

Supervisors Meeting – October 13, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Sugarloaf Township Supervisors was held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. at the Municipal Building, 858 Main Street, Sugarloaf, PA 18249. The meeting was duly advertised in the Standard Speaker on December 16, 2019.

Attendance: In attendance were Supervisors: Chairman Rick Weaver, Richard Yost, and Joseph DiSabella. Also in attendance was Attorney Joseph Ferdinand.

Pledge of Allegiance:

There was no public comment on the Agenda.

Executive Session: Chairman Weaver announced Executive Sessions were held on September 18, 2020 and September 29, 2020 for personnel matters.

Minutes: Chairman Weaver asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 8, 2020. A motion was made by Supervisor Disabella, seconded by Supervisor Yost, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Special Meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously and copies were placed on the front table for public review.

Bills: Supervisor Yost read the Income and Expense Report of the General Fund from September 2020. A motion was made by Supervisor Disabella, seconded by Chairman Weaver to approve the bills as read, and to pay any and all bills in all funds that become due before the next regular meeting. The motion passed unanimously and copies were placed on the front table for public review.

Financial Statement: Chairman Weaver mentioned that the financial statement was attached to all agendas. A motion was made by Chairman Weaver, seconded by Supervisor DiSabella, to dispense reading and approve the financial statement as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Supervisor Yost signed the Financial Statement.

Police Department:

1. Chairman Weaver reviewed the police activity report for September 2020.
2. Fines received from the magistrate for September 2020 were \$949.62.

Fire Company:

1. Fire Chief Duane Hildebrand reviewed the activity report for September 2020, which consisted of 79 EMS calls and 61 Fire and Rescue calls for a total of 140 incidents for the month.

Road Department:

1. Chairman Weaver reviewed the road department report for September 2020 and placed the report on the front table for public review.

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Zoning Report:

1. Chairman Weaver read the Zoning Report for September 2020 which included ten (10) permits that were issued and no permits were denied.
2. Chairman Weaver placed the Zoning Log for September 2020 on the front table.
3. There were no Zoning Hearings scheduled for October 2020.

Emergency Management:

1. Thomas Mundie, Emergency Management Coordinator, had nothing to report for September 2020.
2. Chairman Weaver asked if there was an emergency plan with regards to pipe lines within the Township. Mr. Mundie replied that there are normally annual meetings with regards to those plans, but this year's meeting was canceled due to the Covid-19 crisis.

Sugarloaf Recreation Board and (Larock Field) and Tomhicken Playground Association:

1. The Sugarloaf Rec Board has cancelled all meetings and events for the rest of the year.
2. All events and meetings of the Tomhicken Playground Association for this season have been cancelled.

Planning Commission:

1. The Planning Commission held their regular meeting on October 5, 2020. The minutes were received.
2. The next meeting was scheduled on Monday, November 2, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Subdivision, Lot Consolidation and Land Development:

1. **Lands of the Order of Friars Minor of the Slavo-Byzantine Rite Preliminary/Final Minor Subdivision:**
 - a) Correspondence was received from JTB Surveying and Engineering on September 4, 2020 requesting a ninety (90) day extension. Upon Planning Commission recommendation, a motion was made by Chairman Weaver, seconded by Supervisor Yost to approve the ninety (90) day extension for the Lands of the Order of Friars Minor of the Slavo-Byzantine Rite Preliminary/Final Minor Subdivision Plan. The motion passed unanimously.
2. **Lands of Silicia Debellis Caropreso Preliminary/Final Minor Subdivision Plan II:**
 - a) Received plans on September 2, 2020. The plans have been submitted to all necessary agencies for their review and comments.
 - b) Received correspondence from Luzerne County Planning Commission on September 28, 2020 with comments.
 - c) Received correspondence from Luzerne County Engineer on September 28, 2020 with comments.
 - d) Received First Review from RJD Engineering on October 5, 2020 with comments.
 - e) The Planning Commission accepted the Preliminary/Final Subdivision Plan as administratively complete on October 5, 2020.

