

Board of Supervisors

MINUTES

June 27, 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), & Michael McDonald (Chief of Police).

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

Motion made by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Ryker, and unanimously approved to amend agenda to add Tax Assessment Appeal and Purchase of International Dump Truck.

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 May 31, 2023

General Fund	\$ 1,171,359	COVID Relief Fund	\$441,478
- CD General Fund	- \$237,000		
Open Space Fund	\$ 510,689	Liquid Fuels Fund	\$527,760
- CD Open Space	-\$125,000	- CD Liquid Fuels	- \$125,000
Escrow Fund	\$ 499,659	Street Light Fund	\$9,126
Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 309,115	Act 537 Escrow Fund	\$86,366
- CD Capital Reserve	-\$237,000		
Dedicated EMS	\$37,525	Dedicated Fire	\$187,705

PAYMENT OF BILLS

(May 1, 2023 – May 31, 2023)

General Fund	\$214,081	Open Space Fund	\$0
Capital Reserve Fund	\$8,275	Liquid Fuels Fund	\$0
Escrows	\$16,639	Street Light Fund	\$1,467
PLGIT Credit Card	\$3,373		

Motion by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, and unanimously agreed to accept financial report as presented and payment of bills for May 2023.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Ryker and unanimously carried approving the May 9, 2023, minutes. Mr. Hopkins pointed out two typos which Secretary Gerhart will fix. Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Nilsen approving the May 23, 2023, minutes with Mr. Matzura noting he was not present for that meeting.

BUSINESS ITEMS

PRFR Update – Mr. Bill Schick, Chief of Palisades Regional Fire Rescue, was present to give an update on operations.

Conditional Use Hearing Application – Manager Pursell stated August 8, 2023 would be the conditional use hearing for Haycock Ministries expansion but are looking to continue it until September. Solicitor MacNair will work that out with their lawyer and get the extension paperwork signed.

Amend Pension Statement of Investment Policy – Mr. Matzura discussed amending the investment policy to take some money out of the market. Current policy stated 10% and after last Pension meeting, the pension committee wants to take out more than 10%. Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously carried to amend the Pension Statement of Investment Policy to allow the ability to put up to 50% of the pension investment into cash for up to a 6-month period if deemed necessary by the pension committee. If a longer period is recommended, or an amount greater than 50%, it will have to be approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Finalizing and Authorizing Advertisement of Draft Ordinance 205 - Motion by Mr. Matzura, seconded by Mr. Ryker and unanimously approved to advertise **Ordinance 205** Regulating parking of vehicles on Allison Road in Springfield Township and prescribing penalties for the violation of this Ordinance.

2023-2024 Fuel Bid Acceptance Resolution 2023-13 - The fuel bid was advertised by the Bucks County Consortium on May 19th and May 26th. Motion by Mr. Hopkins, seconded by Mr. Kade to adopt **Resolution 2023-13**, accepting the 2023-2024 Fuel Bid through the Bucks County Consortium, awarding the gas and diesel bid to Riggins, Inc. and awarding Wilson Oil and Propane for heating oil for the 2023-2024 season, and further authorize the Township Manager to sign all paperwork necessary to complete the agreement.

Buckwampum Road Discussion – Following a resident petition, the police have completed a traffic study and have determined that the average safe running speed is 23.48 mph. The Board will need to decide whether they would like to do an ordinance for the posting of speed limit signs on Buckwampum Road for enforcement purposes. Motion made by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, and unanimously passed to generate an ordinance to set speed limit to 25 m.p.h. Ms. Gale Griffith, of Buckwampum Road stated the police can sit in her driveway and ticket people who speed cutting through.

Facilities Use Process - This was talked about a year or more ago and the PLPB has drafted an application. Solicitor MacNair has reviewed this information and has made minimal changes. The BOS was not in favor of some of the criteria on the application. It was decided it needs more work from Parks and Land Preservation Board regarding insurance, size, notice to Township and too many steps currently. Topic tabled until a later date.

Heritage Letter of Support - Heritage Conservancy is asking for support in a Municipal Contribution Program under the Bucks County Agricultural Land Preservation Program that would allow municipalities to contribute funds towards the County's annual allocation and receive matching funds from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Motion made by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Kade, approved by Mr. Matzura and Mr. Hopkins to send back the proposed letter of support. Mr. Ryker was opposing vote.

Municipal Building – HVAC Improvements Update – Updated quote needed from vendor, topic tabled until July 25th meeting.

Tax Assessment Appeal – Motion made by Mr. Nilsen, seconded by Mr. Kade and unanimously approved to approve the tax assessment appeal settlement agreement that the School District negotiated with the property owner of 1429 Jakes Place and further authorize the refund of \$182.84 for the overpayment to the Township.

International Dump Truck – Motion made by Mr. Matzura, seconded by Mr. Hopkins and unanimously approved to authorize purchase of new International Dump Truck.

REPORTS / COMMENTS

Zoning – A report was received and is on file. Ms. Gerhart reported the next Zoning Hearing Board meeting is July 6, 2023.

Police – A report was received and is on file.

Public Works – A report was received and is on file. Manager Pursell advised he meets with FEMA Friday for final mitigation numbers.

Solicitor – A report was received and is on file.

Engineer – A report was received and is on file.

Planning Commission – No report was given.

Parks & Land Preservation Board – No report was given. Mr. Frank Hollenbach, PLPB chair, thanked the Public Works Department for their work on the dog stations that were installed at Peppermint Park.

EAC – Ms. Lorna Yearwood, EAC Chair, advised their yearly electric recycling event will be October 15, 2023. She said they are working on an anti-litter campaign.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence given.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment given.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Ryker mentioned the school board vacancy position for Springfield Township.

Mr. Hopkins stated about the comprehensive plan meeting coming up tomorrow.


Mr. Nilsen stated the anti-litter campaign is a good idea and noticed on his recent trip to Tennessee the strict fines they have for littering.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Matzura noted there will be an executive session held after this meeting to discuss personnel.

Motion by Mr. Ryker, seconded by Mr. Hopkins, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,


Lisa Gerhart
Secretary