. The PN writer, Mr Komenda, missed the whole point. Good job supervisors! It was a tough call, he needed to be fired, and you did it.

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Sam Monticello

timesleader.com

Article Link - <http://theabingtonjournal.com/stories/Ex-Hazleton-administrator-fired.140651>

Sam Monticello, former administrator of the city of Hazleton, believes he was unfairly fired from his current municipal government job for stating his opinion.

The Patriot News reported on Wednesday that Silver Spring Township supervisors on April 11 voted 3-2 to terminate Monticello from his township manager post without warning at the end of a regular meeting.

In a phone interview on Wednesday, Monticello said Supervisor Chairwoman Mary Lou McLain came to his office the morning of the meeting and closed the door.

"She gives me a hug and she's sobbing. She said, 'These people are vicious, they want to terminate your position tonight ... because of the email you sent,' " Monticello said he was told.

At a March supervisors meeting, Monticello said, Supervisor Nate Spade asked for "sufficient information and detail" supporting a \$4,000 invoice before he would vote to pay it. Monticello said he contacted the vendor and was provided "a voluminous narrative" with details attached.

"I found it more than adequate to support this invoice," he said. He ran it by the assistant manager, and she found nothing lacking, so he emailed the information to the supervisors.

Spade was still unsatisfied and would not approve payment without more information, but he was not specific, Monticello said.

"I responded, 'With all due respect, I have to disagree with your decision not to approve the invoice,' " Monticello said. "I said, 'For you to further delay paying the invoice, I think we would be doing nothing other than disparaging this businessman's reputation.' "

He said he got a "scathing response" from Spade that he was being discourteous, disrespectful and insubordinate. A meeting with Spade at which Monticello said he apologized if Spade perceived his response as disrespectful was unproductive.

He said he's reviewing his employment agreement.

"Even though I'm considered an at-will employee, it shouldn't permit a wrongful termination like this," Monticello said.

He said McLain stated at the meeting the termination was "a disgrace" and she adamantly opposed it.

Spade did not return a request for comment. McLain called the situation "a personnel issue and we're just not talking about it."

Monticello said his recent firing was reminiscent of when former Hazleton Mayor Mike Marsicano fired him after assuring him that his job as city administrator was secure.

SILVER SPIN

Monticello previously served as city administrator under former Mayor John Quigley until 1995. He said Marsicano assured him after winning the 1995 election that he would keep his job, but soon after fired him.

Monticello went to work as West Hazleton borough manager for four years until U.S. Rep. Lou Barletta hired him back as city administrator when Barletta began his three-term tenure as city mayor in January 2000. Monticello resigned in September 2008 to pursue better employment.

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Newtown Township manager resigns position to accept job closer to home in Montgomer...

NEWTOWN TOWNSHIP

Bucks Local News (buckslocalnews.com)

The Advance > News

Newtown Township manager resigns position to accept job closer to home in Montgomery County

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

By Petra Chesner Schlatter
BucksLocalNews.com

NEWTOWN TOWNSHIP -- After 4 ½ years at the administrative helm, township manager Joe Czajkowski is taking his leave for another job closer to home in Montgomery County.

His new job will be as township manager in Lower Salford Township which surrounds Harleysville in Montgomery County.

Czajkowski, 47, said the change will allow him to spend more time with his family. "My kids are getting older. They're involved in sports and all kinds of activities."

His wife, Jennifer, is a homemaker who previously taught third-, fourth- and fifth-grade. Their children are: McKenzie, 8; Jack, 6; and Camryn, 3 1/2.

Czajkowski submitted his formal resignation on Friday. His last day of work will be April 1.

Prior to coming to Newtown Township, he worked as township manager in Upper Makefield for three years.

NOTE!!

Under his watch, the township moved forward with Veterans Park, the Promenade, the Stoopville Road traffic calming project, improvements to the municipal complex and preparation of the annual budgets.

"I generally feel good about them," he said, noting that anytime you get something accomplished in politics, it's a good feeling.

He said, however, that he would not take any "undo credit for all of them" because a lot of people were involved.

Czajkowski emphasized that in Newtown Township, public input is important in the process.

