

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
APRIL 26, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson David Moyer called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:10 p.m., at the Washington Township Municipal Building. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Supervisors, James Roma; David Moyer, Thomas Powanda, Solicitor, Daniel Becker, Esquire; John Weber representing LTL Consultants, Brian Brochon, Gilmore & Assoc., Township Manager, Richard Sichler, staff member Susan Brown and approximately fifteen (15) residents in attendance.

Absent:

TAPING OF MEETING

The meeting was recorded as an aid in the preparation of the minutes. It was noted no one other than township staff was taping the meeting this evening.

SPECIAL REQUEST

John Wynne, sewer rate-Mr. Wynne is proposing financial relief to the annual sewer bill of \$200. The \$200 is the result of going to a calendar quarter of \$115 and an \$83,000 excess of revenue over cost of services provided. When you divide this by 900 EDU's it come out to \$92 per EDU plus the \$115 comes close to \$200 per customer. Mr. Wynne is recommending it be split between the third and fourth quarters at \$100 per quarter. Mr. Wynne made some connection assumptions to cover a rate reduction however at this point is only suggesting a "discretionary credit".

Mr. Roma stated he has done some research and back in 2012 taxes were increased 2 mills for sewer assistance. Only 1 mill has been returned to tax payers and suggested the Township Manager and the Treasurer take a look at whether or not the remaining 1 mill could be returned to the tax payers. This should be a consideration during this review period.

Public Comment:

Connie Cordova-asked if there has been any progress made in finding cheaper sewer plant labor. Mr. Moyer stated he is looking at it and will need to look at all the numbers.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Charles Lawrence, Crow hill Road-Mr. Lawrence asked if there is any update regarding the speeding on Crowhill Road. Mr. Moyer stated the State Police were contacted. Mr. Lawrence asked about the flashing speed signs and if one could be

borrowed from Bally Borough. Mr. Moyer stated to purchase signs they are about \$1,500 each and would not be opposed to purchasing two, however the Township does not have a police department for enforcement. Mr. Moyer stated it is a township wide problem but said they Supervisors would discuss this matter further.

Sharlene Andryko, Lenape Road-asked about a blighted property on Lenape Road. Mr. Moyer stated that the property owner was made to clean up several years ago. Mr. Roma stated a complaint would need to be filed with the township in order for enforcement action to be taken.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 15, 2018 WORKSHOP MEETING & REGULAR BOS MEETING OF MARCH 22, 2018

A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda to approve the minutes as prepared for the workshop meeting of March 15, 2018 and the regular meeting of March 22, 2018. **No comments received.**

All ayes

TOWNSHIP REPORTS

A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda to approve the payment of all bills for the General Fund, Highway Aid Fund, Recreation Fund, Street Light Fund, Traffic Impact Fund, Sewer Fund and Building Escrow Funds up to and inclusive of April 26, 2018, and to file the treasurer's report for audit. **No comments received.**

All ayes

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collectors Report for the month of March 2018:

Real Estate Tax	\$107,486.15
Interim Tax	\$ 333.25
Light Tax	\$ 334.18
Hydrant Tax	\$ 641.66
Per Capita Tax	\$ 93.24
Amusement Tax	<u>\$ 387.10</u>
Total	\$109,275.58

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

A copy of the Eastern Berks Fire Department Report is in the binders.

ZONING/SEO REPORT

Reports are in the binders

SEWER ENGINEER'S REPORT

A copy of the Engineer's Monthly Report is enclosed.

A copy of the EEMA O & M Report is enclosed

Mr. Brochon reported the 2017 Chapter 94 Report was submitted to DEP on March 30, 2018.

The 2018 I/I work has been scheduled for May 14th thru May 18th within the Weinsteiniger Pump Station service area. Notices will be sent out to effected residents.

Revised Plans for the Swamp Creek Pump Station were received and are currently under review.

Public Comment:

Linwood Heffner, Forgedale Road-questioned the trash removal expense for the sewer. Mr. Sichler offered some more cost-effective alternatives.

Mr. Heffner also questioned pump repairs at Weinsteiniger. Mr. Sichler stated most of the calls were for the bubbler system which was very temperamental and will be replaced.

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

A copy of the Township Engineer's Report is enclosed.

- Mr. Weber stated the Planning Commission will meet in May to discuss the Shuhler Farm Plan.
- Bally Springs Phase 3 will finish paving in the next few weeks.
- Road project bids were opened on Monday. Six bids were received and ranged from \$321,080 to the low of \$274,442.50.

A motion was made by James Roma, seconded by Thomas Powanda to award the low bid to Asphalt Paving Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$274,442.50 subject to receipt of their Payment Bond, Performance Bond, Worker's Comp Affidavit and Certificate of Insurance. **No comments received.**

All ayes

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda to adopt Resolution 2018-19 Price Adjustment of Bituminous Materials for Small Quantities. **No comments received.**

All ayes

Mr. Weber discussed the Shuhler Plan regarding one of the lots which is 2.4 acres that is proposed for the well site for Bally Borough. Bally intends to purchase the property provided they are permitted for the well however it will be quite some time before the permitting process is complete. There are two additional lots on this Plan and the other folks involved would like to proceed with the subdivision of those lots without being held up by the DEP process. There may be some provision made in the event Bally does not get permitted and Mr. Ehst will then purchase the 2.4-acre parcel. There would be notes and agreements provided to the township stating if the parcel is not permitted for a well, Shuhler would then convey the parcel to Mr. Ehst and annexed back into the Ehst parcel. Mr. Roma stated he does not want the township to assume any risk for this transaction. Mr. Becker explained everything would be noted on the Plan and Mr. Becker indicated there is already an agreement in place which the township would want a copy on record. Supervisor Moyer asked if there is going to be anything happening with the proposed Rental Ordinance. Mr. Weber explained his understanding was the Ordinance was

reviewed and brought back to the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Moyer would like to meet with the Planning Commission for discussion and review of the proposed ordinance. Mr. Moyer feels this is very important for the safety of the residents. Mr. Sichler will advertise for a joint meeting for May 3, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

