

ROBESON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

REVISED - REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

August 20, 2019

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. Vice-Chairman Love and Supervisors Brown & Steve were present. Supervisor Graham joined the meeting at 7:10PM. Also in attendance were Solicitor Christopher Hartman, Engineer Gary D. Kraft, Chief Mark T. Phillips, Crew Leader Butch Matz and Manager Colleen Easterday.

Pledge to the Flag and Moment of Silence

ROADS, CODES & PUBLIC PROPERTY

CL Matz reported that the RC replaced a pipe on Golf Course Road and the pipe on Oakbrook Terrace that was caving in; cut around 4 sinkholes on Golf Course Road near the Siegel property and will try to finish this week.

Opperman Excavating will get back to CL Matz re work in Whispering Pines; a rough figure for pipe work to be completed in Seyfert area is \$5,000.00; most of the work at the WWTP is done; milling will start on Weaver & Golf Course Roads on the 26th of August.

Supervisor Steve moved to authorize repairs to the plow at a cost of \$4,315.65 by E.M. Kutz; Chairman Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Supervisor Graham was absent from the vote.

POLICE

Advanced Level Training Session \$250.00 – Chief requested approval for Officer Brenner to attend (training is at the Fire Training Center); already has 1st level training. Supervisor Steve authorized training; following a second by Vice-Chairman Love, the motion passed unanimously.

Chief Phillips asked about the zero-turn trailer the PD recovered as stolen; located owner but there is no identification on the trailer. Solicitor Hartman stated that if the trailer has no ID and is unlicensed, is worth less than \$1,000.00, it does not need to be advertised for sale; it can be sold, used or discarded since it is abandoned, will not be used as evidence in a court case.

Supervisor Graham joined the meeting.

Supervisor Steve moved to authorize Manager Easterday disposal of the trailer as unnecessary Township property with a value of less than \$1,000.00; Vice-Chairman Love seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Bike Race – Chairman Smith moved to allow the race to be held provided intersections are controlled with Fire Police, Professional Flaggers or other trained personnel. Supervisor Graham seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MaCherie Dunbar, Constituent Services Advocate for U.S. Rep. Chrissy Houlahan (6th District), was in attendance. Ms. Dunbar stated that Rep. Houlahan wants her constituents to reach out to one of her offices (Reading or West Chester) for any assistance with services including, but not limited to, help with federal agencies, educational opportunities, federal grant applications, HR bills, etc. Supervisor Steve stated there were supposed to be some House Bills passed on infrastructure grants and none have been seen at the Municipal level (including roads, storm projects, sewer projects, etc., all for which funding is needed). Ms. Dunbar stated Rep. Houlahan's office writes letters of support for grants; Supervisor Steve stated at this time there are none available. Ms. Dunbar suggested contacting the West Chester office for assistance and it will be brought to Rep. Houlahan's attention.

CITIZENS CONCERNS

Jeff Nye of Briarwood Drive asked when the shoulder would be finished; CL Matz stated they are waiting for the storms to "let up" so the Road Crew can backfill, cover & seed; if the shoulders were to finished now the storm & drain work would get clogged (until the shoulder work can be stabilized).

High Point Baptist Chapel / School - Engineer Kraft stated he researched the type of sign that is wanted to be put up is the "pyramid". In all of the literature that has been reviewed in federal and state documentation, the pyramid signs are only used to mark school zones where there is a speed limit change

or where there is a cross-walk and each would require PennDOT approval. Neither of those situations exists in this area (High Point Baptist Chapel / School). Language suggests that an area could be marked as a school zone but is not specific; PennDOT has not yet replied to Engineer Kraft's request for clarification. Should the pyramid sign not be useable, perhaps hidden driveway signs could be used however Mr. Kraft cannot make the determination as to where the signs should be placed unless he looks at the area; he requested direction from the BOS to assist Mr. Cunningham with location placement suggestions.

Mr. Cunningham addressed the BOS about signs and asked if a traffic cone could be placed in the road from 7:45 until 8:15 on Furnace Road travelling toward SR10. Solicitor Hartman stated the cone would not be appropriate as it would be considered an obstruction. Solicitor Hartman stated the BOS could give permission for placement of cones in the street by stating "we will not prosecute..." provided enforcement action is not taken. Supervisor Graham moved to authorize the cones with no enforcement action. Following a second by Vice-Chairman Love, the motion passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Love moved to authorize Engineer Kraft to evaluate the situation and move forward; Supervisor Graham seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Schuylkill River Greenways: Request to Provide Financial Support – No.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

The minutes for the Workshop of July 11, 2019 & BOS Regular Meeting of July 16, 2019 were unanimously approved upon a motion by Supervisor Steve that was seconded by Supervisor Graham. Minutes of the July 17, 2019 RTMA Meeting were provided for information only.

BILLS FOR APPROVAL

Supervisor Steve moved to pay the bills as revised for the period of July 11, 2019 thru August 20, 2019; following a second by Supervisor Graham, the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF REPORTS

The July 2019 Treasurer's Summary/Report, EEMA Sewer Report, Sewer Aging Report (thru 2nd Quarter 2019), SEO Permit, Road, Building, Police & Friendship Fire Company and Gibraltar Fire Company Reports, including the June 2019 Gibraltar Fire Company Report, were reviewed and approved upon a motion by Supervisor Steve that was seconded by Supervisor Graham.

SOLICITOR

Ordinances: Amendments to the Uniformed & Non-Uniformed Pension Ordinances to Eliminate the Trustee Position (#19-05 & #19-06) – Supervisor Steve moved to authorize advertisement by Solicitor; Chairman Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Adopt Resolution #19-09 from Fulton Financial Advisors NA – postponed to September.

Review Sewer Account Issue – Solicitor Hartman recommended the BOS allow the one month late payment as long as a continued payment is received.

PLANNING & ENGINEERING

Zoning Ordinance Revision Discussion

- Planning Commission recommendations
- Redstone Valley rezoning request

Authorization to proceed with development of the draft Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance which will include the changes recommended by the PC, additional changes suggested by the BOS and include the Redstone Valley zoning use request with caveats as discussed along with "housekeeping items" that were previously reviewed prior to zoning use changes was given upon a motion by Vice-Chairman Love to accept the PC recommendations for Zoning Ordinance revisions per their matrix. Following a second by Supervisor Steve, the motion passed. Chairman Smith voted no.

FINANCE / OTHER

DROP – Supervisor Graham moved to approve the request from Officer Elliott to enter into the Deferred Retirement Option Program; following a second by Supervisor Steve, the motion passed unanimously.

Purchase Infield Mix for the Gibraltar Park Ballfield (23 tons @ \$671.50) – Supervisor Graham moved to authorize the purchase as stated; following a second by Supervisor Steve, the motion passed unanimously.

Prism Works / Phone System – Postponed to September.

Review Proposed 2020 Meeting Schedule – Review for September.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The BOS recessed to Executive Session @ 7:56PM; reconvened @ 8:54PM.

Supervisor Steve moved to adjust the Pension Fund to 6.5% for the upcoming year. Chairman Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Supervisor Steve moved to direct the Chief to dispatch a manned or unmanned marked police vehicle to assist the Road Crew with road safety. Following a second by Supervisor Graham, the motion passed unanimously.

The BOS unanimously adjourned @ 8:58PM upon a motion by Supervisor Graham and seconded by Supervisor Steve.

Respectfully Submitted,
By Kathleen C. Haight,
Township Assistant