

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MINUTES
MARCH 22, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson David Moyer called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:08 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 nineteen (19) 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

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Leroy Renson, snow-Mr. Renson stated he came to the township over a year ago about the snow in his driveway and stated he is tired of it. Mr. Becker stated Mr. Renson has threatened litigation against the township manager and also a township employee. Mr. Becker stated if Mr. Renson wishes to continue through legal channels he may do so however the Supervisors will not discuss this matter further since litigation has been threatened. Mr. Renson was asked to take his seat. Mr. Renson said he would like to meet to discuss what was said and what can be done. Mr. Moyer stated he will talk to the driver. Mr. Moyer announced if residents are plowing snow across the roadway and interfering with the township right-of-way they will be dealt with.

Carol Latch, stated some residents tried to come up with some constructive ways to help with the sewer problem.

- Foreclose on homes – Municipal lien claims are filed
- Best Practice-speak with other municipalities -Mr. Sichler stated we are a member of the Berks County Water & Sewer Assoc. This is already being done.
- Reduce tax rate & sewer rate to encourage more building

Ms. Latch asked if a feasibility study was done and Mr. Becker stated a study had to be done prior to any financing which reduced the term of the loan as well as saved 1.5 million over the course of the loan.

Kevin Foraker, storage-asked if he can park vehicles at the Fire Co. building along Old Route 100? Mr. Foraker was told that is private property and Mr. Foraker needs to speak with Eastern Berks Fire Dept. Mr. Bakes was present and explained to Mr. Foraker it is private property and township has nothing to do with their property unless there is a zoning issue. Mr. Moyer suggested they take the discussion outside, this is a private property issue and does not concern the township.

Chairman Moyer announced an executive session was held on Monday, March 15, 2018 regarding a personnel matter and also on Thursday, March 22, 2018 regarding litigation.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2018

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

All ayes

TOWNSHIP REPORTS

A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by David Moyer 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 March 22, 2018, and to file the treasurer's report for audit. **No comments received.**

All ayes

TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collectors Report for the month of February 2018:

Interim Tax	\$ 730.45
Per Capita Tax	\$ 9.18
Total	\$ 739.63

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

A copy of the Eastern Berks Fire Department Report is in the binders. Chairman Moyer thanked the Fire Department for responding to the barn fire and for doing an excellent job.

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 he has submitted the Chapter 94 Wasteload Management Report to the township for review and signature for submission to DEP by March 31st. A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by James Roma authorizing the execution of the Chapter 94 Report. **No comments received.**

All ayes

A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by James Roma authorizing Pipe Data View to conduct the televising for the I/I work for 2018 not to exceed \$7,500 and residents in the affected area to be notified. **No comments received.**

All ayes

Mr. Sichler explained one of the capital items at the WWTP to be completed this year would be to upgrade the 20-year-old control system. Two bids were received and the low bid was from G3 Automation. A motion was made by James Roma, seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the Township Manager to negotiate a contract with G3 Automation, price not to exceed \$36,250 contingent upon the successful negotiations of the terms. **No comments received.**

All ayes

Public Comment:

Connie Cordova asked if it would be possible to get a tour of the Treatment Plant. Mr. Sichler indicated he would be more than happy to provide a tour.

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

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

Mr. Weber reported there was no March Planning Commission meeting.

Mr. Weber stated he met with the Roadmaster and walked the sections of the roads to be repaired. Specs were put together and are currently being reviewed by PADOT with the project tentatively scheduled for bid opening on April 23rd with the bid being awarded at the April 26th meeting.

A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda approving Resolution 2018-18 approving the Brooke-Fronheiser Sewage Facility Planning Module. **No comments received.**

All ayes

Public Comment:

Wyatt Hibbs, stated he lives at 242 Heydt's Schoolhouse Road and said the road is sinking in front of his property and asked how the township would address this issue. Mr. Moyer said he would have the Roadmaster take a look at it.

