

**SCOTT TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES—MARCH 20, 2019**

The Scott Township Board of Supervisors met on the above date in the Municipal Building, 350 Tenny Street (Espy), Bloomsburg, PA. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m., and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. 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.

REPORT OF THE SCOTT TOWNSHIP AUDITORS

Township Auditors Richard Baker and Richard Sitler presented the Board with the 2018 Audit Report. Dr. Baker, Chairman of the Auditors, stated the report has been filed with the State. Next, he gave an overview of the financial statements. The Township's net assets total approximately \$561,000.00. However, \$1,625,000.00 of depreciation is charged against the assets, meaning the net value is now approximately one-quarter of what they originally were. Dr. Baker noted the net assets are aging. Interest income for the year was \$18,600.00, which was a sizeable increase over previous years. Regarding the actual revenues and expenses, 2018 ended with a surplus of \$81,682.00. \$36,000 of that is in unrestricted use General Fund revenues and \$45,500 is restricted primarily as Liquid Fuels monies. On behalf of the Board, Mr. Hafner thanked the Auditors for the report and their excellent work.

QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Kevin Tanribilir, Esquire, attended to represent Mr. Brian Brown, the owner of Brown's Landscaping. At the April 18, 2018 Supervisors' meeting, Mr. Brown received conditional approval for his land development plan located along Route 11. Ms. Stasik sent a letter, dated January 16, 2019, notifying Mr. Brown that since there has been no action on his part to meet the two conditions, the Board of Supervisors would consider the plan to be withdrawn. The letter stated the Board would formally disapprove the land development plan at their February 20 meeting. However, that meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather. Mr. Tanribilir stated that he and Mr. Brown attended this meeting to ask for a temporary reprieve of any action by the Township to allow him to comply with the Township's requirements regarding the development of the property. He added that if Mr. Brown was permitted a six-month grace period, he could comply with all of the requirements. Mr. Brown explained the site work he did and then the corrections made after his surveyor inspected the work. Mr. McDonald tried to make clear to Mr. Brown why he must satisfy the conditions of approval before work is even started. [The financial security requirement is a State law as outlined in the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code Act of 1968, Article V, Section 509.] Mr. Brown asked for time to review the requirements with his attorney. After discussion, Mr. Wildt made a motion to extend the deadline for 30 days. Mr. Sheehan seconded and the motion carried 5-0. This matter will be reconsidered at the April 17, 2019 meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the January 16, 2019 meeting and the January 23, 2019 special meeting were presented for approval. Ms. Lynn made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Eyerly seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS

The January and February Budget, Police, Roads, Treasurer's, Zoning, and Tri-County COG IBC Inspection Service Reports were presented for approval. Mr. Eyerly made a motion to approve the reports as presented. Mr. Sheehan seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID

The current General Fund bills to be paid were presented as two transfers of electronic funds and check numbers 15539—15585 for \$55,292.34. In addition, Liquid Fuels Fund bills to be paid were presented as check numbers 1725 and 1726 for \$8,208.45. Mr. Wildt made a motion to approve the bills to be paid, totaling \$63,500.79. Ms. Lynn seconded and the motion carried 4-0, with Mr. Eyerly abstaining due to a conflict of interest regarding the Press Enterprise payment, check number 15572.

The previous month's General Fund bills to be paid were presented as two transfers of electronic funds and check numbers 15491—15538 for \$80,141.59. In addition, Liquid Fuels Fund bills to be paid were presented as check numbers 1717—1723 for \$7,926.52. Mr. Sheehan made a motion to approve the bills to be paid, totaling \$88,068.11. Ms. Lynn seconded and the motion carried 4-0, with Mr. Eyerly abstaining due to a conflict of interest regarding the Press Enterprise payment, check number 15528.

SUBDIVISION & LAND DEVELOPMENT

Regarding the Janet L. Kocher Preliminary/Final Major Subdivision Plan, Matthew Laidacker, PLS, Orangeville Surveying Consultants, Inc., prepared the Plan. No one attended to present the Plan. Township Engineer Todd R. Pysher of Pysher & Associates, Inc., reviewed the Plan in a letter dated February 27, 2019, and listed five comments. DEP provided a letter, dated February 8, 2019, approving the sewage planning exemption request. Therefore, Mr. Pysher's review comment 4 is satisfied. The County Planning Commission reviewed the Plan. The Township Planning Commission reviewed the Plan and recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve it based on meeting the requirements of Mr. Pysher's review comments 1, 2, 3, and 5. Those conditions are:

1. Provide financial security in an amount acceptable to the Township Engineer and in a form acceptable to the Township Solicitor;
2. Provide written easements for all proposed easements and provide proof that all existing easements have been recorded;
3. Provide a Developer's Agreement; and
4. Allow the Township to access the property to verify the completion of the proposed conversion of existing impervious surface to pervious surfaces.

Mr. Wildt made a motion to approve the Subdivision Plan with the four conditions as listed above and with the fifth condition that all conditions must be met within one-hundred-eighty (180) days or the approval is withdrawn. Mr. Eyerly seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

The Board discussed setting a typical standard of ninety days for completion of conditions.

OLD BUSINESS

Regarding the health insurance compensation for a full-time police officer who is currently covered under a family member's insurance, discussion ensued about whether to compensate the officer for not taking an individual insurance plan. Under the police contract, an officer must receive health insurance coverage. Mr. Sheehan made a motion that the two Supervisors who negotiated the last contract will discuss with the police bargaining unit regarding compensating

the officer at one-third of the health insurance cost, to be paid quarterly. This is the only item that will be negotiated. Mr. Eyerly seconded and the motion carried 5-0. The Board discussed making this a policy for all employees.

