

MINUTES
EXETER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021

Public Meeting

A Regular Meeting of the Exeter Township Board of Supervisors held virtually was called to order on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 7:01 PM by Greg Galtere, Chairperson.

Supervisors Present: Gregory Galtere, Chairperson
David Speece, Vice Chairperson
Michelle Kircher
John Cusatis
Joseph Staub

Absent: None

Others in Attendance: Jeff Bartlett, Township Manager
Laurie Getz, Township Secretary
Clarence Hamm, Highway Superintendent
Elizabeth Magovern, Hartman Valeriano Magovern & Lutz, P.C.
Wendell Morris, Chief of Police
Joseph Rogosky, Great Valley Consultants, Township Engineer
Jennifer Savage, Finance Director

REGULAR MEETING

The Meeting was opened with the Pledge to the Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Agenda Items

Public comments were submitted in advance of the meeting via email and voicemail. The e-mail comments were dictated by computer software.

None

REGULAR APPROVALS

Regular Minutes – December 14, 2020

MOTION of Mr. Cusatis seconded by Mr. Staub, the Board UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED the December 14, 2020 Board of Supervisors Minutes.

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Reorganization Minutes – January 4, 2021

Mr. Galtere pointed out a necessary edit of Hurey Miller from Terry Miller for Vacancy Board Chairman.

MOTION of Mr. Speece seconded by Ms. Kircher, the Board UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED the January 4, 2021 Board of Supervisors Minutes with the edit of Mr. Miller's name.

Ratification of Disbursements – December 28, 2020

MOTION of Mr. Staub seconded by Mr. Cusatis, the Board UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED payment of the bills presented on the Disbursement List dated December 28, 2020 in the amounts of \$37,557.34 in the General Fund; \$15,415.72 in the Utility Fund; \$3,676.37 in the Golf Fund; \$1,816.05 in the RCC F&B Fund; \$2,537.71 in the Promenade Fund; \$55,252.50 in the WWTP Sale Proceeds.

Disbursements – January 11, 2021

Ms. Savage commented on several items. Reimbursement to Sgt. Behm was for Shop with a Cop costs. These funds were fully covered by a generous donation received. Invoice for Weikel Sportswear was for uniform items for Public Works. Wilmington Trust payment is for a bond interest payment for a remaining sewer bond that was not previously payable.

MOTION of Mr. Speece seconded by Ms. Kircher, the Board UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED payment of the bills presented on the Disbursement List dated January 11, 2021 in the amounts of \$326,389.48 in the General Fund; \$279.91 in the Utility Fund; \$6,749.25 in the Capital Police Fund; \$3,827.94 in the K9 Fund; \$126.95 in the Sewer Fund; \$7,174.82 in the Golf Fund; \$3,116.84 in the RCC F&B Fund; \$545.00 in the Promenade Fund; \$53,503.10 in the Capital Improvement Fund; \$1,159.95 in the Equipment Fund; \$126,678.13 in the Debt Service Fund; \$2,810.00 in the Park Fund; \$28,440.35 in the State Liquid Fuels Fund.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Galtere explained that the Golf Report will be presented at the next meeting.

Monthly Right to Know Report

Mr. Galtere explained that the report is posted to the website. **Mr. Staub** commented on the improved and shortened response time. Mr. Galtere stated that he has been keeping track and we have seen a large increase in the percentage of requests that were completed within 5-days, and a decrease in total requests made.

Discussion on Parks & Recreational Rental Facilities

Ms. Getz explained that the department is beginning to receive inquiries about 2021 rentals for the Dunn Center. Reviewed current COVID restrictions related to gatherings, and recommended the facility remain closed until further notice, but continue to monitor restrictions and update policies accordingly. Will bring the issue of outdoor rentals in parks back before the board as we get closer to parks season.

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MOTION of Mr. Cusatis seconded by Mr. Staub, the Board UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED to continue to follow Governor Wolf's COVID-19 guidelines for indoor/outdoor facility rentals.

NEW BUSINESS

Authorize Disposal of Vehicles

Mr. Piersol explained that he is seeking approval to dispose of three vehicles. Two of the vehicles will be recycled, the third will be sold on municibid. The vehicles have exceeded their useful lives.

MOTION of Mr. Staub seconded by Mr. Cusatis, the Board UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED disposal of 2005 Chevrolet Impala VIN2G1WF55K759303749, 2007 Ford Crown Victoria VIN2FAFP71VX8X106144, 2004 Chevrolet Impala VIN2G1WF52K649262694 to be sold on MuniBid.

Consider Approving Land Development Waivers for Berks County Magisterial District Justice Office Preliminary Plan MDC 23-2-03

Mr. Rogosky explained that the Planning Commission has received an application for a proposed new District Justice office between Morgan Daycare and Walmart. The plans were reviewed and discussed at Planning Commission, the applicant has requested several waivers that are before the Board for consideration.

