

Board of Supervisors

MINUTES

June 13, 2023

BOS WORK SESSION: IN-PERSON - VIRTUAL OPTION AVAILABLE

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

Also present: Scott MacNair, Esq. (Township Solicitor), Tim Fulmer (Township Engineer) and Rich Pursell (Township Manager/Public Works Director).

Mr. Matzura, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Matzura announced an executive session was held before the meeting to discuss potential litigation and that they will continue to meet after the meeting in executive session.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Nicole Zane, 3001 Moyer Rd, commented on her application for a driveway and the requirement of 20 feet of paving in the Township Ordinance. Solicitor MacNair discussed the legal options for Ms. Zane.

Ms. Kathleen Warchol, 3202 Rt 212, asked about the speed board sign in Springtown.

Mr. Michael Clime, 2212 High Meadow Rd, complained about Pieri Farm's 8 ft high deer fence on the property and their approved pole building.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Zoning Hearing Board Application Discussion (ECA Solar) – Discussion previously tabled at the May 23, 2023 meeting. Zoning Hearing for this application is scheduled for June 21, 2023. Motion by Mr. Ryker, seconded by Mr. Nilsen, and unanimously approved to send Solicitor MacNair to attend the Zoning Hearing Board hearing regarding ECA Solar. Solicitor MacNair discussed he has a conflict with the ZHB date and will request a continuance.

Jeff Mease, 2462 Rt 412, stated he is located across the road from the proposed solar farm. He stated he and his wife are opposed as High Point Road is a scenic overlay and wanted that to be noted on the record. Mrs. Mease questioned if ECA Solar even knows that the community is against this application.

Ms. Zane, 3001 Moyer Road, commented about not discouraging business from the Township but from the Agricultural district to be used for solar.

Mr. Pete Jones, Salem Rd, questioned if the Board gets this decision back in front of them after Zoning Hearing Board.

Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Ryker had no position regarding the application and to allow ZHB to make a decision on the matter. Mr. Nilsen, Mr. Kade and Mr. Matzura were not in support of the ZHB application.

RFP Soils/Sewage System Design Consultant Update – Mr. Fulmer, Township Engineer, discussed the proposals received regarding the septic system for the Township Building. Mr. Fulmer

recommended consolidating the two parcels the Township owns into one. Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Nilsen, and unanimously approved to authorize Bux-Mont for the design of the replacement septic system for the Township.

Finalizing and Authorizing Advertisement of Draft Ordinance 204 – Motion by Mr. Nilsen, Seconded by Mr. Kade, to advertise **Ordinance 204** prohibiting commercial truck traffic on the portions of Drifting Drive and Springtown Hill Road in Springfield Township and prescribing penalties for the violation of this ordinance. Motion approved with a 4-1 vote, with Mr. Matzura voting against the motion.

Tax Collector Resolution 2023-12 – Ms. Yerger, Township Tax Collector, brought to Manager Pursell's attention that a new resolution was not established last year when the Tax Collectors compensation rate was increased to \$7.00/parcel for the collection of Fire/EMS Taxes, during the budget. This Resolution will be retroactive to January of 2023. Motion made by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Matzura and unanimously carried to adopt **Resolution 2023-12** specifying the fees to be charged, expenses reimbursed by the Township, depository of real estate taxes, reporting of real estate tax collection, and the compensation rate and requirements of the tax collector.

Rise Up Towers – Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, and unanimously approved to accept the lease agreement between Springfield Township and Rise Up Towers regarding cell phone tower on Township property.

Zoning Hearing Board Application Discussion (Rise Up Towers) - Zoning Hearing Application which will be heard by the Zoning Hearing Board on July 19, 2023 regarding Rise Up Towers a Special Exception request to construct a 180-foot commercial communications tower and related facilities on an approximately 2,500 square foot portion of the property located at 2330 Township Road. Business item on agenda for informational purposes, no action needed from the Board. Mr. Nilsen stated Verizon and T-Mobile service is poor in the township and this will help the residents. Mr. Ryker suggested residents come to budget meetings and see township need for additional revenue and \$40,000 can go a long way.

Frank Hollenbach, 600 Rocky Valley Road, stated the Board years ago (2001) tried to do the same thing with a cell tower on the property and discussed about towers on electric poles, arrays and maps of service.

Pathfinder – This topic was talked about at the last meeting, but payment due dates have changed. Supervisor Matzura asked to have this placed on the agenda to confirm the dates of the payments along with the amounts. The following is the breakdown: \$6,177 due in 2023 (down payment), \$15,000 due in January of 2024, \$10,000 due in January of 2025, \$7,592 maintenance fee due yearly, starting in 2025.

Peppermint Road Stop Sign - During the road tour, last Fall, with the Supervisors, it was mentioned that the stop sign at Peppermint Rd / Parkland Rd is not legal. Recently Mr. Nilsen brought this up for further discussion. Motion made by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Matzura

and unanimously carried that an ordinance will be developed to make the stop sign legal and enforceable.

Allison Road Discussion - A resident of Allison Road has complained to the Police Department and Manager Pursell about people parking along the roadway and how they are not allowed to. Manager Pursell had several email correspondences with Solicitor MacNair and Engineer Fulmer related to this issue. In the end an Ordinance should have been established for this sub-division as stated in SALDO.

Municipal Building – HVAC Improvements Update – Manager Pursell met with the project sales manager who has been assigned to our project. They will be getting an updated quote regarding a fresh air system and adding the police bay with ductwork so it can be heated from the public works garage. They will have all the updated numbers for our July 25th meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Clime, High Meadow Road, asked about the stop sign again at Peppermint Road.

Mr. Hollenbach, Rocky Valley Road, asked for clarification about Mr. Hopkins comments about space on Allison Road being dedicated to parks.

OTHER BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Ryker, reminded everyone about Shelly Fire Co. Cheesesteak grab and go this Friday.

Mr. Matuzra reminded everyone about Silvercreek's yearly car show, Sunday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Mr. Hopkins mentioned a letter from Heritage Conservancy asking for support, put on next agenda and the letter be passed to Park and Land Preservation Board and EAC.

ADJOURNMENT

An executive session will be held after the public meeting to discuss personnel matters.

Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Nilsen, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 10:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Gerhart
Secretary

