

Board of Supervisors

MINUTES

August 22, 2023

IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL MEETING

Supervisors Present: Anthony Matzura, Pete Kade, James Nilsen, Bill Ryker and Jim Hopkins.

Also present: Rich Pursell (Township Manager/Public Works Director), Lisa Gerhart (Secretary), Scott MacNair, Esq. (Township Solicitor) & Michael McDonald (Chief of Police).

Mr. Matzura called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no comment on non-agenda items.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Matzura stated the financial report and balances are posted.

Fund Balances as of July 31, 2023

General Fund	\$ 1,040,275	COVID Relief Fund	\$445,175
- CD General Fund	- \$237,000		
Open Space Fund	\$ 453,367	Liquid Fuels Fund	\$406,134
- CD Open Space	-\$125,000	- CD Liquid Fuels	- \$125,000
Escrow Fund	\$ 490,755	Street Light Fund	\$6,645
Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 328,239	Act 537 Escrow Fund	\$86,568
- CD Capital Reserve	-\$237,000		
Dedicated EMS	\$20,339	Dedicated Fire	\$202,019

PAYMENT OF BILLS

(July 16, 2023 – August 15, 2023)

General Fund	\$166,251.21	Open Space Fund	\$0
Capital Reserve Fund	\$0	Liquid Fuels Fund	\$0
Escrows	\$3,925.01	Street Light Fund	\$679.69
PLGIT Credit Card	\$998.93	Dedicated EMS Fund	\$10,000
Dedicated Fire Fund	\$0		

Motion by Mr. Ryker, seconded by Mr. Kade, and unanimously agreed to accept financial report as presented. Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Nilsen and unanimously approving the payment of bills from July 16 – August 15, 2023.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Ryker and unanimously carried approving the July 25, 2023, minutes once Secretary Gerhart fixes a wording.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Park Hay Lease – The Township signed a lease with Anthony Renner in 2020 to cut Peppermint Park field. Mr. Renner never did so. On July 26, 2023, Manager Pursell spoke to Mr. Renner requesting a letter from him stating that he would be terminating the lease. He was going to drop off a letter on July 27, 2023. No letter has been received by Springfield Township. Nevada Mease, Slifer Valley Road, stated he would donate his time this year to cut it down. The project will go out to bid for next year. The Board thanked Mr. Mease for his donation of time.

Revised Tax Assessment Appeal – Solicitor MacNair advised the property at 1429 Jakes Place had a revised tax settlement agreement. Motion by Mr. Kade, seconded by Mr. Hopkins and unanimously approved the revised tax assessment appeal settlement agreement that the School District negotiated with the property owner of 1429 Jakes Place and further authorize the refund of \$39.18 in addition to the payment already made in the amount of \$182.84 for the overpayment to the Township.

2023-2024 Salt Bid Acceptance - The salt bid was advertised by the Bucks County Consortium. The lowest bidder was Silvi Concrete Products (DBA Riverside Construction) at \$66.00/ton. Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Ryker to adopt **Resolution 2023-14**, accepting the 2023-2024 Rock Salt Bid through the Bucks County Consortium, awarding Silvi Concrete Products (DBA Riverside Construction) for the 2023-2024 season, and further authorize the Township Manager to sign all paperwork necessary to complete the agreement.

Hiring Of New Public Works Equipment Operator / Laborer / Driver - Agenda item tabled. Manager Pursell offered the job to two applicants who turned it down due to the pay rate being too low. The Township will continue to search to fill the position.

Public Works Overhead Door Raising – Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Kade, unanimously approved to accept the raising of the public works overhead door in the amount of \$20,855.00 from the ARPA account to Coopersburg Construction Corporation.

Municipal Building - HVAC Systems – The Township has finally received the proposals for the HVAC Systems from H.T. Lyons to replace the 3 current units. Ms. Lorna Yearwood, Woodbyne Road, questioned if heat pumps were looked at as an option. Mr. Matzura advised many options were looked at and different combinations of heat as well. Mr. Hopkins pointed out wording in the contract that he had contention with and asked Solicitor MacNair to look at them. Manager Pursell will address it with Solicitor MacNair. Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Matzura to accept the proposal from H.T. Lyons in the amount of \$66,210.00 out of the ARPA fund, replacing the oil furnaces for the Administration, Police Department and Road Department (with the revisions to the contract.)

REPORTS / COMMENTS

Zoning – A report was received and is on file.

Police – A report was received and is on file. Chief McDonald mentioned Gasket Goons event is coming up. Supervisors asked the Chief about speed related incidents in the Township recently. They would like to make it an agenda item at a future meeting to discuss options to address the speed issues.

Public Works – A report was received and is on file. Manager Pursell stated he received \$84,355 in FEMA money for mitigation for Bridge Street and Haptops Bridge and money to fix Bridge Street and Pleasant View Road.

Solicitor – A report was received and is on file. ECA Solar ZHB hearing on August 16, 2023 was denied due to lack of unnecessary hardship. The Conditional Use Hearing for Haycock Ministries is September 12, 2023.

Engineer – A report was received and is on file.

Planning Commission – No report was given. Mr. Dave Long, Commission Member, asked if the Board is open to entertaining a Business Privilege Tax for the Township. The Board was not in favor of discussing it and felt it would deter business; it also costs a lot to implement administratively. The Board thanked the PC for ideas and asked them to keep them coming.

Parks & Land Preservation Board – No report was given.

EAC – No report was given. Ms. Lorna Yearwood, Chair, advised Birdtown Signs are up. She said the elementary school and the EAC will be working on an anti-litter campaign. The E-Waste Recycling event will be October 14, 2023.

CORRESPONDENCE

None given.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Pat McGinness, Bodder Road, gave comment on the Police Department upcoming officer replacement when Officer Jacoby retires. Mr. Hopkins advised there have been many executive sessions about this topic and things are still being discussed. The board said that they would ideally like to sustain the services that are in place.

Mr. David Bretz, Peppermint Road, commented about the speeding and that something needs to be done. He is happy to hear it will be a future agenda item.

Mr. Mike Clime, High Meadow Road, stated speeding is out of control everywhere and not only in our township.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Ryker mentioned looking out for motorcycles and that our Township seems to do a nice job of respecting motorcycle riders. Mr. Kade stated he now has an E-bike and people have been respectfully sharing the road. Mr. Nilsen discussed the recent storms and the damage. He thanked everyone for their hard work cleaning up. Mr. Hopkins stated our Township has lots of caring people here. He said he appreciated the feedback and interaction of the residents with their concerns. Mr. Matzura thanked all the responders for their hard work with the storms and getting utilities back.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Matzura noted there will be an executive session held after this meeting to discuss personnel and real estate. There was also one before the meeting.

Motion by Mr. Ryker, seconded by Mr. Kade, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Gerhart
Secretary

