

ROBESON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 17, 2018

Chairman Smith called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00PM prevailing time. The meeting took place in the Robeson Township Public Meeting Room located at 2689 Main Street, in Gibraltar, Berks County, Pennsylvania. Board members present were Chairman Smith and Supervisors Brown and Steve. Supervisors Graham and Love were not in attendance. Also in attendance were Solicitor Christopher J. Hartman, Engineer Gary D. Kraft, Zoning Officer Joe Boulanger, Road Master Bill Lanza & Manager Colleen A. Easterday.

Pledge to the Flag and Moment of Silence

The BOS recessed for an executive session at 7:03PM to discuss a legal matter; reconvened at 7:12PM. Supervisor Steve made a motion to authorize Solicitor Hartman to initiate legal action; seconded by Supervisor Brown the motion passed unanimously.

ROADS, CODES & PUBLIC PROPERTY

Road Master Lanza reported pipe replacement for Cedar Hill Road.

Road Master Lanza asked to spend \$400 for a chute for the new Mack truck. Supervisor Steve moved to buy the chute for \$400, Chairman Smith seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Road Master Lanza discussed Chip Karasin from the Robeson Planning Commission request to provide an educational opportunity for residents about the spotted lanternfly.

POLICE

Chief Phillips requested Engineer Kraft's assistance with the bike trail crossing at Robeson crossing. Supervisor Steve moved to allow Engineer Kraft to prepare the permit application, Chairman Smith seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Chief Phillips handed out resumes of proposed part-time and full-time officers. Chairman Smith moved to hire Tyler Famous as full-time officer and Kevin Allen Zeiber as a part-time officer, Supervisor Steve seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

FRIENDSHIP FIRE COMPANY

Chief Scott Gullo of Geigertown Fire Company presented proof of a public meeting necessary to purchase a 2009 Ferrara 77'. Chairman Smith moved to sign the Section 147(f) Approval and Written Agreement to allow Friendship Fire Company to move forward with the purchase of the 2009 Ferrara 77', Supervisor Brown seconded the motion and on roll call the motion failed. The votes were two yeses and Supervisor Steve voted no pending more information regarding the increase of insurance costs relative to workman's compensation and vehicle insurance. Chief Gullo answered the questions in a satisfactory manner and the motion was reconsidered.

Supervisor Steve moved to sign the 147(f) Approval and Written Agreement form provided there is no further insurance cost for the Township, Chairman Smith seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Supervisor Steve moved to allow Colleen to sign the above stated form, Chairman Smith seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CITIZENS CONCERNS

Julia McDonald complained, again, about the flies and wanted to know the regulations on electric fencing and asked if a permit was issued for the Cochran's electric fence. Kraft Code Officer, Joe Boulanger, replied there was a fence permit issued and the only regulation for an electric fence is that it may not be directly on the property line. Mrs. McDonald complained about her grandson and her husband both being shocked by the electric fence. The Cochran's, who own the fence, said the fence is 24" from one pin and 16" from the other. Mrs. McDonald also complained about the manure.

Rob Horst asked about the next step regarding the dilapidated condition of the property at 1341 Old River Road. Legal action will be taken to resolve the issue.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was received regarding CPR class and it was decided to have the information added to the Township website.

Bob Deeds asked why it took 6 months after a building permit was requested with no action taken, to which Manager Easterday explained that two permits were handed in at the same time and the one he was asking about was misplaced that is why a refund for the one permit was given to the applicant.

MINUTES

The minutes for the Supervisors Workshop of March 15th, 2018 and the Regular Meeting of March 20th, 2018 were corrected, reviewed & unanimously approved as presented upon a motion by Supervisor Steve that was seconded by Supervisor Brown.

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

Supervisor Steve moved to pay the bills for the period of March 20, 2018 thru April 17, 2018; following a second by Chairman Smith, the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS

The March 2018 Sewer Aging Report, (Miller) Sewer Report, SEO Permit Report, Road, Building, Police, Friendship Fire Company & Gibraltar Fire Company Reports and the January 2018 Gibraltar Fire Company Report were reviewed & unanimously approved upon a motion by Supervisor Brown that was seconded by Supervisor Steve.

