



The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Rodi at 515 Millers Run Road, Morgan, PA 15064

PRESENT: DERNOSEK, HOROWITZ, SRAY, RODI, MALOSH

ALSO PRESENT: Township Solicitor: Robert Garvin; Township Manager: John M. Barrett; Township Executive Assistant: Peggy Patterson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX AND POLICE STATION – DISCUSSION OF CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE AND TIMELINE

Scott Wardle, senior project manager, gave an update on the construction of the municipal complex and police station.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ben Hornfeck, Library Director, gave an overview of what the library is doing to raise money for the community center project and said that the library raised \$3,501 at the Primanti Bros. event. He also gave the attendance figures from their programs.

Kevin Sisco, resident of Mohawk Road, asked for an update on the construction and closure of Mohawk Road.

Commissioner Rodi said she talked to PennDOT and was told that they would be bringing in a temporary bridge to reopen Millers Run Road in the week of January 23.

James McGraw, former resident and half owner of 623 Walnut Street in Sturgeon, spoke about an issue he has been having for years regarding a driveway one of his neighbors is blocking with a trailer or a pickup truck.

There was further discussion regarding this, with the commissioners telling him that the township would look into the issue.

CORRESPONDENCE

A. OAK RIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Barrett – We have monthly reports from Oak Ridge Volunteer Fire Department, and we received a report from SouthBridge EMS that didn't make it on the agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by DERNOSEK and seconded by HOROWITZ to approve the minutes from the December 15, 2022, regular meeting. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

B. PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by SRAY to pay the December 2022 bills. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

C. FINANCIAL REPORTS

D. BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES

Mr. Barrett – Bank balances are provided for transparency. We don't have the financial reports at this time, but we will get them to the board.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS – COMPLETE DEPARTMENT REPORTS ARE INCLUDED AS ATTACHMENTS ON THE AGENDA

A. BUILDING PERMITS REPORT

Mr. Barrett – Reports for all of 2022 are included. There were some commercial permits, but also many residential permits. The number of permits issued in 2022 was higher than most years but not as high as 2021, which apparently was an anomaly.

B. COMMUNICATIONS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Mr. Barrett – Andrea Iglar is absent due to illness. I know the magazine is what she is focused on right now and she hopes to have it to the printer by the end of January. There is a list of topics that will be included in the magazine in her report.

C. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Jason Paulovich, Division Manager, Gibson-Thomas Engineering - On tonight's agenda we have the 2023 paving contract, with a detailed bid schedule. We have been working on road selection and the budget for that.

Our site development has been working with the architects for the community center and the time schedule of that building.

The realignment of Mohawk Road has been moving along and we have a number of planning-related projects in different phases.

D. PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT

Paula Willis, Parks & Recreation Director, gave an update on multiple Parks & Recreation topics, including the splash pad and ball fields. Ms. Willis also said she submitted the PA Fish and Boat grant and the PA Small Water grant for stormwater at Boys Home Park.

Ms. Willis – We are going to get temporary storage units delivered to Morgan Park for the baseball association to use for their concession stand. We are also getting portable restroom trailers so they will have water this spring.

POLICE REPORT

Chief John Phoennik – I have both a monthly report and year-end report. Officer Schultz became our second investigator this year. With the new hires this year, we are up to 23 officers.

Our officers increased answering calls by 6.3% from 2021 and we implemented our traffic unit in August with Officer Blocher. Officer Gray joined him in October, so we have two full-time officers dedicated to traffic. We increased our traffic stops by 249%

F. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Vitali Alexandrov, Public Works Director, presented the monthly report for Public Works.

Commissioner Rodi asked Mr. Alexandrov if he could schedule some time for the Public Works employees to clean up the litter on the side of the roads and was told by Mr. Alexandrov that he is planning to make that happen.

Commissioner Malosh asked if the township has an active employee safety program. Mr. Barrett explained that we have a certified safety committee. He also said that the Police Department and Public Works have monthly safety training.

Ms. Willis – The safety committee meets monthly and then goes through a yearly certification process provided through our insurance company.

G. REQUEST TRACKER REPORT

Mr. Barrett – Trash and recycling seem to be the most often reported items. Most of the reported items are closed out.

Commissioner Rodi asked about the reported street lights out and was told that some of the reported light outages go through the website and some are reported by phone calls.

H. ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT

Pat Catena, Township Assistant Manager – I was in a meeting downtown discussing assessments. The Common Pleas Court will be heavily involved since it is being taken out of the county's hands. Mr. Catena explained that people will be able to go back two years to appeal their assessments. The county will need to go back and fix every piece of property for the last five years for the correct common ratio. It is being argued by the Pittsburgh City Schools that the county does not have the authority to do that. That leaves South Fayette Township and the school district with a decent amount of refunds. Mr. Catena said the township budgeted a decent amount of money to cover these.

Mr. Catena proceeded to give his monthly report.

Commissioner Malosh asked if we learned any more about the ARPA money and what it can be used for.

Mr. Catena – They haven't changed any guidelines; they disbanded the auditing department and there is only simplistic reporting at this time. Everyone is just saying they are using it due to revenue loss and then they can use it for anything.

I. MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Barrett – I think it would be a good idea to get the commissioners on a site visit to the new municipal building once it is under roof.

