

JANUARY 12, 2021

REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Rudolph at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 in the Township Building.

ROLL CALL

The following Commissioners were present: Mmes. Sage, and Hoffman, Messrs. Kelly, Lanciano and Layden. Also present was Messrs. Fulton and Byrne.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by Mrs. Sage followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

On motion of Mrs. Hoffman, the minutes of December 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 was approved as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Rudolph asked if anyone in the audience wished to comment on any of the agenda items. Seeing none, the meeting continued.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Rudolph called for Reports of Committees.

Public Works

Mr. Kelly reported there were two vehicle accidents with no damage to the Township vehicles and no work related injuries. Currently there are no employees in the COVID protocol. There were two sewer emergencies none of which occurred after hours and required overtime hours. Public Works has completed collecting leaves throughout the Township. Trucks and equipment are now prepared for the winter season. Due to the upcoming Martin Luther King Jr., holiday on Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, trash, and recycling will not be collected.

Recycling

Mr. Kelly reported for December, total trash collected 1,023 tons. Paper recycling was 131.32, tons, commingled was 123.35 tons and bulk items was 44.4.

Health

Mr. Kelly reported for the month of December, the Health Officer inspected 8 restaurants, 4 retail establishments, and two re-inspections. The new High School was also inspected. A tour was given of the High School, it is a

beautiful facility and best of luck to everyone. There were two fires, Giant, 950 Baltimore Pike and Panera, 1022 Baltimore Pike. There was one dog bite, one animal nuisance and a sanitation issue at the Parkway Motel. In order to recycle your Christmas tree it must be a clean tree, free from tinsel, ornaments and tree stands, place curbside on Wednesdays until January 27<sup>th</sup>. For Dirty trees that have tinsel, ornaments, and tree stands can be put out on your regular trash day. Snow and Ice are common causes of medical emergencies, shoveling snow is hard work, please take frequent breaks to prevent over exertion and drink plenty of water to prevent dehydration.

Mrs. Sage reported Springfield Ice Rink is back to the original COVID 19 restriction schedule, hockey practices and games along with skating lessons which are permitted with limited spectators, masks are required in the building, they are optional on the ice because players are wearing face shields and mouth guards. Under current restrictions there are no parties or public skating. The building is disinfected after every event.

Ice Rink

Mrs. Hoffman reported the Library's Annual Fund drive is still going on; it is at \$23,000.00. Thank you to all who have donated to date. This allows the Library to provide a service such as new carpeting, flooring in the adult area as well as in the office and main area, new shelving for magazines. Mrs. Rushton and the staff at the Library are doing a wonderful job. There is an array of programs, currently the winter programs which are Family Dance party through zoom and a winter plant program. For more information go to the website.

Library

Mr. Lanciano reported the Parks crew completed all parks department snow removal responsibilities during the snowstorm. Removed the play system and basketball poles in preparation for Meadowgreen Park rehabilitation program. We are waiting on the plans for this construction project.

Parks

It is scheduled to begin January 18, 2021. The bids have been awarded for the trail markers which we are in partnership with Friends of Smedley Park, Kevin Dion was present and talked about the Trail Markers. Parks crew fixed five broken picnic tables and returned them to the parks, completed weekly trash removal at all parks.

Zoning

Mr. Layden reported the Zoning Hearing Board convened on December 17, 2020 to hear and render decisions of the following: approval of dimensional variances from the Zoning Ordinances to permit a two lot residential subdivision subject to the Board of Commissioners approval of the pending subdivision application at 238 Maple Avenue, approval to permit an attached deck with roof to encroach into the rear yard at 447 Ridge Lane. The Zoning Hearing Board will convene a Public Meeting on January 28, 2021 at 7:30pm at the Township Building, 50 Powell Road, to hear and render a decision on the following zoning hearing application: 275 Avon Road, seeking dimensional variance from the Zoning Ordinance to permit the increase of a nonconforming setback for a shed, an accessory use structure. Section §143-112.B (1) (a) will allow for a 1.5 foot increase, wherein 6 feet is proposed.

Golf Course

Mr. Layden reported for the month of December, total rounds were 851 bringing the year-to-date total to 32,642 rounds. Total revenue for the month of December was \$53,926.00 bringing end of year revenue total to \$1,663,357.00. The seven year moving average for that time would be \$1,342,971.00 leaving us with a positive variance of \$338,386.00. The golf shop total revenue for the month of December was \$4,197.00, bringing the shops year to date total sales to \$110,903.00. Completed fall clean up of leaves, pinecones and debris, all winter equipment repairs and maintenance programs have begun, completed all Country Club snow and ice removal responsibilities.

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Mr. Kelly moved that we approve the bills as reviewed and approved by the department heads seconded by Mr. Layden and carried.

BILLS SUBMITTED

Mr. Lanciano recommended to award the Gasoline and Diesel Fuel bids to Riggins Oil Inc. of Vineland NJ, starting 1-31-2021 to 1-30-2022. Second by Mr. Layden and carried.