The Planning Commission has agreed with and recommended that the Board approve Section 330-48.G: Water Resources Study. The property will be on public water.

The Planning Commission has agreed with and recommended that the Board approve Section 330-13.F. (13) & Section 330-13.F. (14): Environmental Hazard Report and Environmental Assessment Statement. Waivers to be granted only for areas outside of the Limit of Disturbance, provided that any future development or expansion would require the applicant to conduct the study.

The site does not presently have wetlands but should any be encountered in the future they will be required to conduct a study. The Planning Commission has agreed with granting of Section 330-13.F. (13) & Section 330-13.F. (14): Environmental Hazard Report and Environmental Assessment Statement. Waivers to be granted only for areas outside of the Limit of Disturbance. The Planning Commission has also recommended approving Section 330-13.F.(16): Historic and Archeological Resource Inventory, Section 330-13.C. (12): Tree Inventory Report. Waiver to be granted only for areas outside of the Limit of Disturbance, Curbing Depth: Recommended to be a depth of 18" rather than 24', and a DEFERRAL for Section 330-54 & Section 330-53: Curbing and Sidewalk Installation Requirement.

Ms. Kircher asked what type of fill is on the property. **Mr. Rogosky** explained that they are required to do an environmental assessment on the areas that they will be disturbing, and that was a concern raised by the Planning Commission as well.

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Mr. Rogosky explained that the County is using this as their prototype, Exeter is their first test. There will be drawings available in the future.

Mr. Bartlett asked about the plans being submitted to PennDOT. **Mr. Rogosky** explained that there have been discussions held with PennDOT, who was not requiring a deceleration lane. The Township and the Planning Commission have recommended that a deceleration lane be included as was recently required of The Morgan School. A letter will be submitted to PennDOT communicating this position, it is a safety concern.

Mr. Staub asked if there is a timeframe. **Mr. Rogosky** replied that the County has indicated that they would like to be in the building by the fall of this year.

MOTION of Mr. Speece seconded by Mr. Staub, the Board UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED the list of SALDO waivers suggested by the Planning Commission and reviewed and presented by the Township Engineer.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Clarence Hamm; Public Works Department: Public Works has been working at the Reading Country Club, taking down trees. The roof repairs at the Reading Country Club have been repaired, as well as cracked windows. Replacing snow emergency route signs. Tomorrow they will be closing the Butter Lane Bridge. Received a request from the US Coast Guard to conduct a vessel inspection at the Promenade Shopping Center on April 12th, 2021. Discussion on required area, and timing of the demolition of the property. Consensus to approve the request.

Chief Morris; Police Department: Reported that Officer Chris Miller was recently presented with the Life Saving Award. Late last year, the PD received a call for a suicidal male who officer miller found hanging upon entering the residence. Officer Miller conducted advanced life saving techniques and was successful in saving the individuals life.

Reminded residents to make sure they are locking their vehicles at night, and not to leave valuables in their vehicles.

Joe Rogosky, Township Engineer, Great Valley Consultants: Hilldale Road pre-bid meeting was held last week, bids will be opened on Tuesday, January 19th at the Township Building. There has been interest in the project.

Explained that we recently received notification from DEP in reference to the Growing Greener Grant that the Township was unsuccessful in its application for funding. It was very competitive. We will keep trying for funding.

Elizabeth Magovern, Solicitor; Nothing to report.

Jeff Bartlett, Township Manager: HVAC work at the Reading Country Club is proceeding well. Provided update on internal COVID issues, continuing to do our best within PA Department of Health regulations.

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Ms. Getz announced that the Parks & Recreation Department was just notified that we have been awarded \$150,000 in grant funding for its Pineland Park revitalization project from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

PUBLIC COMMENT – General Comments

Public comments were submitted in advance of the meeting via email and voicemail. The e-mail comments were dictated by computer software.

None.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS:

Mr. Staub: Attended the School Board meeting last week, the Fire Department made a presentation to the Board regarding the tax credit legislation. The School Board will be considering it for their next budget cycle. Golf course ended the year up from last year, and with a significant increase in rounds from last year. Announced that there will be a golf committee meeting scheduled in the near future.

Mr. Cusatis: Asked for an update on the electronic sign. **Mr. Bartlett** replied that we have not received updated proposals yet, but we are hoping to be able to report on it at the next meeting.

Ms. Kircher: Nothing to report.

Mr. Speece: Complimented the electronic newsletter. Urged all residents to stay safe.

Mr. Galtere: Congratulated Officer Miller for his award, and thanked everyone for all of their hard work.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION of Mr. Cusatis, seconded by Mr. Speece, the meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Getz
Township Secretary