We are looking at interviewing for the new Parks & Facilities Division in February and having that newly formed division staffed by March 1.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS - NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Garvin – Two items have come up in the last 24 hours, and the agenda needs to be amended. We have to make a motion to act on the agenda, then we can act on each one of the items. The first involves a second bond reduction from Lafayette Meadow in the amount of \$142,868, leaving a balance of \$127,380. The second involves approval of a professional service agreement with Strategic Solutions LLC for strategic planning services not to exceed \$9,000.

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by DERNOSEK to amend the agenda for these two items. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

A. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE SECOND BOND REDUCTION FOR LAFAYETTE MEADOW IN THE AMOUNT OF \$142,868, LEAVING A BALANCE OF \$127,380

Mr. Barrett – An inspection was done, we verified the amounts, and we recommend approval.

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by MALOSH to approve the second bond reduction for Lafayette Meadow in the amount of \$142,868, leaving a balance of \$127,380. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

B. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH STRATEGIC SOLUTIONS LLC FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING SERVICES NOT TO EXCEED \$9,000

It was moved by DERNOSEK and seconded by HOROWITZ to approve a professional services agreement with Strategic Solutions LLC for strategic planning services not to exceed \$9,000. DERNOSEK, HOROWITZ, SRAY AND RODI voted AYE to the motion. MALOSH voted NO because she didn't agree with the date, location and venue. Motion passes.

C. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ADVERTISING THE 2023 PAVING PROGRAM

Mr. Barrett – We have a tentative list of roads for paving, a \$1.5 million budget, and for an add alternate, the interior roads in Fairview Park. We used the Roadbotics program in addition to physically looking at the roads. We also tightened up the contract, with a penalty clause for timing and distance of time between milling and paving activities.

There was further discussion regarding the mandatory pre-bid meeting and the fact that the paving will need to be done within 120 days.

It was moved by DERNOSEK and seconded by HOROWITZ to approve advertising the 2023 paving program. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

D. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR THE SIGNALIZATION AT THE BOYCE ROAD/WASHINGTON PIKE INTERSECTION

It was moved by MALOSH and seconded by HOROWITZ to advertise for bids for the signalization at the Boyce Road/ Washington Pike intersection. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

E. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A MOTION TO ACCEPT A PROPOSAL FROM KOLANO DESIGN INC. FOR COMMUNITY CENTER BRANDING

Mr. Barrett – This is related to the community center and will include branding specifications, color schemes and a logo. This will help us market the building for memberships, passes, rentals and program reservations.

It was moved by DERNOSEK and seconded by HOROWITZ to approve a motion to accept a proposal from Kolano Design Inc. for Community Center branding.

ROLL CALL:

DERNOSEK, HOROWITZ, SRAY, RODI – AYE
MALOSH – NO

MOTION PASSES

F. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE LERTA APPLICATION FOR 195 MILLERS RUN ROAD (PRIMANTI BROS.) (256-R-3)

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by MALOSH to approve the LERTA application for 195 Millers Run Road (Primanti Bros.) (256-R-3). All members present voted AYE to the motion.

G. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE LERTA APPLICATION FOR 201 MILLERS RUN ROAD (FIREBIRDS WOOD FIRED GRILL) (256-R-3)

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by MALOSH to approve the LERTA application for 201 Millers Run Road (Firebirds Wood Fired Grill) (256-R-3). All members present voted AYE to the motion.

H. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A TAX REFUND REQUEST FOR \$23.73 FOR 2015 PITCOTE LANE

It was moved by DERNOSEK and seconded by HOROWITZ to approve a tax refund for \$23.73 for 2015 Pitcote Lane. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

I. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A TAX REFUND REQUEST FOR \$60.50 FOR 2121 WESTCOTT LANE

It was moved by MALOSH and seconded by DERNOSEK to approve a tax refund request for \$60.50 for 2121 Westcott Lane. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

J. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPOINTING MEMBERS TO VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by MALOSH to appoint Mark Sipos to a three-year term on the the Board of Standards. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

It was moved by DERNOSEK and seconded by MALOSH to appoint Jake Polverini to a six-year term on the Civil Service Commission. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

It was moved by SRAY and seconded by MALOSH to appoint Bob Zedreck to a five-year term on the Municipal Authority Board. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

It was moved by MALOSH and seconded by DERNOSEK to appoint Barb Senatore, Mary Chambon and Timothy Mantick to five-year terms on the Parks & Recreation Board. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

It was moved by MALOSH and seconded by HOROWITZ to appoint Doug Kaine, Thomas Iagnemma and Joe Johnson to four-year terms on the Planning Commission. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by MALOSH to appoint Joseph Gagliardino and Deron Gabriel to three-year terms on the Zoning Hearing Board. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

Commissioner Rodi – Everybody who was currently serving was interested in continuing to serve, so we reappointed everyone.

PUBLIC COMMENT

BOARD DISCUSSION

Commissioner Horowitz – I think it was a good sign that everybody wanted to continue on those boards, and we appreciate their volunteer efforts.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Mr. Garvin – The Traditions of America project is coming before the Planning Commission at the end of this month for conditional use approval. They will be on the February BOC agenda. Jason Paulovich, township staff and myself have spent a lot of time regarding how this will proceed.

I worked on litigation matters regarding So Fay appeals and the Piazza LERTAs that are on the agenda.

Commissioner Rodi – We had an executive session prior to the meeting to discuss a legal matter, and we will have an executive session after the meeting to discuss a personnel issue.

ADJOURNMENT & EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by DERNOSEK to adjourn to executive session, not to return. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

John M. Barrett, Township Manager

Gwen A. Rodi, President

Date

Date