

**Board of Supervisors**

**MINUTES**

**May 25, 2021**

**VIRTUAL MEETING**

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

**Also present:** Jason Wager (Township Manager) Rich Pursell Jr. (Roadmaster) Scott MacNair, Esq. (Township Solicitor).

An executive session was held prior to the meeting to discuss real estate and personnel.

Mr. Nilsen called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Mr. Ryker, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously carried approving the March 9, 2021 minutes as presented.

Motion by Mr. Matzura, seconded by Mr. Nilsen and unanimously carried approving the March 16, 2021 minutes as presented.

Motion by Mr. Ryker, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously carried approving the April 13 minutes as presented.

Motion by Mr. Kade, seconded by Mr. Ryker and unanimously approving the April 27 minutes as presented.

**Bills**

(April 23, 2021 – May 20, 2021)

General Fund	\$103,665.45	Open Space Fund	\$39,887.70
Capital Reserve Fund	\$72,471.45	Liquid Fuels Fund	\$5,593.11
Escrows	\$7,912.03	Street Light Fund	\$475.11

Motion by Mr. Kade, seconded by Mr. Matzura and unanimously carried approving payment of bills from April 23, 2021 through May 20, 2021.

**Reports**

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

Road hours April 22, 2021 – May 19, 2021

Road Maintenance	396 hours	Equipment Maintenance	64 hours
Building Maintenance	48 hours	Sign Maintenance	5 hours
Roadside Mowing	55 hours	Park Maintenance	33 hours
Admin	14 Hours	Winter Maintenance	0 hours

**Police Department** – The Board reviewed the May 2021 Police report as presented. Chief McDonald reported 152 calls for service with 42 handled by PSP and 12 motor vehicle accidents. The department

participated in the National Drug Take Back event was held on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Results from the take back are still pending. The AG Office has already sent payment for Officer Sepulveda’s overtime for the event.

Chief McDonald participated in a Zoom meeting with the Bucks County chapter of the NAACP on April 23, 2021. The discussion revolved around the department’s goals, initiatives and transparency. An Open Records Request was submitted by the organization and which Chief McDonald is working on.

There was a discussion regarding the Richlandtown Pike detour for the bridge construction. Chief McDonald noted that the police department is aware of the issues, and he has reached out and is working with PennDOT on the detour traffic issue. The goal is to try to get commercial vehicle traffic to make the right on 212 and follow the posted detour. It was also noted that five different areas have been painted for speed enforcement that is occurring because of the detour.

There was a discussion regarding restricting commercial truck traffic on Quarry Road, which involves an engineering study and adoption of an ordinance. Mr. MacNair suggested the road could be temporarily closed by resolution with certain exceptions, until the road restriction procedures can be completed. Chief McDonald would like to see signage installed before the trucks actually enter onto Quarry Road.

Residents Rachel Kotch of State Road, Pete Jones of Salem Road, Mark and Amanda Robert of Quarry Road and Robert Bell of School Road, also expressed their concerns over speeding traffic on their roads.

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

Fund Balances as of April 30, 2021

General Fund	\$1,252,255	Liquid Fuels	\$655,731
Open Space	\$882,973	Street Light	\$4,149
Escrow	\$531,085	Special Fees	\$391
Capital Reserve	\$394,740	Sewer Maint Escrow	\$85,401

**Manager/Zoning** – 139 total permits have been issued for April 25 – May 22, with 106 sewer pumping and 12 U&O inspections.

Mr. Wager gave an update on ABC meeting attendance and gave a brief overview on each meeting he attended.

The bridge closure on Richlandtown Pike near Quarry Road starts for Monday May 24 and could be closed through August 2021.

The land development plan submitted for 793 Mine Rod will be reviewed by the Planning Commission at their June 2 meeting. No plan has been submitted for Passer/State Road. A township photography contest was presented to the board, with the winner receiving a gift card to a local restaurant. The intent would be to use submitted photos on township social media outlets. The consensus of the Board is to move forward with the contest.

**Solicitor’s report** – Mr. MacNair updated the Board on the governor’s updated Covid disaster proclamation and the return to in-person meetings with virtual attendance remaining an option.

Mr. MacNair also noted a review letter will be issued to the Planning Commission for their review of the land development plan for 793 Mine Road

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

**Springtown Fire Company report** – The Board reviewed the report as presented.

#### **ABC's Reports/Updates**

**Park & Land Preservation Board** – Mr. Wager noted that the Memorial Garden has been sprayed with a vinegar mix and mulch has been dropped off.

**EAC** – Mr. Wager noted a tentative date of October 16 for an E-Waste event. The Board agreed to the date. Paper shredding will have to be a separate date.

**Historic Commission** – Work is continuing on their historic resource ordinance.

**Public Comment** – no public comment

#### **Business**

**EAC Ordinance adoption – Ordinance #198** – Scott MacNair explained that the ordinance reconstitutes and defines the duties of the EAC, in regards to creation and composition of the EAC, member appointments, compensation and the advisory commission's duties. There was no public comment.

Motion by Mr. Kade, seconded by Mr. Ryker and unanimously approving Ordinance #198 as presented.

**Appointment of Part-Time Road Department Employee** – Previously, the township has had seasonal workers but is becoming challenging to find help. Jay Fike is a retired corrections officer. Proposed hours would be year-round Monday through Thursday up to 32 hours. Mr. Wager requested approval from the Board to hire Jay Fike as a part time road department employee at \$18 per hour.

Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously ratifying hiring Jay Fike as a part-time road department employee position retroactive to May 24, 2021 at \$18/hour.

**Police vehicle camera purchase authorization** – Chief McDonald explained the \$11,740.00 quote includes the cameras and a 5-year warranty for each camera, with an additional \$600 per vehicle for installation. There was a discussion about downloading and storage of the recorded data.

Motion by Mr. Matzura, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously authorizing the purchase of Watch Guard system police vehicle cameras not to exceed \$13,500.00.

**Blacktop conveyor purchase authorization** – Mr. Pursell explained that the EM Kutz bid is for a Swenson brand and US Municipal is for a HTC brand, which is what the township has now. The Swenson brand is only 14 inches and the HTC is 18 inches which is currently what is used on another truck. Mr. Pursell would like to go with the HTC for interchangeable parts and faster material application.

Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Matzura and unanimously authorizing the purchase of the HTC blacktop conveyor from US Municipal not to exceed \$12,470.00.

**Sale of 1997 Mack dump truck authorization** – It was the consensus of the Board to put the Mack truck on Muncibid for \$20,000.

**Winter maintenance of state roads discussion** –Mr. Pursell requested revisiting this item for next year being dependent on the status of a salt shed and possibly new equipment.

**Document Conversion** – The quote from Scantek is \$25,261.00 which is \$38,000 less from the previous quote back in 2018.

Motion by Mr. Ryker, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously carried to authorize the Scantek project based on the May 24, 2021 quote, not to exceed \$32,000.

#### **Public Comment**

**Robert Bell's** question regarding what section of code was referred to in the previous detour discussion was addressed by the solicitor.

#### **Supervisor Comments**

**Mr. Kade** stated that Senate Bill 597 was in the works, taking control from the DEP over water authorities and transferring to the PUC. Ultimately this could lead to the PUC taking control over local water authorities.

**Mr. Ryker and Mr. Kade** asked that during the busy planting season, residents be patient and careful when encountering farm and oversized equipment on area roadways.

#### **Adjournment**

Motion by Mr. Matura, seconded by Mr. Ryker, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather DiSario  
Recording Secretary