

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 1, 2011

The special meeting was held at 6:30PM at the North Versailles Township Municipal Building.

ROLL CALL: *Beswick, present; Bivins, present; Dull, present; Grimes, present; Juliano, present; Marra, present; Mitchell, present.*

Motion made by S. Juliano, seconded by D. Dull, to approve the extension of the summer help program in the Road Department until October 31, 2011 at the rate of \$7.50/hour for James Mangan.

ROLL CALL: *Dull, yes; Mitchell, yes; Juliano, yes; Beswick, no; Marra, no; Bivins, no; Grimes, yes.*

PUBLIC SPEAK OUT SESSION:

A public speak out meeting was called to order in regards to the Delta Development Group's recommendation for the North Versailles Township Police Department to close down the dispatch center and switch to the Allegheny County 911 system. Township residents were encouraged to attend this meeting to allow the Board of Commissioners to hear their opinion on the matter.

James Communale, 1704 Payne St., had 30+ years with the Township dispatch center. He understands the burden on the Township in regards to the money situation. Wants everyone to understand that the dispatchers do more than just answer the phone. They watch prisoners, handle walk-ins, screen calls that sometimes do not require a police officer. Spoke about how communication between a township dispatcher and police officer led to police intercepting a stolen car out of another municipality because the dispatcher knew where the officer was going that day.

Vincent DiCenzo, 503 Overhill Dr., Chief of Police reiterates what J. Communale spoke about. Stated that from the time you walk into that station, there's a dispatcher with you until a police officer comes in. They watch prisoners. If they have juveniles in there, they keep an eye on (them). The Police Dept. is set up as a car seat installer for the county. There are four officers that do that. People come from North Huntingdon, Penn Township and City of Pittsburgh to get car seats installed. If there's nobody there, what are they going to do, pick up the phone and dial 911?

Sam Gallo, 3915 Foster Rd., wife had septic shock with a temperature of 106 degrees. Says the dispatchers saved his wife's life. If it would have been any more time than the length it was, she wouldn't be with us. It's because of the dispatchers and because they know the area.

Commissioner Art Marra talked about the financial aspect of changing to Allegheny County 911.

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Steve Latsko, 331 Clavale Dr., Township police officer told a story about being dispatched to a Township call that came in through Allegheny County 911 for a burglary in progress on James Street. He said he and another officer found an abandoned house. Latsko said it turned out Allegheny County 911 had the wrong municipality.

Judy Oskin, 1612 Payne St., says that the dispatchers know where you are, what happened and what transpired from that issue. If it's not broken, don't fix it.

Sally Sahene, 206 Canterbury Ln., is totally against joining 911 as a resident and taxpayer in this community.

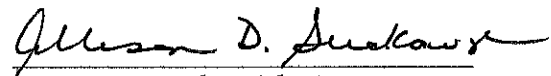
Joe Volker, 1608 Basil St., said he was in another municipality when he witnessed a man carry a woman out of a vehicle. "She was lifeless," he said. "I called 911 and the first thing I heard: 'You have reached Allegheny County 911. All of our operators are busy. Please stay on the line.'"

Motion by G. Beswick to adjourn

Seconded by S. Juliano

Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned!


Township Administrator