

Board of Supervisors

MINUTES

April 27, 2021

VIRTUAL MEETING

Supervisors Present: Jim Nilsen, Tony Matzura, Raymond Kade, Jim Hopkins and Bill Ryker.

Also present: Jason Wager (Township Manager), Debra Godshall (Treasurer) and Scott MacNair, Esq. (Township Solicitor).

Mr. Nilsen called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Ryker, seconded by Mr. Matzura and unanimously carried approving the March 23, 2021 minutes as presented.

Bills

(March 19, 2021 – April 22, 2021)

General Fund	\$7,015.62	Open Space Fund	\$252,565.50
Capital Reserve Fund	\$488.27	Liquid Fuels Fund	\$5,593.11
Escrows	\$21,424.45	Street Light Fund	\$474.29

Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Matzura and unanimously carried approving payment of bills from March 19, 2021 through April 22, 2021.

Reports

Road Department – The Board reviewed the Road Department report as presented.

Road hours March 18, 2021 – April 21, 2021

Road Maintenance	434 hours	Equipment Maintenance	87 hours
Building Maintenance	74 hours	Sign Maintenance	4 hours
Roadside Mowing	0 hours	Park Maintenance	15 hours
Admin	39 Hours	Winter Maintenance	18 hours

Police Department – Chief McDonald was not present. The Board accepted the report as presented.

Treasurer – The Board reviewed the treasurer’s report and financials as presented.

Fund Balances as of March 31, 2021

General Fund	\$934,740	Liquid Fuels	\$661,315.60
Open Space	\$866,047	Street Light	\$2,570.37
Escrow	\$530,781	Special Fees	\$391
Capital Reserve	\$395,498	Sewer Maint Escrow	\$85,375

Manager/Zoning – Mr. Wager stated that 152 total permits have been issued for March 19 - 23 with sewer pumping and 10 U&O inspections. The Township continues to be inundated with different calls on zoning and building and code enforcement is a never ending battle. Kathryn Corona, the new Admin Assistant/Permit Coordinator is picking up things quickly and should be helpful with code enforcement. Mr. Wager also noted the Township is getting calls about parcels that have been sitting years with no activity because of the current housing inventory situation.

Mr. Wager noted there was a pension meeting on April 21, 2021 and overall the plans are up 33.48%. There were no changes needed in the plan. The re-opening of America and the government infusion of cash has helped the market. Mr. Wager noted the next meeting is scheduled for July 14. The plan valuations should be available soon.

Mr. Wager stated there will be a bridge closure on Richlandtown Pike near Quarry Road tentatively scheduled for May 17 with an exact closure date to the Township two weeks beforehand.

Mr. Wager gave an update on the Covid rescue plan. The Township is slated to receive \$497,603.00 with 50% due in June of 2021 and 50% due in June 2022. Currently, those funds can only be used for the response to the Covid-19. These restricted funds must be used by 12/31/2024

Mr. Wager noted a land development plan has been submitted for the 793 Mine Road property (Scheetz)

Mr. Wager noted a \$3000.00 quote from Systems Net would upgrade the office computers from Office 2010 to Office 365. The platform would improve efficiency with file sharing and email. The Township currently utilizes AppRiver, a third party email provider and an \$1800.00 annual cost.

Solicitor's report – Mr. MacNair updated the Board on the injunction action on the driveway relocation at 793 Mine Road. A land development plan has been submitted, Mr. MacNair noted should go before the Supervisors possibly by the June meeting.

Engineer report – The Board reviewed the Township Engineer report as presented.

Fire Company report – The Board reviewed the Fire Chief report as presented.

ABC's Reports/Updates

Park & Land Preservation Board – Frank Hollenbach, PLPB Chair, stated that Kevin Boyd and Dan Meyers installed a park bench on the woodlot trail in Peppermint Park.

EAC - Lorna Yearwood, EAC Chair, stated that the purple air monitors have been installed at Scott Motorsports. Ms. Yearwood noted residents have expressed concern regarding the hay lease at Peppermint Park. The EAC is coordinating with the Planning Commission on the renewable energy ordinance. Ms. Yearwood also noted residents have expressed concern over the amount of trees being removed in the Township. The EAC is in the process of contacting vendors for the e-waste recycling.

Public Comment

Mr. Nilsen noted a Pleasant View Road resident had stopped into the township building and expressed concern over the increased volume and speed of traffic on Pleasant View Road. It was suggested mentioning the speeding issue to the Chief.

Arianne Elinich, resident of 2755 SR 412, inquired if the Township would keep recordings of the meetings. It was explained that recordings are deleted after the minutes are approved.