Old Business:

1. **Old Berwick Road Improvement Project:** Based on negotiations with Pilot Travel Center, LLC, new plans were prepared by Barry Isett & Associates. A change order was prepared to adjust the costs of the project based on the new plans and current pricing. The original cost was \$1,261,656.65 and the updated pricing is \$1,326,127.25. A motion was made by Supervisor Yost, Seconded by Supervisor DiSabella to approve the change order for the Old Berwick Road Improvements project. The motion passed unanimously.

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2. Three (3) proposals were received for improvements to the Township Building removing old fixtures and faucets and installing replacements that fit the new touchless protocol. The quotes received were as follows: Scott Klesh: \$19,140.00; John Ravina Plumbing: \$21,500.00; SJ Kowalski: \$20,993.00. A motion was made by Chairman Weaver, seconded by Supervisor Yost to accept the proposal from Scott Klesh in the amount of \$19,140.00. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Ordinance 3 of 2020 (Noise Ordinance)**: A motion was made by Supervisor Yost, seconded by Supervisor DiSabella to adopt Ordinance 3 of 2020 defining and prohibiting noise disturbance within the Township and providing fines and penalties for violations. Public comment was made by a resident who did not identify himself asking if police would begin enforcing ordinance. The motion passed unanimously.
4. **Ordinance 4 of 2020 (Traffic Ordinance)**: A motion was made by Supervisor DiSabella, seconded by Supervisor Yost to adopt Ordinance 4 of 2020 amending traffic, parking, stopping and vehicle operation within the Township and providing for fines and penalties for the violation of the same; and rescinding all other Ordinances that are inconsistent with this Ordinance. Atty Ferdinand stated there have been updates in the last few days regarding names of roads and that nothing substantial had been changed in the ordinance. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

1. The next meeting of the Supervisors was scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.
2. **Resolution 20 of 2020**: A motion was made by Supervisor Yost and seconded by Supervisor DiSabella to approve Resolution 20 of 2020 to adopt the Luzerne County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan.
3. **Resolution 21 of 2020**: Received correspondence from the actuarial firm, Thomas Anderson & Associates on October 5, 2020, eliminating Police Officers' contributions to the Police Pension Plan for the year 2021. A motion was made by Chairman Weaver, seconded by Supervisor Yost, to approve Resolution No. 21 of 2020, eliminating contributions to the Police Pension Plan by its members for the year 2021. The motion passed unanimously.
4. **Resolution 22 of 2020**: A motion was made by Supervisor Yost, seconded by Chairman Weaver to approve Resolution 22 of 2020 to name Enchanted Pony Lane as a private drive in the Township for 911 purposes. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Received the 2020 Commonwealth State Aid allocation supporting the Volunteer Fire Relief Association on September 22, 2020 in the amount of \$26,759.07.
6. Received the 2020 Commonwealth Allocation of General Municipal Pension State Aid on September 28, 2020 for the police and non-uniform pensions in the amount of \$ 68,933.66.
7. **Public Utility Realty Tax**: The 2020 PURTA Distribution for the tax year 2020 was received on October 5, 2020 in the amount of \$1,222.92.
8. The Supervisors are compiling information for the tentative 2021 Budget. A motion by Supervisor Yost, seconded by Supervisor DiSabella to advertise for a Work Session on Thursday, November 5 at 8:00am to prepare the proposed Budget for 2021 with a Special Meeting following. The motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence:

1. Correspondence received from Berkheimer Tax Administrators on September 21, 2020 regarding reduction in tax revenue for 2020 due to the COVID-19 Crisis.

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Public Comment:

1. Helen Roth asked about painting roads within township, discussed road closing due to bridge repairs, and commented on status of new police station construction.
2. Andy Anderson complimented Sugarloaf Police Department and Fire Company. He suggested the Township give Police Department hazard pay due to Covid-19.

Adjournment: With no further business to attend to, a motion was made by Chairman Weaver, seconded by Supervisor DiSabella, to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 P.M. The motion passed unanimously.

All reports or correspondence mentioned during this meeting were available for review at the front table. Copies were provided upon request after the meeting.

REY: sf



Richard E. Yost
Secretary