**PRESENT:** Joseph Rudderow, III – Vacancy Board Chairman, Roy Timpe – Supervisor, Robert Kopfer- Supervisor, Chad Lubas – Solicitor, and Ruth Manmiller – Recording Secretary

**GUESTS:** Robert Beissel, Alice Beissel, David Anspach, Ron Rapp, Cindy Stump, Krista Timpe, Ronald Kemmerer, Gloria Kemmerer, Larry Kunkel, Patrick Harkin, Patrick Donovan, Pamela Donovan, Robert Hanna, Raymond Ernst, Bruce Kline, Kerry Cavallomagno, Regina Sanders, Scott Sanders, Terry Manmiller, Claude Beaver, and May Roth – Reporter.

Joseph Rudderow called the Vacancy Board Meeting to order at 7:30 PM in the Maidencreek Township Municipal Building. He informed the guests that this meeting was advertised for the purpose of appointing a third Supervisor. Terry Rarick's resignation was accepted February 14, 2002 at the Board of Supervisors meeting.

Roy Timpe explained that the individual appointed to fill the Board of Supervisors vacancy would complete Terry Rarick's term. If that individual wishes to retain the Supervisor position, he/she would be required to place his/her name on the ballot in the next election. He acknowledged that each candidate that was nominated for the vacant Supervisor position would have the opportunity to speak. He asked each candidate to render a brief outline about his or her accomplishments and desired goals if appointed Supervisor. He invited anyone in the audience to ask questions or make comments pertaining to the nominations. Should someone other than the candidates wish to be considered for the vacant Supervisor position, he/she will be afforded the same the opportunity to speak.

A coin toss was conducted to afford each candidate a fair chance of speaking first. Gloria Kemmerer won the coin toss.

Gloria Kemmerer introduced herself and proceed to familiarize every one with her life accomplishments through her education, employment, and community service. She explained that through numerous years of service and involvement with the local government she is qualified to make conscientious decisions for the welfare of the Township.

Larry Kunkel introduced himself and proceed to familiarize every one with his life accomplishments through employment, military experience, and community service. He explained that his years of experience serving on the Maidencreek Authority Board would enable him to guide the Township in the right direction.

## PUBLIC COMMENT AND/OR QUESTIONS

**Linda Tatanus, 1319 Pleasant Hill Road, Fleetwood, PA** thanked the Board for the opportunity to meet the candidates that were nominated for the Supervisor position and then expressed her support for Gloria Kemmerer.

Cindy Stump, 140 Evansville Road, Fleetwood, PA expressed her support for Larry Kunkel.

Alice Beissel, 8017 Allentown Pike, Reading, PA expressed her support for Larry Kunkel and asked Gloria Kemmerer what she thought of urban sprawl.

Gloria Kemmerer commented that as a member of the Planning Commission, she has based her decisions pertaining to subdivisions and land development plans on regulations set forth by ordinances and resolutions. She believes that a property owner has the right to do as they please with their land provided it is within the law.

**Robert Beissel, 8017 Allentown Pike, Reading, PA** expressed his support for Larry Kunkel because of his work ethics while employed at Dana Corporation and his ability to control emergency situations.

Joseph Rudderow, Vacancy Board Chairman asked both candidates improvements they would like to see in our Township in the next two years.

Gloria Kemmerer stated she would like to see progress in:

- 1. Attracting Commercial entities to help the tax base.
- 2. Improvements for the 222 Corridor highway improvements or an alternative must be found.
- 3. Examine water and sewer rates and become involved with the DEP mandated sewage plant up-grade.
- 4. The future of the Northern Berks Regional Police Department.

Larry Kunkel stated he would like to see progress in:

- 1. Curtailing future residential building.
- 2. Attracting big business that would be a greater impact to the tax base, rather than allowing construction of additional strip malls.
- 3. Diverting truck traffic away from the 222 Corridor.
- 4. The Northern Berks Regional Police budget.
- 5. Discourage any thoughts pertaining to a community pool.
- 6. Remember our farming community and preserving their land.

Robert Kopfer agreed that strip malls are not a good concept to build our tax base - we need industry.

Alice Beissel, 8017 Allentown Pike, Reading, PA commented that continued residential growth could have a negative impact on our water supply.

**Kerry Cavallomagno, 217 Faith Drive, Blandon, PA** is concerned that the traffic generated from the Meadowbrook Development will travel through Maidencreek Estates to utilize the traffic light to access Route 222. He asked Gloria Kemmerer if the Planning Commission had given any thought on how the traffic generated from the Meadowbrook Development will impact the surrounding developments.

