

December 23, 2019 Meeting Minutes held at the Mahoning Township Building

Members of the Board present: Chairman Bill Lynn, Supervisors, Larry Robertson, TS Scott, Molly Shultz, John Whelan, Solicitor Jon DeWald, Treasurer Ken Houck, Secretary Carolyn Dragano, Zoning Officer Jim Dragano, Engineer Drew Barton, Police Chief Fred Dyroff.

Also present were – Rose & Bill Pursel, Henry Eyer, Linda Rea, Patricia Swanson, Dave & Bonnie Martin, Mike & Kelly Mills, Dan and Cindy Stamey, Glen Cromley, Dave Betz, Tom & Robin Kessler, Gerri Gibbons, from Press Enterprise and Joe Sylvester, from Danville News.

ALL VOTING WILL BE CONSIDERED UNANIMOUS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

Engineer Drew Barton gave his report and discussions were also held on the following:

Drew gave a brief discussion about Bald Top. The soil Engineers recommendation is to do the Soil Nailing instead of the Geomatting because of the depth of the dirt and decayed rock. The Soil Nailing is a more permanent solution and it's faster. The other way, we would have had to haul truck loads of dirt out before even getting started and it would also be weather driven. They will also coordinate with PennDOT, if any of the highway has to be closed. They will clear cut the trees and then put something similar to a chain link fence to hold the material in place. Soils Engineer Josh will give us the proposal at the end of January and then we can put our bids out. In 10 days to 2 weeks we can get the bids back and we can start as soon as we pick the contractor, that is if the contractor we choose doesn't have a back log. Supervisor Scott said they are still looking at opening the road about the June timeframe.

Resident Dave Betz expressed concerns about the water design going across the railroad at Bald Top. Drew said this will be a separate project. Supervisor Whelan said we will put basins along the Northside of the road to collect the water, which will feed into a main pipe. They will also plant new vegetation to make it look nice. Whelan said they would like to do it in a fashion that will allow emergency vehicles to still travel. Chairman Lynn said the road may not be paved before June, but they can still open the road, and have it paved by the end of summer.

Resident Dave Martin expressed concerns about how much of the road will need to be replaced and nailed. Drew said they will be rebuilding the pavement section and that we will know more on how far up the nailing will be done, once they get started with the project.

Resident Bonnie Martin expressed concerns about building out the bank to make the road surface wider. Bonnie also thanked everyone for staying on top of this project.

Drew briefly discussed the Reimbursement Agreement for the \$351,000 grant for the modernization upgrade at the Woodbine and Bloom Road Intersection and said it will take about 6 months to get the agreement back from PennDOT. It will take 18 months to 2 years to complete the work.

Supervisor Scott briefly discussed several of the Engineering projects coming up for 2020.

Department of Streets and Infrastructure Lloyd Craig gave his report and discussions were also held on the following:

Lloyd said he received one fuel quote for our 2020 needs. The quote came from Superior Plus Energy. The same company that has served us for the last 10 plus years. Their quote was \$.35 above OPIS daily pricing. This is down \$.04 from last year.

Supervisor Whelan motioned to use Superior Plus Energy for fuel, at .35 cents above OPIS daily pricing. Supervisor Shultz seconded.

Lloyd said they found water coming out of an underdrain near Primrose Court. They are trying to determine the source and also have a call into SUEZ, to make sure it's not a water main break. They hope to take care of the source as soon as they figure it out.

Treasurer Ken Houck – asked the board to tentatively adopt new ordinances for Uniform and Non-Uniform retirement system plans. They are the same exact plans but needed to be reformatted because of the Federal Regulations. It's not different, just a different format to be more uniformed with retirement investments.

Supervisor Scott motioned to tentatively adopt and advertise the Ordinance for Section 1601 PMRS Ordinances for Uniform and Non-Uniform employees. Supervisor Shultz seconded. Ken said final adoption will be on the 6th of January.

Solicitor Jon DeWald discussed adopting a Resolution for building improvements. This would be taking money from the allocated Capital Building Fund to pay for specific projects here at the township, which includes everything in the building, at a sum not to exceed \$50,000.

Supervisor Robertson motioned to approve the Resolution for building improvements for upgrades to the following Capital Projects; Police Dept, Dept. of Street & Infrastructure Dept., LED lighting conversion, Supervisors Office, completion of the Townships History Wall, Security of Informational Technology., all not to exceed \$50,000. Supervisor Shultz seconded. The resolution was passed.