Working as manager in Newtown Township, he said, was great because it provided a lot of experiences and challenges. "Anytime you can deal with challenges, it makes you stronger as a candidate or manager where ever you are in your career," he said. "It makes you a better person in general."

Czajkowski earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism and political science from Keene State College in New Hampshire. His Master of public administration was earned at New Hampshire University.

"It's been a pleasure working here," Czajkowski said.

Newtown Township manager resigns position to accept job closer to home in Montgomer...

Newtown TWP

Describing Czajkowski as a "vital asset to the board," Supervisor Rob Ciervo said Czajkowski will be "hard to replace.

"He's done a good job for the township," said Ciervo. "He was always looking out for the township as a whole and residents."

He said Czajkowski "was able to assist the board with setting of the agenda for our meetings and fielding residents' questions and issues, and channel them to the right decision makers.

"We're going to have to move quickly to find another manager," he said.

URL: http://www.buckslocalnews.com/articles/2012/02/07/the_advance/news/doc4f3059d3b8aab772707675.prt

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NEW TOWNTWP



Friday, May 4

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The Newtown Township supervisors ended up going west to find their new township manager.

Kurt Ferguson, township manager in Hempfield near Pittsburgh, was appointed Newtown Township's new top administrator at Wednesday night's meeting, H will start at least by July 2 or possibly a little before that after fulfilling his required 60-day notice in Hempfield.

Ferguson's starting annual salary will be \$117,500, a little less than the \$123,528 Joe Czajkowski was making when he left April 1 to take the manager's job in Lower Salford, Montgomery County. He had been Newtown Township manager since 2007.

CZAJKOWSKI
5 YRS TOWNSHIP

Until Ferguson can start, police Chief Rick Pasqualini will serve as interim manager.

The supervisors sifted through 37 applications and interviewed five finalists before settling on Ferguson. His appointment was approved unanimously Wednesday night by supervisors Mike Gallagher, Rob Ciervo, Phil Calabro, Ryan Gallagher and Matthew Benchener.

37
APPOINTMENT

"We did an extensive background search and it was shocking how many good references came back on Kurt," said Mike Gallagher.

Benchener. "We're all very excited about Kurt joining us and believe he will be a great asset to the township," added

According to the employment agreement previously signed by Ferguson and approved by the supervisors Wednesday night, he will get annual pay increases of at least 2 percent and more if the supervisors deem his performance worthy of a higher increase.

Ferguson will get three months' severance pay if he's fired after six months and six months' severance pay if he's fired after a year. There will be no severance if he resigns or is fired for certain reasons spelled out in the agreement, such as conviction of or plea to a felony, any act of dishonesty or moral turpitude, or any violation of the township's code of conduct.

The employment agreement has no set term and will remain in effect as long as Ferguson is employed by the township unless changed by mutual consent of him and the supervisors.

Ferguson's resume was unavailable Wednesday night, but Mike Gallagher said he's been township manager in Hempfield the last four or five years and before that was the economic development officer in Mt. Lebanon, western Pennsylvania.

FERGUSON
4-5 YRS TOWNSHIP

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NEWTON TWP

Western Pennsylvania man named new township manager

By Chris English Staff Writer | Posted: Thursday, April 26, 2012 12:00 am

The Newtown Township supervisors ended up going west to find their new township manager.

Kurt Ferguson, township manager in Hempfield near Pittsburgh, was appointed Newtown Township's new top administrator at Wednesday night's meeting. He will start at least by July 2 or possibly a little before that after fulfilling his required 60-day notice in Hempfield.

Ferguson's starting annual salary will be \$117,500, a little less than the \$123,528 Joe Czajkowski was making when he left April 1 to take the manager's job in Lower Salford, Montgomery County. He had been Newtown Township manager since 2007.

Until Ferguson can start, police Chief Rick Pasqualini will serve as interim manager.

The supervisors sifted through 37 applications and interviewed five finalists before settling on Ferguson. His 37 appointment was approved unanimously Wednesday night by supervisors Mike Gallagher, Rob Ciervo, Phil 37 Calabro, Ryan Gallagher and Matthew Benchener. APPJCMW

"We did an extensive background search and it was shocking how many good references came back on Kurt," said Mike Gallagher.

"We're all very excited about Kurt joining us and believe he will be a great asset to the township," added Benchener.

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