



Allen Township Board of Supervisors

Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2020

7:00 P.M.

A General Meeting of the Allen Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, at 7:00 P.M. at the Allen Township Municipal Building, 4714 Indian Trail Road, Northampton, PA 18067. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Chairman Dale Hassler.

1. Roll Call: Present: Carl Edwards; Gary Behler; Bruce Frack; Dale Hassler; Gerald Montanari, Sr.; B. Lincoln Treadwell, Jr., Esq.; Stan Wojciechowski, PE, CME, Andrea Martin, EIT; Ilene Eckhart, Manager.

2. Public to be Heard:

3. Public Hearings: No Public Hearings.

4. Approval of Minutes: Mr. Behler made a motion to approve the minutes of February 11, 2020 and February 25, 2020; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

5. Reports

A. Treasurer: Mr. Behler made a motion to approve the Treasurers Report and Pay the bills; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

B. Solicitor: On file.

C. Engineer: On file.

D. Planning/Zoning/Code Enforcement: Ms. Eckhart provided a recap of items, which will be before the Planning Commission in March.

E. Road Superintendent/Public Works Leader: On file and presented by Mr. Gogle. Mr. Gogle provided the report for activities in February 2020.

F. Fire Company: On file and report supplied by Second Assistant Chief Krill.

G. Emergency Management Coordinator: Report provided by EMC Gary Krill for February.

H. Parks: On file.

i. Lehigh River Property – Estimates for Building Removal/Reclamation: Ms. Eckhart provided an update regarding the deactivation of utilities.

J. Nazareth Council of Government: Mr. Gary Krill reported there was no meeting of the COG since the last report.

K. First Regional Compost Authority: Next Meeting is scheduled for March 17th.

L. Stormwater: On file.

6. Unfinished Business

A. Act 537 Plan Update, Status Memorandum: Ms. Andrea Martin, EIT was present to discuss the memorandum and provide an update. Mr. Montanari made a motion to perform a feasibility study for the conceptual construction of a sanitary sewer wastewater plant and associated pump station in Allen Township; seconded by Mr. Frack. On the motion, by roll call vote, Supervisors voted accordingly: Mr. Edwards abstained; Mr. Behler – no; Mr. Frack – yes; Mr. Hassler – no. Mr. Behler made a motion to update the Act 537 plan; seconded by Mr. Montanari. On the motion, by roll call vote, Supervisors voted accordingly: Mr. Edwards abstained; Mr. Montanari – yes; Mr. Hassler – yes; Mr. Frack – yes; Mr. Behler – yes.

B. Wastewater Training Seminar, Authorization to Register 2 Public Works Employees: Mr. Behler made a motion to authorize John Beltz and Brett Faryniak to attend the seminar on behalf of the Township; seconded by Mr. Montanari. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

C. Salt Shed Payment #2: Mr. Behler made a motion to release the payment pursuant to the request in the amount of \$103,113.45; seconded by Mr. Montanari. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present voted yes.

7. New Business

A. Request for Deviations from Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual – Per CDC Interim Guidance for Businesses & Employers COVID-19: Ms. Eckhart indicated she had been following the Centers for Disease Control briefings and employer guidance regarding the COVID-19 virus since late February and shared the information with the Board. She summarized the main theme of the CDC guidance to employers at this time recommended the review of sick leave policies for flexibility and consistency with the public health guidelines. She noted she reviewed the Townships policy regarding return to work requirements which is quite stringent and found that the current public health guidance recommends that employers waive the requirement of a healthcare providers note for employees show are sick with acute respiratory illness to validate their illness or to return to work. She asked the Board to consider relaxing the requirement and others, which may relate as the COVID-19 situation evolves. Mr. Hassler felt it would be ok to relax the policy as long as there is a doctor's excuse to confirm. Ms. Eckhart clarified this would also be true if an employee had someone within their immediate circle of acquaintance or household that becomes ill.

Mr. Behler also agreed to relax the policy as long as done so uniformly. Mr. Behler made a motion on the relax the Personnel Policy at the Township Manager discretion in light of the current health threat; seconded by Mr. Montanari. On the motion, by roll call vote, all Supervisors present

voted yes. Ms. Eckhart added she would also continue to closely monitor additional information and adjustments which made need to be made to the Township operation upon future guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Health, PEMA or other outside agencies related to items such as employee travel limitations, additional personal protective equipment, etc. The Board agreed the situation is changing very rapidly and immediate adjustments could become necessary.

8. Public to be Heard: No comments from the audience.

There being no further comments or business the meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ilene M. Eckhart