None

SUPERVISORS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Mower Purchase** –Mr. Sichler stated the Board previously authorized the purchase of a zero-turn mower and discussed using Recreation Fund money to make the purchase however a motion was not made to make the funds available. A motion was made by Thomas Powanda, seconded by David Moyer authorizing the purchase of the mower in the amount of \$11,267.99 from Recreation Fund account 454.700. **No comments received.**
All ayes
- **Truck Purchase** – Mr. Sichler provided pricing for a ¾ ton pickup truck, all pricing under Costars. Mr. Sichler stated in the past two weeks reverse gear is going on the pickup truck so replacement of this truck is essential. The cost estimate for the repair of the truck is \$2,600. Mr. Roma stated he would like the 8-foot bed on the new truck and no extended cab. Mr. Powanda also agreed with the 8-foot bed. The Manager was directed to look for an 8-foot bed, single cab, lift gate, plow frame, light bar, sprayed bed liner. Mr. Powanda suggested going with an F-350 which he feels is better for plowing. A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by James Roma authorizing the purchase of a truck as outlined not to exceed \$40,000. **No comments received.**
All ayes
- **CELG Sewer Fund Review**-All information/documentation has been given to Mr. Jansen for his review. Mr. Sichler is hopeful for the results by the May or June meeting.
- **Township Building Door Replacements** – Price quotes have been received from Hutt's Glass and from B & G Glass for the front doors on the Administration Building. Hutt's Glass quote was \$6,500 and B & G Glass price was \$6,300. A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the purchase of the replacement doors from B & G Glass at a cost of \$6,300. **No comments received.**
All ayes
- **Hereford-Washington Joint Comp Plan**-Hearing needs to be scheduled to adopt the Joint Comprehensive Plan with Hereford Township. A motion was made by James Roma, seconded by David Moyer authorizing the Township Manager to schedule the Joint Comprehensive Plan Hearing at his discretion. **No comments received.**
All ayes

NEW BUSINESS

- **WWTP** – New control system will use the internet. Mr. Sichler will do additional research regarding an internet connection.
- **Potential Sale of West Tract** – A staff meeting was held on 4/20/18 with Prestige to explore development options.
- **Spotted Lantern Fly** – Penn State Extension Service is requesting volunteers for their 2018 SLF Banding Program. Contact Mr. Sichler if you are interested in volunteering.
- **PADEP NPDES MS4 Individual Permit Renewal** – A motion was made by James Roma, seconded by Thomas Gowanda authorizing the Township Manager to prepare the Renewal Permit Application and submit the \$2,500 permit application fee. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **First Energy** – Communication received advising the township of transmission line construction.
- **Berks County Solid Waste Authority** – has asked for a sponsorship from the township. A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by David Moyer authorizing a \$250 donation from the EAC budget. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **2018 Road Inspection** – Road inspection took place today. Mr. Sichler has the notes of identified problems and will compile a list and review with the Road Master.
- **1500 Block County Line Road trees** – There are a number of dead trees located off the right of way. There have been several complaints about the trees. A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the Township Manager to notify the property owners to remove the dead trees. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **Power Wash Admin Building** – Quote received for \$850 to power wash the Administrative Building. A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing J & S Power Washing to power wash the Admin building. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **BMMA Sewer Connection** – A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda allowing the sewer connection for 1419 County Line Road to connect to the BMMA sewer system. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **Spring Valley Village Meeting** – meeting was held to discuss the possible acquisition of 18 Stauffer Road. Mr. Williams proposed purchasing the property, repair and sell the existing home and subdividing off the remaining property to Spring Valley Village and installing four or five homes on this property. Mr. Becker stated there would need to be an extension of the overlay district which is a relatively simple process including a public hearing. Mr. Moyer asked that Mr. Williams make improvements to the gutter at this property and Mr. Williams did agree to make the upgrade. The Supervisors are in agreement with the concept proposed by Mr. Williams.

SUBDIVISION/PLANNING

None

SUBDIVISION EXTENSION

None

COMMUNICATIONS

Copy of the ARB Delinquent Account Report is enclosed.

Public Comment:

Connie Cordova requested a copy of the ARB Delinquent Account Report. Ms. Cordova was told she would need to complete a Right to Know request.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

- Tuesday, May 15, 2018 is Primary Election Day.
- The Township Spring Clean Up is Saturday, May 5th and are in need of volunteer as well.
- Saturday, April 28th there will be a Chicken Bar-B-Q at the Bechtelsville Fire Station from 1 pm to 4 pm.
- Fire calls for March was 53 call year to date is 146. Discussion took place regarding the Eastern Berks Fire Dept. \$20,000 donation. Supervisor Roma stated the donation was typically given at the end of year and wished to continue that practice. Supervisor Moyer state he would be inclined to give the donation in two payments of June and December.

Public Comment:

Peg Stewart stated Penn State recently had a Master Gardner come to SVV to discuss the Spotted Lantern Fly and asked if the Township would be interested in hosting a presentation. Ms. Stewart will provide the contact information to Mr. Sichler.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session was called at 9:07 pm to discuss a personnel matter. The meeting reconvened at 9:19 pm

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by James Roma to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:19 p.m. **No public comment received.**

All ayes

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Sichler
Manager/Secretary