Chairman Moyer asked what is happening with the modular home at Beck's. Mr. Weber said at this point the State Police would need to be called to have it removed and the call would need to be made by the property owner not the township. Mr. Becker suggested sending a notice of violation to get things moving toward getting the property cleaned up.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by David Moyer authorizing the execution of the agreement between Rotelle Development and Washington Township. **No comments received.**

All ayes

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the settlement agreement with James Treichler not to exceed \$1,700. **No comments received.**

All ayes

SUPERVISORS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Surplus equipment auction results** – The Township Manager stated the only item he put up for auction that did not receive a bid was cordless drill. The items that received bids are as follows:
 1. **2007 John Deere Z Track Mower - \$4,901.00**
 2. **Magnesium Chloride Sprayer Unit #1 - \$80.50**
 3. **Magnesium Chloride Sprayer Unit #2 - \$78.25**
 4. **Magnesium Chloride Sprayer Unit #3 - \$40.50**
 5. **Tac Coat Sprayer - \$200.00**
 6. **Pressure Washer - \$902.00**
 7. **4 hp Air Compressor - \$35.00**
 8. **Compressed Air Hose Reel - \$20.50**
 9. **5 hp Air Compressor - \$320.00**
 10. **5” Bench Grinder - \$21.00**

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the sale of the surplus equipment as listed above to the high bidders. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **Truck Purchase** –Mr. Sichler stated \$200,000 has been budgeted for a new truck. Single axel price 2-wheel drive, w/spare tire is \$157,115 and a double rear axle w/spare tire is \$191,432. There was some discussion if the truck should be standard or automatic.

A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the purchase of a 2019 Freightliner not to exceed \$191,432 w/the standard option or automatic option. **No comments received.**

All ayes

Supervisor Roma also stated the pick-up truck needs to be replaced and would the Board like to investigate the replacement of this truck as well. Mr. Sichler will get Costars pricing and report back to the Board.

- **CELG Sewer Fund Review** – Mr. Sichler contacted Paul Jansen after the last meeting and Mr. Jansen has provided a list of items he needs to begin his review.
- **Township Building Door Replacements** – Mr. Sichler is still waiting on additional prices.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Board Resignation** – Mr. Rod Boyer has resigned from the Zoning Hearing Board. Chairman Moyer suggested asking Beverly Mudd to serve as a regular member rather than an alternate member. Mr. Sichler will contact Ms. Mudd. Chairman Moyer asked the Manager to send Mr. Boyer a letter of thank you. Chairman Moyer made a motion to accept Mr. Boyer’s resignation from the

Zoning Hearing Board with regret, motion was seconded by Thomas Powanda.
No comments received.

All ayes

Mr. Sichler announced he is in need of a member for the Board of Auditors.

- **Purchasing Policy** -Mr. Sichler provided a sample of a Purchasing Policy for the Boards consideration.
- **Concord Public Finance** proposal for annual continuing disclosure and filing related to our sewer bond.
- **Sewer Fees** - A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the return of all fees for sewer account 693 with respect to a hacked bank account. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **Water Leak** - There is a request for waiver of fees for a water leak on account 444. No action was taken on this matter.
- **Professional Services Agreement** – Prestige Homes would like to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with the township. This would be to cover the costs of the townships professionals to enter into discussions regarding the possible development of the West Tract. A motion was made by David Moyer and seconded by Thomas Powanda authorizing the Township Manager to draft a Professional Services Agreement between Prestige Homes and Washington Township and to execute the agreement. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **Ritter Escrow Release** – A motion was made by Thomas Powanda and seconded by James Roma authorizing the release of the Bruce Ritter Escrow in the amount of \$982.15. **No comments received.**

All ayes

- **Roadside Mowing Contract** – A motion was made by James Roma, seconded by David Moyer authorizing a three (3) year contract with PADOT for roadside mowing with a 5% per mile increase. **No comments received.**

All ayes

SUBDIVISIONS/PLANNING

None

SUBDIVISION EXTENSION

A motion was made by James Roma, seconded by Thomas Powanda granting the following subdivision extension:

Shuhler Farm 04/02/18 to 07/01/18

No comments received.

All ayes

COMMUNICATIONS

Copy of the ARB Delinquent Account Report is enclosed.

Chairman Moyer announced volunteers are still needed on many of the township committees.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next WTMA (water) meeting will be held on Thursday, April 26, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

The next board of Supervisors meeting will be held on Thursday, April 26, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Road inspection will be held April 26, 2018 at 7:00 a.m.

Supervisor Roma thanked the Roadcrew for a good job snow plowing this winter.

Public Comment:

Connie Cordova, asked what the status is of the Swamp Creed Pump Station upgrade. Mr. Brochon explained the revised plans are currently under review. Hopefully construction will be completed by the end of the year.

Sharlene Andryko, asked about the Spotted Lantern Fly. Mr. Sichler attended a training session on the Lantern Fly. A walk around your vehicle before leaving the area, identification of the different stages and identification of the egg masses. Penn State Extension Services has information on-line and are a good source of information.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by James Roma and seconded by Thomas Powanda to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:23 p.m. **No public comment received.**

All ayes

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Sichler
Manager/Secretary