

**Forsyth Township
Special Meeting
July 13, 2011
Emergency Service Building**

Supervisor Minelli called the Special Meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

Board Members Present: Supervisor Minelli, Clerk Filizetti-Hartzell, Treasurer Nordeen & Trustees Roberts & Armatti.

Also Present: Mike Bellmore, United Steelworker's Union Representative, Maurene Hakes, Lynn Rodgers, Dennis Norman, Lenny Fowler & Joel Johnson, police union chairperson.

Agenda: Motion by Minelli, supported by Nordeen to add Closed Session – Police Department to agenda. Motion carried.

Representative Bellmore stated he was told by Minelli that the last proposal the township gave the USW union was their final offer. Bellmore stated he felt the union and the full township board should meet to discuss the proposals thereby asking for this special meeting. Bellmore went over the proposals presented to Minelli & Armatti at the last negotiations session.

Motion by Filizetti-Hartzell, supported by Nordeen to go into closed session for the purpose of negotiations with the Steelworkers at 7:20 p.m. Roll call vote: Armatti – aye; Nordeen - aye; Roberts – aye; Minelli – aye; Filizetti-Hartzell – aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Minelli, supported by Filizetti-Hartzell to return to open session at 7:45 p.m. Motion carried.

The following proposal given to the police department union chairperson Joel Johnson was as follows: Delete the \$2.00 Sunday premium and replace it with a 20 cents per hour across the board increase; a three year contract with wage increases of 0%, 1% and 1%, which would take place upon ratification of the contract; an additional 5 cent afternoon shift increase and an 10 cent midnight shift increase. Motion by Roberts, supported by Minelli approving the contract proposal presented to the Police Department Union. Motion carried.

Representative Bellmore stated the USW union would withdraw proposal #2 on funeral leave for aunts & uncles, withdraw proposal #5 change in new employee opting out on health insurance; #7 a four year contract with 1%, 2%, 2% and 2% wage increases, #10 ten days (two weeks) of vacation for new employees, #12 withdrawn, will maintain language in the current contract.

Minelli stated the township board is status quo on the proposal previously offered to the USW union being final, with the exception of #14 which is agreed upon by the township board. The board accepted the articles the union withdrew.

Motion by Minelli, supported by Nordeen to back into closed session at 8:12 p.m. Roll call vote: Roberts – aye; Minelli – aye; Nordeen – aye; Armatti – aye; Filizetti-Hartzell – aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Filizetti-Hartzell, supported by Nordeen to return to open session at 8:21 p.m. Motion carried.

Police union chairperson Joel Johnson stated the Police Dept. union employees did not accept the township board proposal; they want a 1% increase the first year. Trustee Roberts addressed the 20 cent across the board, explaining it is an increase. Johnson then called the bargaining unit employees again and returned to the board stating they accept the township proposal. The acceptance results in a three year contract between Forsyth Township and the Forsyth Township Police Association from April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2014.

Representative Bellmore stated he will contact a mediator to be brought in to settle the USW Union and Forsyth Township contract.

Adjournment: Minelli adjourned the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Filizetti-Hartzell
Forsyth Township Clerk