

**ROBESON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**MARCH 17, 2020**

Chairman Smith called the Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting to order at 7:00PM. The meeting took place in the Robeson Township Public Meeting Room located at 2689 Main Street, in Gibraltar, Berks County, Pennsylvania. All Supervisors were in attendance. Also in attendance were Solicitor Christopher Hartman, Police Chief Dennis Cassel & Manager Colleen Easterday. **NOTE:** This meeting was not open to the Public due to COVID-19 per statement by Governor Wolf.

**Pledge to the Flag and Moment of Silence**

**ROADS, CODES & PUBLIC PROPERTY**

Manager Easterday stated the Road Department is continuing prep work on the roads for the 2020 roads projects.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

The BOS was made aware of those offering public comment prior to the meeting and it was directed to the Township Engineer in an effort to satisfy the requirements of the Sunshine Law.

Manager Easterday stated Mr. Deeds wants a response to his letter requesting the Township re-survey their property on Golf Course Road prior to road work. Solicitor Hartman stated the Township is not required to re-survey for road work provided the Engineer has assured the Township that the paving project will be within the ROW of the road and Mr. Deeds' attorney was made aware of that prior to this meeting.

**POLICE**

**Request Board Approval to authorize Officer Zeiber to attend Car Seat Technician Class** Cost \$95.00 June 22, 2020 - June 25, 2020 - Wyomissing PA – Chief Cassel stated the cost will be recouped once completed through a grant. Supervisor Graham moved to authorize the training; following a second by Vice-Chairman Love the motion carried.

**Training Discussion:**

- Officer Brenner - Dark Horse Law Enforcement Training - Cancelled (COVID-19)
- Officer Smith - Investigating and Prosecuting Drug Cases - Ft. Indiantown Gap, April 26, 2020 – May 2, 2020 – Chief Cassel stated Officer Smith was accepted however there is a process he must go through. The District Attorney's Office is sending 2 Officers only from Berks County; Officer Smith was recommended and it was approved; Officer Smith applied to the company offering the training and notification was received that he has been accepted. The cost is covered by the Commission doing the training which includes lodging and meals. Supervisor Steve moved to authorize the training; following a second by Supervisor Graham the motion carried.

**Aggressive Driver Grant** (\$1,075.00) Wave 2 - March 16, 2020 through April 26, 2020 – FYI

Chief Cassel offered information on protocol instituted in the Police Department regarding handling calls, etc. due to COVID-19. He will discuss with surrounding PD Chief's to check into an Inter-Municipal Patrol Agreement.

**MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

Supervisor Graham moved to approve the minutes of the Workshop of February 13, 2020 and BOS Regular Meeting of February 18, 2020. Following a second by Supervisor Steve the motion carried.

**BILLS FOR APPROVAL**

Supervisor Graham moved to approve the bills for February 18, 2020 thru March 17, 2020. Following a second by Supervisor Steve the motion carried.

**FEBRUARY 2020 REPORTS FOR REVIEW**

The following reports were approved upon a motion by Supervisor Graham: Treasurer's Summary, EEMA Sewer Report for January (February not available), Sewer Aging Summary, SEO Permits, Roads, Building Permits, Police, and Fire Companies; seconded by Supervisor Steve the motion carried.

**PLANNING & ENGINEERING**

**11 Christy Court Annexation Subdivision** – Engineer Kraft recommended approval of 6 waivers as proposed for plan scale, setting tract corners on the major tract, detailing the physical features on the tract, delineation of steep slopes, frontage improvements, and inspection of the on-lot septic system. Vice-Chairman Love moved to approve the waivers; seconded by Supervisor Steve the motion carried.

Consideration of conditional plan approval subject to completion of the outstanding items in Engineer Kraft’s review letter of March 12, 2020 was before the BOS. Vice-Chairman Love moved to approve the waivers; seconded by Supervisor Steve the motion carried.

**Oak Grove Subdivision** – Engineer Kraft reiterated the discussion from the Workshop re the cost of electric service in with the Stormwater Improvements escrow; the developer agreed to that and the revised escrow analysis that would be attached to the Agreement has been provided to the Township.

A letter from Mr. Guzowski (Rhauda property) has been received with annotations in red from Gary McEwen (Oak Grove Partners) has been provided for the BOS. Engineer Kraft stated there is nothing in the correspondence that has **not** been addressed. The correspondence noted above has been provided by Bill Colby, Esquire, Counsel for Oak Grove Partners, to Mr. Guzowski’s attorney.

Engineer Kraft stated there are several Agreements that would also include the improvements on the existing section of Oak Grove Road, which is addressed in his review letter of February 28, 2020. The BOS could conditionally approve the plan subject to his review letter and note that the Stormwater escrow would also include the electrical for the emergency gate.