Regarding the personnel policy, Ms. Stasik noted the Administration Committee is working on this. After they have finished a draft, it will be provided to the rest of the Board for additional input. Mr. Eyerly provided a draft version of an anti-nepotism policy he obtained from the PSATS website.

Regarding the park grant, Ms. Stasik stated the Township must pass a resolution as part of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources grant application. The Board voted to apply for this grant at the January 30, 2019 special meeting. The Township share is 50% (\$53,000.00) of the \$106,000.00. The Marcellus Shale Legacy Fund, which was created by State Act 13 of 2012, offers a grant that has a funding split of 85/15. The Legacy Fund grant is administered by the Department of Community & Economic Development. Leonard J. Policelli, Landscape Architect from Urban Research & Development Corp., provided a quote of \$1,750.00 to prepare the Legacy Fund grant. Mr. Policelli provided a new breakdown of the funds if the two grants are used in conjunction. The park improvements would be \$216,000.00, with the Township commitment still being \$53,000.00. Ms. Lynn made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 03-20-19, which authorizes Brittany Stasik to sign the grant paperwork on behalf of the Township, and to approve hiring URDC to apply for the DCED grant. Mr. Wildt seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Regarding the 2019 Municipal/County Emergency Operations Plan Update, the County officially approved the Emergency Operations Plan on February 7, 2019. They are requesting that the local municipalities approve the Basic Plan, if they so choose. Mr. Sheehan made a motion to approve and adopt the Basic Plan under Resolution No. 3-20-19C and to sign the Promulgation Statement. Ms. Lynn seconded and the motion carried 5-0. There was some discussion regarding the Township Emergency Management Coordinator reviewing the Plan.

Regarding a new Maintenance Department pick-up truck, Mr. Koons presented three quotes for a 2019 Ford F-350 XL truck with a Boss V-plow and requested permission to purchase the truck. This would replace the 2006 Ford F-350 pick-up truck. Sunbury Ford provided a quote of \$41,447.00, New Holland Ford provided a quote of \$40,535.00, and Kovatch Ford provided a quote of \$39,237.99. All three dealerships are COSTARS approved vendors. Liquid Fuels funds would be used for the entire cost. Mr. Wildt made a motion to purchase the new truck from Kovatch Ford for \$39,237.99. Mr. Sheehan seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Koons stated the Township was awarded a DEP Municipal Recycling Program grant for collection equipment. The approved costs were \$104,166.00, with DEP's share being \$93,749.00, and the Township's portion being \$10,417.00. This grant permits reimbursement up to 50% of the original \$84,000 cost of the Caterpillar wheel loader that was purchased in 2017. The other portion of the grant is for a new leaf vacuum trailer. This item has a reimbursement of up to 90% of the cost. The estimated cost of the machine at the time of application was \$51,000.00. However, the price is now approximately \$61,000.00. The old leaf vacuum trailer, which was purchased in 2000, will be sold. Mr. Sheehan made a motion to approve the purchase of the new leaf vacuum trailer. Mr. Wildt seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Regarding the wind/solar farms agenda item, Mr. McDonald stated offers are being made in Columbia County by commercial entities to install either commercial wind turbines or solar energy systems. Other municipalities are taking action to pass resolutions that will temporarily suspend the necessity of allowing anyone to install these devices and making changes in the ordinance to address this. A land planner can prepare a proper amendment to the zoning ordinance. Ms. Lynn made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 03-20-19B, declaring that the Zoning Ordinance is substantively invalid with respect to the establishment and operation of commercial or non-commercial wind turbines and solar energy devices, and specifies that within 180 days the Board shall enact a curative amendment to correct the invalidities. Mr. Eyerly seconded and the motion carried 5-0. Mr. Eyerly made a motion to share the cost with North Centre Township, and possibly Salem Township, for the expense of the planning consultant to help draft the ordinance regarding wind turbines and solar energy devices, provided that the fee does not exceed \$2,000.00. If it is anticipated to exceed that amount, the Board shall have an opportunity to review the charges. Mr. Wildt seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Eyerly recommended forming a committee to explore approaching other municipalities to form a regional police force or to patrol other districts outside of the Township in order to help raise additional revenues to offset the cost of the new police station. Discussion ensued regarding the feasibility and the cost effectiveness. Mr. Hafner took a poll of the Board. Mr. Eyerly and Ms. Lynn recommended pursuing the matter. Mr. Sheehan, Mr. Wildt, and Mr. Hafner did not feel it would be profitable at this time.

Regarding an update on the request for additional streetlights in Sherwood East, Mr. Koons stated PPL can add two more on Clifton Drive. He requested permission to have them installed. This matter was tabled until Mr. Koons determines the annual cost of the two additional lights and determines whether they are necessary. The Township pays PPL rental for 222 lights, and the two being added would have LED bulbs, which are a lower monthly rate. Regarding changing 184 of the streetlights to LED bulbs, PPL will provide that at no cost if the Township is contracted with them to provide the electricity. However, the Township is currently under contract with another supplier.

The Board adjourned into Executive Session at 9:01 p.m. to discuss real estate matters. The Board reconvened at 9:18 p.m.

Mr. Wildt made a motion to authorize Mr. Hafner and Mr. Sheehan to negotiate the status of the rights-of-way with Mr. Dave and Mr. Dan Broadt, and with Dr. Chopra and Dr. Ball. Ms. Lynn seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Sheehan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Eyerly seconded and the motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Brittany M. Stasik
Secretary/Treasurer