AWARD OF BIDS

Mr. Lanciano made a motion to recommend to permit our Solicitor to follow up on the discussions that took place at the Board of Commissioners previous meetings and to answer and extend the existing lease agreement relative to land transmission with the school board for the Parks building located at 84 Saxer Avenue. Second by Mr. Layden and carried. Mr. Byrne suggested asking for public comment since it was not on the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Lanciano moved for the adoption of Resolution #1-21 Providing the authority to establish and maintain investment Accounts for Township funds. Seconded by Mrs. Sage and carried.

RESOLUTION - #1-21  
Bank Deposits

Mr. Kelly moved for the adoption of Resolution #2-21 of Act 537 Plan Update by Gannett Fleming, Inc. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

RESOLUTION – 2-21

Mrs. Hoffman made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Planning Commission for the Preliminary Final Subdivision Plan for 238 Maple Avenue, contingent upon the following items :

NEW BUSINESS

In order to require the least modification possible for a variance(s) from the zoning ordinance, the applicant should reduce the impervious coverage on Lot 1 to a compliant amount by removing surplus asphalt from the property and or

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further adjusting the proposed lot line between Lots 1 and 2. The applicant is to seek confirmation of the existing non-conformities on the property or in the alternative variances from the Zoning Hearing Board. Comply with the comments of the Township Engineer's review letter, dated December 2, 2020. Second by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

Mr. Lanciano made a motion to accept the recommendation from the Planning Commission for the waiver request for 463 W. Sproul Road, contingent upon the Landscaping plan establishing a vegetative buffer along the Southerly property line and the owner shall obtain all required permits for the project, including a sanitary sewer planning module or exception from the Department of Environmental Protection. Seconded by Mr. Layden and carried.

RELEASE OF  
ESCROW FUNDS

Mr. Layden upon the recommendation of the Township Engineer, Joseph Mastronardo, regarding work being done at 421 N. State Rd., known as Coventry Woods, the original escrow amount put forth by the builder was \$1,623,939.58. Upon recommendation of the Township Engineer, Joseph Mastronardo, Mr. Layden made a motion to release \$508,325.76 back for construction of site preparation, erosion control, demolition, clearing of earth work, sanitary sewer and storm sewer. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

AUTHORIZE POLICE  
TOWING SERVICES

Mrs. Sage made a motion to reappoint the two alternate towing services, Capital Towing and Bill's Auto for 2021. Seconded by Mr. Layden and carried.

APPOINTMENTS  
PLANNING  
COMMISSION

Mrs. Sage made a motion to appoint Jeff DiBlasi, 412 Garden Road, to fill an unexpired term until 7/2022 to the Planning Commission. Seconded by Mr. Kelly and carried.

CIVILIAN PENSION  
PLAN COMMITTEE

Mrs. Hoffman made a motion to approve the Civilian Pension Plan Committee for a two year term, the employee

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representative, Alana Cervino and the resident representative, Bob Artese. Second by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

Mrs. Sage made a motion to reappoint Dan Kelly, 1054 West Avenue, who has served on the Civil Service Commission since 2018 as an alternate for a six year term. Second by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

Mr. Layden made a motion to reappoint Domenico Basile, 424 Burns Drive and Michael Simpson, 42 Worrell Dr. to a four year term on the Golf Advisory Board. Second by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

Mrs. Hoffman made a motion to reappoint Lee J. Janiczek, 485 Barker Rd., who has served since 2020 and Marianne Revello, 305 Butler Rd., who has served since 2003 to the Library Board. Second by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

Mrs. Hoffman made a motion to approve the reappointment for the Park Board, Mr. Thomas Grubb, 551 Prospect Rd., who has served since 2005. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve the reappointment for the Vacancy Board to Mr. John McFadden, 47 S. Rolling Rd., who has served since 2005. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

Mr. Byrne, gave a brief explanation of the First Class Township Code with regards to Commissioner Wechsler's resignation on December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and stated the Board of Commissioners has thirty days to appoint a successor.

CIVIL SERVICE  
COMMISSION

GOLF ADVISORY  
BOARD

LIBRARY BOARD

PARK BOARD

VACANCY BOARD

4<sup>th</sup> WARD  
COMMISSIONER

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Mr. Kelly stated that one of the candidates for the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Commissioner position is his law partner and he wanted to make sure there is no legal or ethical requirement for him to recuse himself, he did recuse himself from the interview process, deliberations, and the vote this evening.

Mr. Lanciano made a motion to appoint James Kennedy, 44 S. Hillcrest Road to serve out the remainder of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Commissioners term. Mr. Lanciano said how all three candidates were qualified for the position and thanked them for their interest and dedication to become involved. Mr. Kennedy is a lifelong Springfield resident, graduated from Springfield High School and has served as President of the Youth Club, served on the Planning Commission, Zoning Hearing Board, as well as the United States Marine Corp. Second by Mrs. Hoffman and carried.

Mr. Rudolph stated the swearing in for Mr. Kennedy Would be Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 7:00pm.

Mrs. Bonnie Hodges thanked the Board of Commissioners for the opportunity to interview for the position of 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Commissioner and expressed concerns about the appointment of Lee J. Janiczek to the Library Board.

Mr. Layden moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Lanciano and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT  
(8:45p.m.)