

# Spencer Township Trustee Meeting January 21, 2016

Trustee Michael B. Hood called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

## Roll Call

<b>Trustee Michael B. Hood</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>Trustee Teresa M. Bettinger</b>	<b>present</b>
<b>Trustee Shawn P. Valentine</b>	<b>military leave</b>

Trustee Hood explained the Zoning change for 225 Irwin Road is the main purpose of the meeting. He explained the history of the property usages (Residential and Commercial).

Pastor Jerry Boose of Second Baptist Church gave a background of 225 Irwin Road and how it has always been used for the Community of Spencer Township and it still is till this date. There was conversation on the subject. Donnie Miller, CEO of the Neighborhood Health Association and proposed occupant of the location, explained this meeting is over the zoning and not a "referendum " on the Neighborhood Health Association. She explained the Federal Government approved a grant for the area so there must be a need. Pastor Boose explained there is a need in the Community for these services.

It was asked isn't there a medical clinic nearby. Pastor Boose explained this proposed clinic would tend to all ages, not just pediatrics as the current clinic serves. Trustee Bettinger informed Pastor Boose that statement was not true and she informed him of all the various services the clinic in Spencer Neighborhood Center currently offers.

Carol Shull, Director of Spencer Neighborhood Center, explained a multitude of ages utilize the clinic at the Spencer Township Neighborhood Center. She feels that there should be no implication that the current clinic does not meet the Communities needs.

Trustee Bettinger called to table the matter due legalities that were brought to her attention by the Township's legal advisor, Sheilah McAdams. Trustee Bettinger wants to ensure the Township follows the law. Trustee Hood disagreed with Trustee Bettinger's position.

Trustee Hood called on Dean Croskey, Zoning Inspector, to see if there were any legal issues to deny the vote tonight. Mr. Croskey needed to be brought up to date

on Ms. McAdams findings before he could answer the question. Mr. Croskey did state the current place of business for the Neighborhood Health Association is in violation of Spencer Township zoning laws, which were over-ruled by fire violations.

Fire Chief, Carl Arnold, explained the Neighborhood Health Association did not have an occupancy permit and he is waiting on a ruling from the State Fire Marshals office on this matter. He mentioned a fire inspection was conducted.

Trustee Hood stated there has been no opposition on this clinic until tonight.

Trustee Hood asked Prosecutor John Borell his opinion, he stated he is not aware of the situation, but it does concern him that Sheilah McAdams advise may not be followed.

Trustee Bettinger read a recommendation from Sheilah McAdams. There was discussion on the matter.

Sheilah McAdams spoke to the matter via speakerphone, explaining the recommendation Trustee Bettinger read.

Trustee Bettinger made a motion to declare the resolution made on December 31, 2015 to vacate Trustee Shawn Valentine's office illegal/null/void. Shawn Valentine is still a Trustee of Spencer Township she declared. The motion was not seconded. The motion died.

At this time Trustee Bettinger gave the floor to Ms. Pam Hays, she spoke on veteran's issues and her organization, The Arms Forces. She advocates for Veterans and is here on Shawn Valentine's behalf.

The discussion became very heated during Ms. Hays' speech. Many residents in the audience feel the Township is being portrayed in a very bad light.

Pastor Boose asked what is the next step for the zoning matter, it was explained that the advertisement will be placed in the newspaper by the Fiscal Officer and the proper hearing and meetings will be held after that point.

Resident Curtis Lancaster spoke on his frustration of Trustee Valentine not working with the Trustee Board on the deployment issue. He expressed the Township needs to stop the bickering, work together.

Trustee Hood expressed his opinion on the deployment matter that Trustee Valentine should have given a written or verbal notice. He provided neither to the Board, all the information the Board received was "on the street" Trustee Hood

stated, the Board finally received his deployment papers over 137 days later. He said Trustee Valentine was defiant and this turmoil is the end result.

Trustee Bettinger made a motion to go into executive session, Trustee Hood seconded at 8:09pm. Roll call: Trustee Hood: yes, Trustee Bettinger: yes. The Board returned from executive session at 8:25pm. Trustee Hood made a motion to come out of executive session. He explained no decisions were made. Roll call vote: Trustee Hood: yes, Trustee Bettinger: yes.

Trustee Hood made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:26pm, Trustee Bettinger seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Hood: yes, Trustee Bettinger: yes.

X

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Dawn E. McDonald  
Fiscal Officer

X

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Michael B. Hood  
Trustee

X

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Teresa M. Bettinger  
Trustee