Supervisor Whelan briefly discussed the Building improvements resolution saying he is very happy the board adopted the resolution and said it gives the residents the opportunity to see what the plans are for improvements of the building.

Resident Glen Cromley expressed concerns about improvements and showing the townships accountability. Supervisor Whelan said this is all outlined in the resolution. Supervisor Robertson said the work will be well under \$50,000. Chairman Lynn also noted that they would have to come back to the board for approval, before they could send more than the approved amount.

Zoning Officer Jim Dragano said they had a Zoning Hearing Board Meeting on Monday, December 19th concerning the size of the cabins at Frosty Valley Country Club.

Resident Dave Betz asked if the Country Club development will go through. Supervisor Robertson briefly explained how the Zoning Hearing Board works and said it only allows them to submit a plan to go forward.

Police Chief Fred Dyroff - gave his report and discussions were also held on the following:

Chief Dyroff requested a pay raise of \$25.00 per hour, for part time officer, Clay Fahringer. Supervisor Whelan said it's covered in the budget because they anticipated Officer Bedisky being away part of year 2020, but he is no longer going away. It also saves overtime by Clay working. Supervisor Scott said it needs to be run by the labor council, Melissa Kelso, before it can be considered. Supervisor Whelan said he emailed Ms. Kelso and said she is going to look into it.

Chief Dyroff briefly discussed some of the goals for improving the police dept. They will Increase the officer and staff safety by keeping individuals in custody at the far end of the building. By doing this, we will install an intercom camera at the rear entrance of the building. The camera will go to the reception desk and the Secretary will be able to buzz them in by just looking at the camera. They will also install garage door openers that the Secretary can open and close as well. No longer will individuals in custody come through the main entrance. In 2021, they will install a restroom on the west side of the building, near the fingerprint room, again for safety reasons. Currently, if a prisoner needs to use the restroom, the officer brings them in through the police dept, around the Secretary's desk, through the door, to use the public restroom, which is a safety issue for everyone.

Supervisor Scott said he talked with the Structural Engineer, from Larson Design today. She will come in to meet with everyone and go over the ideas in place for the police dept. and will draw up plans in 2020 so we are ready to do the work in 2021. Charges for the plans will come out of the \$50,000 Building Improvements Resolution. This way we can also include the renovation costs in the budget for next year.

Chief Dyroff discussed the purchase of a new desk at the entrance of the police office, to improve foot traffic. There will be a ledge to provide a barrier for safety and for confidential documents. Supervisor Scott showed photos of the new curved desk and described the new improvements. The costs will come out of the Building Improvements Resolution funds.

Supervisor Lynn said they had (2) Executive sessions this month. Both were on the 20th of December. One for Personnel and one for Bald Top.

Chairman Lynn asked if there was any public comment related to unfinished or new business. No Public comments.

Chairman Lynn said they left out the 2% raise for the Part time employees, when approving the 2020 Compensation at the last meeting and said this was not intentional, it was just a mistake.

Supervisor Scott motioned to approve Non-Contract Employees, in the business office, to receive a 2% raise starting January 1, 2020, which includes, Carolyn Dragano, Ken Houck, Dean VonBlohn and Jim Dragano. This averages out to about .52 cents per person. Supervisor Whelan seconded. The motion was passed.

Chairman Lynn said the Supervisors Re-Organization Meeting will be held on Monday, January 6, 2020, here at the Township Building, at 5:30pm.

Chairman Lynn said the Christmas tree pick-up starts Friday, December 27th, 2019 and ends Friday, January 31, 2020. Pick-up will be every Monday and Friday, weather permitting, from 7am to 3pm. Trees are to be at curbside by 7am. Trees will not be taken if they contain stands, lights or if they are in plastic.

Supervisor Whelan motioned to approve the November Meeting Minutes. Supervisor Robertson seconded. Minutes were passed.

Chairman Lynn asked if there was any public comment, not related to new business. There was no public comment.

Supervisor Scott invited everyone to see the renovations, including our wall and our white board, listing all the objectives. He said the white board will be erased this weekend so he can start adding for 2020.

Supervisor Shultz motioned to pay the bills and adjourn. Supervisor Whelan seconded.

This meeting was recorded. These minutes reflect the events and dialog during the meeting but are not transcribed verbatim.

All Reports are available at the Township Building

Carolyn Dragano Secretary