

Minutes – October 3, 2012
Ad Hoc Home Rule Study Committee

The Ad Hoc Home Rule Study Committee held a meeting in Conference Room C of the Municipal Building beginning at 7:00 p.m. Members present included: Bill Matthews, Geoff Hurd, Kevin Kearns, Mary Larsen, Nancy Carroll, and Chris Cahillane. Bradley Kitlowski also participated via telephone. Municipal Manager Steve Feller also attended the meeting.

Mr. Matthews asked for citizen comments. Bill Lewis of 816 Ridgeview Drive was present.

Mr. Cahillane moved, and Ms. Larsen seconded to approve the minutes from the September 19, 2012 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

The Committee began by reviewing open items that were previously reviewed. Mr. Matthews led a lengthy discussion about the language in the Charter related to appropriation of funds, amendments to the budget, and disbursement of funds.

There was also a lengthy discussion on Section 914 concerning the 2 mill limitation, a requirement to abide by the limits for first class townships, and the requirement to reduce property taxes during a year that the earned income tax is increased.

The Committee then began a “section by section” review of the remaining provisions in the Charter. They reviewed Article X through Article XV. The Committee has now gone through the entire Charter from beginning to end.

The group expressed a desire to have an “expert” on Pennsylvania Home Rule Charters participate in the next meeting to review state-wide trends related to taxing limitations such as those found in Section 914 of Mt. Lebanon’s Charter. Mr. Feller will work to find either someone from DCED or a university who has such expertise. The group also asked to be provided with a copy of the Ad Hoc Revenue Committee Report from 2002.

The upcoming meetings of the Committee are scheduled for:

- Wednesday, October 24 beginning at 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, December 5 beginning at 7 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.