**ARE YOUR SUPERVISORS LOOKING OUT FOR YOU, THEIR CONSTITUENTS?**

* At the March 9, 2015 Supervisors’ meeting, Supervisor Danner moved to reimburse the tax collector, Lori Foltz, for her 6 continuing education credits, the cost of which was $240.00. The motion was approved by Supervisors Socks, Danner and Cockley. Supervisor Foltz abstained as he is related to the tax collector and Supervisor Black was not present at the meeting.
* During the meeting, the Supervisors did not discuss the pros and cons of such action.
* The facts are:

1. The tax collector is an elected official, not a volunteer or employee of the township.
2. The tax collector’s compensation is fixed by the Township board of supervisors, to not exceed 10 per cent of the amount collected, and the tax collector’s compensation for school district taxes is fixed by the board of school directors.
3. In addition, Berwick Township is required to reimburse the tax collector for actual printing and postage expenses as incurred in performing tax collection duties.

Also at the March 9, 2015 meeting, a Berwick Township resident commented on Lori Foltz’s reimbursement request for continuing education expenses, and the Supervisors’ approval, stating the expense does not directly benefit the entire community. Supervisor Foltz stated the Township previously reimbursed expenditures for Loretta Nace (the former Berwick Township Tax Collector).

***As a Note: On April 23, 2015, subsequent to Mr. Foltz’s statement, a Right to Know (RTK) request was submitted to the Township, requesting copies of payments made to Loretta Nace, the former tax collector, exclusive of required reimbursements for collecting taxes from the year 2002 forward. On April 29, 2015, the RTK Officer (Supervisor Socks) advised that there were no records indicating such payments were ever made. That leaves the question, “to what was Supervisor Foltz referring?”***

In April 2015, Citizens for Change made public the Supervisors’ actions in approving Ms. Foltz’s continuing education expenses in a mailing sent to the residents of Berwick Township.

At the May 11, 2015 Supervisors’ meeting, Supervisor Danner made a motion to send a letter to Adams County and the Conewago Valley School District asking if they would consider contributing to the tax collector’s continuing education expenses. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Cockley, which motion carried.

Also at the May 11, 2015 meeting, a letter from the tax collector, Lori Foltz, was read by Supervisor Danner. In part, the letter stated, *“this is not something I am doing to better myself and I am aware this is not something that will better the community directly.”* Ms. Foltz’s complete letter is available on this Website.

At the June 8, 2015 Supervisors’ meeting, the Supervisors announced that the Conewago Valley School District agreed to pay $125.00 towards Ms. Foltz’s continuing education fees. The Supervisors have not reported as to whether they received a reply from Adams County.

Do you Agree or Disagree that:

1. Berwick Township should supplement an elected official’s current salary and payments for existing tax collection expenses, by paying non-mandated fees, such as education expenses?
2. Without the intervention of Berwick Township residents, the Berwick Township residents would be paying for all of Ms. Foltz’s continuing education expenses?

***So, as a Berwick Township resident, who is looking out for you?***