Gloria Kemmerer stated the Planning Commission is waiting for the completion of a traffic study and will continue to thoroughly review the Meadowbrook Development plans. The Planning Commission members will review all aspects of the Meadowbrook Development plan the same as they have done for all developments in Maidencreek Township.

Robert Kopfer stated the Planning Commission should have reviewed the Meadowbrook Development options before recommending a zoning change.

Joseph Rudderow encouraged everyone to contact the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and State Representatives to prioritize improvements for the Route 222 Corridor in Maidencreek Township. Maidencreek Township and other municipalities along the Route 222 Corridor are plagued with excessive traffic congestion.

Roy Timpe thanked everyone for their comments and questions, and then stressed to the Board the necessity to proceed with the nomination and appointment of a third Supervisor.

Roy Timpe made a motion to appoint Gloria Kemmerer to fill the Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors vacancy as a result of Terry Rarick's resignation. Joseph Rudderow seconded the motion to appoint Gloria Kemmerer to fill the Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors vacancy. The Secretary was instructed to poll the Board: Mr. Kopfer, "No." Mr. Rudderow, "Yes." Mr. Timpe, "Yes."

Patrick Harkin, 311 Sycamore Lane, Blandon, PA asked the Board why Joseph Rudderow was allowed to second Roy Timpe's motion.

Roy Timpe responded that during the 2002 Reorganization Meeting, Joseph Rudderow was appointed Vacancy Board Chairman. The Vacancy Board Chairman along with the two remaining Supervisors are required to conduct a meeting to appoint a third Supervisor. This meeting is being conducted because the Board of Supervisors failed to agree on the appointment of the third Supervisor.

Joseph Rudderow stated he agreed with the residents who expressed their displeasure about increasing taxes. He encouraged everyone to examine their tax bills they receive in March and July each year. He is confident that the residents will realize that 25% of their total tax payment is designated for the County and Township operations and the other 75% of their total tax bill is designated for operating the Fleetwood School District. The Township does not control the school district expenditures. He suggested contacting the Fleetwood School Administration or attending their Board Meetings to express your displeasure with increasing taxes.

Alice Bissel, 8017 Allentown Pike, Reading, PA contends that more homes produce more children causing more expense for the operations of the school district.

Pat Harkin, 311 Sycamore Lane, Blandon, PA recommended that the Planning Commission consider curtailing development to control growth in the school district.

**Cindy Stump, 140 Evansville Road, Fleetwood, PA** commented that the Planning Commission is not following the Comprehensive Plan when they recommend approval of development plans.

Robert Kopfer stated he is concerned about the current water table situation and if building is not stopped, this area could be in serious trouble to supply water for its residents.

Roy Timpe commented that he would have taken into consideration new arguments against the rezoning of the Schaeffer property if those arguments would have been presented when the second hearing was conducted.

A lengthy public discussion ensued on numerous subjects that included; taxes, installation of sidewalks, the Meadowbrook Development – Schaeffer Farm rezoning, traffic concerns in the developments, and traffic congestion on Route 222.

Cindy Stump posed the following questions:

- 1. Would Joseph Rudderow and/or Roy Timpe feel the same way about the increasing school taxes if their children attended the Fleetwood Schools?
- 2. Would the Board of Supervisors consider increasing to a five-member board?
- 3. Would the Board consider including addresses for our State Representatives and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation in the next township newsletter for residents to conduct a writing campaign to stress the need for improvements to the Route 222 Corridor in Maidencreek Township?

Both Roy Timpe and Joseph Rudderow agreed they would have the same feelings on school taxes if their children attended the Fleetwood Schools.

Cindy Stump was advised that a five-member Board is possible in a Township the size of Maidencreek, however the Board does not make the decision. It would be necessary to place a referendum on the voting ballot for the residents to make the decision for a five-member board.

Roy Timpe made a motion, seconded by Robert Kopfer, to adjourn the Vacancy Meeting at 9:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth M. Manmiller Recording Secretary

CC: Board of Supervisors

Terry Manmiller, Operations Director

Richard Orwig, Solicitor

Thomas Unger-Systems Design Engineering, Inc., Township Engineer

Ed Kopicki-Systems Design Engineering, Inc., Township Planning Commission Engineer

Park and Recreation Board

Zoning Hearing Board and Alternates

Paul Herbein, Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor

Maidencreek Township Authority

Robert Hobaugh, Esq., Maidencreek Township Authority Solicitor

Barbara Hassler, Tax Collector

Daniel Miller, Fire Chief

Northern Berks Regional Police