Supervisor Graham moved to conditionally approve the plan as noted above; seconded by Chairman Smith the motion carried.

**Rock Hollow Woods Improvements Agreement time extension** – Supervisor Graham moved to grant the extension; following a second by Vice-Chairman Love the motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Smith	- Yes	Love	- Yes	Brown	- Yes
Graham	- Yes	Steve	- No		

**Plan time extensions thru 6/30/2020** (all are scheduled to expire 3/31/2020) – Engineer Kraft announced the extension for Oak Grove Subdivision is not necessary; Supervisor Steve moved to grant the time extensions; seconded by Supervisor Graham the motion carried.

Park View Estates Sub (P)	Parkside Subdivision (P)	Cedar Hill Estates Ph 1 (F)
<del>Oak Grove Subdivision (F)</del>	Salanek Subdivision (P/F)	

**SOLICITOR**

**Pension Ordinance Amendment** – Solicitor Hartman stated this amendment would establish a defined contribution plan for non-uniform employees. The Ordinance is consistent with the Collective Bargaining Agreement that was recently entered into with the Teamsters. Advertising approval is requested for the Ordinance (#2020-01) to be adopted in April. Supervisor Steve moved to authorize the advertisement by Solicitor Hartman; seconded by Vice-Chairman Love the motion carried.

**Draft Ordinance to Revise the Definition of Sewer System to Include Facilities Owned by the Geigertown Area Joint Authority (GAJA)** – Solicitor Hartman stated the purpose of the amendment is to bring into the mandatory connection regulations of the Township, the collection system of GAJA in addition to the existing mandatory connection for the Robeson Township Municipal Authority (RTMA). This regulation is necessary to be able to require connections and would be a condition of an Inter-Municipal Agreement that has been negotiated between the Union Township Municipal Authority (UTMA) and GAJA. It is a condition of that Agreement that both Townships would agree to make connection to those systems mandatory. The second thing this draft Ordinance is to address a request by the City of Reading that certain limitations of the discharge of certain pollutants that the City has negotiated with the EPA would apply in Robeson Township because a portion of the Township’s collection system discharges into the Reading system through the Cumru Township system. Solicitor Hartman will review this draft Ordinance with the City of Reading to be certain they are satisfied and will also review with Solicitor’s for GAJA and RTMA.

The BOS authorized Solicitor Hartman to advertise the Ordinance (#2020-02) upon a motion by Supervisor Steve; seconded by Supervisor Graham the motion carried.

Solicitor Hartman addressed the **Inter-Municipal Agreement** with UTMA; he received a document that states there is a requirement in the Agreement for both RTMA and UTMA to have mandatory connection for the GAJA collection system. Authorization from the BOS is required to execute §9.01 and have the Township agree to comply with the requirement; the BOS should consider a motion authorizing the execution of that page only. Supervisor Steve moved to approve §9.01; seconded by Vice-Chairman Love the motion carried.

**FINANCE / OTHER**

**Tractor Crossing Sign on Weaver Road** (Request from Weaver's Orchard) – Supervisor Steve moved to authorize Manager Easterday to contact Dean at Weaver's Orchard to obtain a map designating the location of the signs (PennDOT approved) so Engineer Kraft can review and to also let them know the signs must be paid for by them and erected by Township Personnel at their cost. Seconded by Vice-Chairman Love the motion carried.

**SystemsNet Agreement** (VITA) – Covered at last month's meeting.

**Cell Tower – Memorandum of Lease Agreement** – Solicitor Hartman recommended that conditional approval not be considered for this project and recommended approving the Lease and authorize execution of the Lease and the Memorandum of Lease. Supervisor Steve moved to approve the Lease for the Cell Tower as well as authorization for Chairman Smith and BOS Secretary to execute same; also, authorize the approval of the Memorandum of Lease Agreement executed by the same parties. Seconded by Supervisor Graham the motion carried.

Manager Easterday reviewed a complaint at 213 Bard Road as well as a NOV by Kraft Code Services. Chairman Smith moved to schedule a Hearing before the BOS for Mr. Anthony C. Wojszwillo Jr., at their April Meeting provided the COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted. Seconded by Supervisor Steve the motion carried.

**PSATS CONVENTION** – Registration opened January 14, 2020

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The BOS recessed to Executive Session @ 8:22PM to discuss personnel; reconvened at 8:31PM

Solicitor Hartman was directed to send a letter to the Teamsters regarding eligibility for health insurance per the Teamsters Contract upon a motion by Supervisor Steve; seconded by Supervisor Graham the motion carried.

The BOS adjourned @ 8:32PM upon a motion by Supervisor Graham; seconded by Chairman Smith the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,  
By Kathleen C. Haight,  
Township Assistant