

**SCOTT TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES—MARCH 17, 2021**

The Scott Township Board of Supervisors met on the above date by means of Zoom, a videoconferencing app. The meeting date, time, and app connection requirements were advertised in the local newspaper. The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m. In attendance were Supervisors William G. Hafner, Kathleen A. Lynn, Paul R. Eyerly IV, Lanny R. Sheehan, and Dennis N. Wildt. Solicitor Anthony J. McDonald from Marinos, McDonald & Knecht LLP, Police Chief Raymond J. Klingler, Maintenance Supervisor Mark J. Koons, and Secretary/Treasurer Brittany M. Stasik were also in attendance.

BID OPENING FOR SALE OF 1991 FORD F-450 BUCKET TRUCK

Ms. Stasik opened the bids for the 1991 Ford F-450 bucket truck as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Emergency Remarketing | \$1,278.13, |
| 2. Soil-Bound LLC | \$1,187.34. |

Mr. Sheehan made a motion to accept the bid from Emergency Remarketing for \$1,278.13, and Mr. Wildt seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Mr. Robert Horn commended the Maintenance Department for the snow removal after the last storm.

REPORT OF THE SCOTT TOWNSHIP AUDITORS

Township Auditor Richard Baker presented the Board with the 2020 Audit Report. Dr. Baker, Chairman of the Auditors, gave an overview of the financial statements. He noted the Cash & Receivables are approximately \$270,000 higher than 2019. Dr. Baker outlined the liabilities. Under Revenues, he stated the Realty Transfer Tax was \$111,000 above normal, which is the primary reason the overall taxes were about \$125,000 more than last year. Due to low interest rates, the Township only had \$5,425 in interest income. The Intergovernmental Revenues were also higher than normal, due to a \$93,749 recycling grant from the State. Dr. Baker noted the Expenditures were comparable to last year, with a slight growth. Regarding the actual revenues and expenses, 2020 ended with an excess revenue of \$308,164. \$100,000 of that is excess in the General Fund and \$207,885 is excess primarily in the Liquid Fuels Fund. Dr. Baker stated the records were in great shape again this year. Ms. Stasik noted the 2020 Audit was Dr. Baker's last audit for the Township, as this is the final year of his final term as an elected Auditor. Due to the pandemic, he did the entire audit himself. He will be missed. Ms. Lynn thanked Dr. Baker for his years of service, and commended him on a job very well done.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the February 17, 2021 meeting were presented for approval. Mr. Wildt made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Eyerly seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS

The February Budget, Police, Roads, Secretary, Treasurer, Zoning Reports and the Tri-County COG IBC Inspection Service Report were presented for approval. Chief Klingler updated the Board on the effectiveness of the license plate reader. Since the beginning of the year, the reader scanned 32,202 plates. Of these, 1,889 were flagged for violations, mostly for suspended or expired registrations. There was also an increase in arrests. Mr. Sheehan made a motion to approve the reports as presented. Ms. Lynn seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID

The February 18 through March 17 General Fund bills to be paid were presented as two electronic funds transfers and check numbers 16685–16724 for \$103,852.50. In addition, the Liquid Fuels Fund bills to be paid were presented as check numbers 1809–1812 for \$16,743.96. Mr. Wildt made a motion to approve the bills to be paid. Mr. Sheehan seconded and the motion carried 4-0, with Mr. Eyerly abstaining due to a conflict of interest regarding the Press Enterprise payment, check number 16705.

OLD BUSINESS

Regarding the streetlights, based on Mr. Koons' request that the Township research the feasibility of enacting a tax, Ms. Stasik stated Mr. McDonald provided a copy of a possible ordinance. Mr. Koons added either all the taxpayers could be taxed or a distance measurement could be used and adjusted for either improved or unimproved. He suggested waiting to deal with this until the 2022 budget preparation. Ms. Stasik noted that enacting an ordinance requires a number of months. Mr. Eyerly questioned the necessity of enacting additional taxes on the residents and outlined his reasons. Mr. Hafner stated in the future he does not want the streetlight costs paid for from Liquid Fuels Funds. After considerable discussion, Mr. Wildt stated a streetlight tax could possibly be revisited at the budget work session this fall.

Regarding hiring a part-time Maintenance Department employee, Mr. Koons recommended hiring Mr. Thomas Lapinski. Although an employee with a CDL would have been preferred, Mr. Koons stated the only equipment that requires a CDL to operate is the Freightliner and the T-tag truck with the leaf vacuum machine attached. He added that Mr. Lapinski has half of the certification needed to be qualified to do weed spraying, and is willing to get the rest of the training. COVID restrictions have limited the class schedules. Mr. Hafner stated the Board does not vote on new hires. Mr. Lapinski's start date will be April 5, 2021. His rate of pay will be \$17.00 per hour, with an increase to \$17.50 after six months.

Regarding part-time police officers, Chief Klinger anticipates hiring Joshua Pastucka and Adam Tomassacci. The officers will be hired at the current part-time officer hourly rate of \$20.87, as per the police contract, pending background check clearance.

NEW BUSINESS

Regarding the park grant, Ms. Stasik stated DCNR has requested that the Township prepare a survey of the parks with a metes and bounds description with a corrective deed. Mr. McDonald will review what paperwork the Township already has on file, but if it is not adequate, the survey

would need to be done for the grant to move forward. The grant amount is \$50,000, but requires matching funds from the Township. This was tabled until the Solicitor reviews the park files.

Regarding the tax collector agenda item, Ms. Melody Bohling requested that the Township increase the fees for tax certifications from \$10 to \$20, and the fees for tax duplicates from \$5 to \$10. Mr. Sheehan made a motion to approve setting the fees for tax certification at \$20 and duplicates at \$10. Mr. Eyerly seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Regarding a new backhoe, Mr. Koons requested permission to purchase a Caterpillar 420 Backhoe Loader for \$131,750. This would be a COSTARS purchase so it does not require obtaining quotes. The trade-in offer for the 2008 Case 580 Super M backhoe is \$31,000, and Mr. Koons stated another Township will purchase the backhoe for that price. Mr. Sheehan made a motion to approve the purchase of the backhoe from Cleveland Brothers for \$131,750, with monies from the Liquid Fuels Fund. Mr. Wildt seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Discussion ensued regarding a letter from Ms. Blanche Breisch. Mr. Hafner will contact the Township Engineer and ask him to speak with Ms. Breisch.

The Board will continue to conduct the meetings via Zoom for the time being.

Ms. Lynn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Wildt seconded and the motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Brittany M. Stasik
Secretary/Treasurer