Business

Bid awards for 2021 road projects - The bituminous seal coat project received one bid, Asphalt Maintenance Solutions, in the amount of \$197,929.90.

Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Matura and unanimously carried to accept the bid from Asphalt Maintenance Solutions based on the unit price of \$3.14 a square yard, subject to a receipt of a performance bond, payment bond and certificate of insurance, as required by the project specifications.

Two bids were received for the super pave project for the overlay of Lower Saucon Road: Blooming Glen Contractors Inc. in the amount of \$54,687.50 and GoreCon Inc. in the amount of \$64,187.50.

Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously carried to accept the bid from Blooming Glen Contractors based on the unit price of \$87.50 a ton, subject to a receipt of a performance bond, payment bond and certificate of insurance, as required by the project specifications, and approval from PennDOT for utilizing liquid fuels funds for the project.

Request from the Roadmaster to bid overlay project for Hilltop Road – Motion by Mr. Matzura, seconded by Mr. Nilsen and unanimously carried to authorize the advertisement of the additional road project by Wynn Associates, adding Hilltop Road.

Genova Lot Line Adjustment Subdivision preliminary/lot lie approval - The proposal is to add 2 acres from the Ziskos to the Genovas. There were no major issues noted in the Township Engineer's review letter of March 19, 2021.

Motion by Mr. Matzura, seconded by Mr. Nilsen and unanimously carried granting preliminary final approval of the Genova Lot Line Adjustment plan subject to the conditions listed in the March 19, 2021 Township Engineer's review letter, with no right of way dedication, and approving the waiver as recommended by the Planning Commission on the street improvements.

Timber Land (Brandywine Transportation) Land Development Completion – Mr. Fulmer explained that the project was a land development to establish the bus depot on Springfield Street. A few outstanding items have now been completed.

Motion by Mr. Ryker, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously carried accepting completion of the Timber Land Associates LLC Land Development project based on the conditions listed in the April 16, 2021 Township Engineer's review letter, which will start the 18-month maintenance period.

Revised EAC Ordinance – Mr. Matzura suggested revising a line in Section 32.24 specifying Board of Supervisors vs elected officials. Ms. Yearwood noted they would like remove Item D from Section 32.25.

Motion by Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Matzura and unanimously approving the ordinance as drafted with the modification to Item A Section 32.24, and deleting paragraph D in Section 32.25, and further, authorizing the Solicitor to advertise the ordinance for adoption.

Open Space discussion w/P&LPB – Frank Hollenbach gave a PowerPoint presentation with informal recommendations to the open space program, including a review of OS background, current inventory, funding sources, with an emphasis on public access to open space lands.

Donation receipt acknowledgement to SPD – The Board formally acknowledged the receipt of a \$1000.00 donation from the Dalziels of Walnut Lane. The Township and the Chief will follow up with a thank you letter and where the funds were utilized.

Bucks County SPCA request – Mr. Wager spoke with Bucks County SPCA Director Linda Ritter. The Township has never given a donation to the organization, noting that Springfield residents and the police do utilize their services, with no funding from the County. The consensus of Board is to donate this year and revisit again the following year.

Motion by Mr. Matzura, seconded by Mr. Nilsen and unanimously authorizing a donation of \$500.00 to the Bucks County SPCA.

Updated Building Code Ordinance advertisement authorization – Mr. Wager explained the third party building inspector requested moving up from the 2009 Building Code to the latest 2015 version. Mr. Wager gave the reasons behind updating to the current Code Ordinance. The Manager will reach out to the third party provider to look at the comparisons between the code revisions and the recommendations.

Public Comment

Frank Hollenbach, 600 Rocky Valley Road, noted that the Peppermint Park “entrance ahead” road sign has been damaged in a traffic accident. The Passer Plant sale is scheduled for May 8 from 8-2. The dinosaur sign on the Saucon Rail-Trail was damaged.

Pete Jones, Salem Road, expressed concern over Hilltop being used as a cut-through and if a traffic impact study was done when Brinley Court before making a decision on paving Hilltop Road.

Supervisor comments

Mr. Ryker noted that the pension plans are growing.

Mr. Matura noted that spraying for black flies started on April 16.

Mr. Nilsen noted that the bridge on Richlandtown Pike is closing for repair on or around May 17 and to prepare for navigating the detours.

Mr. Kade noted he has been seeing the 17 year cicada holes in the ground on his property.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Kade, seconded by Mr. Matura, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather DiSario
Recording Secretary