PLANNING & ENGINEERING

Larish – Variance Application – Darryl & Tracy Larish have requested a variance to permit an accessory apartment for relatives at 310 Old River Road. Accessory apartments for relatives are permitted in the AP & R1 zoning districts by Special Exception but not in the VC district where their property is located.

Where permitted, the use is for a five year period requiring permit renewal for each successive period. A hearing has been scheduled for Thursday, April 26th, 2018. The Planning Commission had no adverse comments to the application. The Board of Supervisors had no comment regarding the variance application at this time.

Comp Plan Review Items – The Planning Commission reviewed the Southern Berks Comprehensive Plan concentrating on six areas where the Joint Committee could further investigate possible charges. The Commission asked that the areas be compiled into a review document for their consideration at the May Planning Commission meeting before forwarding the items to the Board for action.

2018 Roadwork Project – The Notice of Award has been issued for both contracts. We are currently awaiting return of the required submittals.

SOLICITOR

Solicitor Hartman advertised and recommended the Board enact Ordinance #18-01, Berks County MS4 Steering Committee for Meeting the Educational requirement for the 2018-2023 MS4 NYPDES Permit. Supervisor Steve moved to enact Ordinance #18-01 seconded by Chairman Smith and it passed unanimously.

Supervisor Steve moved to authorize the expenditure for employee training, stipulating no more than \$1,200.00; the motion was seconded by Chairman Smith and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Smith moved to adopt the policy regarding false or misleading comments relative to Robeson Township operation, seconded by Supervisor Brown and on roll call Chairman Smith and Supervisor Brown voted yes, Supervisor Steve voted no, therefore the motion failed because the quorum requirement was not met as the Board of Supervisors is a five member board and only three members were present.

Supervisor Steve moved to revise the policy to include the employee manual as well as extend it to the Board of Supervisors, Chairman Smith seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

FINANCE/OTHER

Request to refund permit application fee – Refund was approved with approval of bills.

Reimburse Tax Collector for internet cost– Supervisor Steve moved to reimburse the Tax Collector \$120.00; following a second by Chairman Smith the motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #18-11 – Supervisor Steve moved to approve Resolution #18-11, destruction of old tax collector checks (#2709-#2852), seconded by Chairman Smith and the motion passed unanimously.

Repository Bid – Walton Avenue; response due back to County by April 24th; held for executive session.

Allied Waste Host Fees Received \$9,303.75

Rechargeable Prepaid Credit Card – Supervisor Steve moved to allow the Township Manager to obtain a second reusable credit card with a credit limit of \$5000.00 for Township use from Tompkins Vist Bank, the motion was seconded by Chairman Smith and the motion passed unanimously.

Ethics Forms – Due by May 1st, 2018.

Website – Board to change to County site in December 2018.

Sewer Aging Report – Supervisor Steve moved to add the Sewer Aging reports to the website, Chairman Smith seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Gibraltar Park –Supervisor Steve made a motion to allow expenditure up to \$1,000.00 for a circuit board, seconded by Chairman Smith and passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Data Back-up - Supervisor Brown moved to allow the Township Manager to spend up to \$1,500.00 for new U.P.S. batteries; following a second by Supervisor Steve, the motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The BOS recessed to Executive Session @ 8:57PM; reconvened @ 9:53PM.

Supervisor Steve made a motion to not grant a planning waiver for Breakaway Stables until payment for the outstanding invoice is received; Chairman Smith seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Supervisor Steve made a motion to hire Sheila McCune as full-time Fiscal Assistant; seconded by Chairman Smith, the motion passed unanimously.

The BOS adjourned unanimously @ 9:56PM upon a motion by Supervisor Steve that was seconded by Chairman Smith.

Respectfully Submitted,
By Sheila McCune on behalf
of Galen L. Brown, Township Secretary