

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 19, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President William B. Miller at 7:00 p.m. Other Commissioners in attendance were Vice President Ruth A. O’Leary, David J. Batdorf, and Sam Kalbach. Commissioner Chip Bilger attended via real time internet. Also attending were Solicitor Michael A. Setley, Chief of Police Madison Winchester, Superintendent of Public Works Robert McNichols, Jr., Business/Personnel Administrator Peggy A. Carpenter, and Manager Jeanne E. Johnston.

This meeting is being recorded for the purpose of assisting in the preparation of meeting minutes. The audio file of the meeting will be destroyed after official meeting minutes for this meeting have been adopted.
Call to Order and Pledge to the Flag.

PUBLIC

A) Kevin Kozo re: 1355 Welsh Rd.

Mr. Kozo identified himself as the owner of 1346 Welsh Rd. He stated that lights from the house being built across the street shine in his windows. He expressed concern with the steepness of the driveway, that the garage floor elevation might not be correct when the grading is finished. The Board referred this to the codes department.

SOUTHERN BERKS REGIONAL EMS/TOWER DIRECT

A) Monthly Report – December 2020

Chief Wurster of TowerDirect reported 200 calls for December and 2076 calls year to date. On 6 calls, other services provided mutual aid; 4 calls were handled by Western Berks Ambulance and 2 calls were handled by the City of Reading. The merger was completed. Station 1 moved from Birdsboro to Robeson Township.

APPROVE MINUTES

**ON MOTION OF MRS. O’LEARY, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS
VOTE APPROVING MINUTES FOR 11/24/2020 AND 12/15/2020.**

TREASURER

A) Monthly Report – December 2020

TAX COLLECTOR

A) December 2020 Report

1) Year 2020 Real Estate

Balance collectable beginning of month – \$115,203.68

Cash collected - \$53,435.98

2) Year 2020 Real Estate Interim

- Balance collectable beginning of month - \$301.49
- Cash collected - \$0
- 3) Year 2020 SMP
 - Balance collectable beginning of month - \$2,275.00
 - Cash collected - \$929.50
 - Balance collectable end of the month - \$1,430.00
- 4) Year 2020 Refuse
 - Balance collectable beginning of month - \$29,180.00
 - Cash collected - \$11,836.00
 - Balance collectable end of the month - \$18,420.00

- B) 2020 Refuse – Delinquent
 - 1) Memorandum from Tax Collector re: flat amount of \$18,420.00 uncollected, dated 1/12/2021

- C) 2020 Per Capita – Delinquent
 - 1) Memorandum from Tax Collector re: flat amount of \$6,625.00 uncollected for 1,325 bills, dated 1/12/2021

- D) 2020 Sewage Management Program (SMP) – Delinquent
 - 1) Memorandum from Tax Collector re: flat amount of \$1,430.00 uncollected, dated 1/12/2021

- E) 2020 Township Real Estate – Delinquent
 - 1) Certification from Tax Collector re: flat amount of \$66,625.65 sent to tax claim for 105 bills, dated 1/14/2021

- F) Deputy Tax Collector – approval
ON MOTION OF MRS. O’LEARY, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING HELEN HEATH AS THE DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR.

DEPARTMENTS

Police Department

A) Monthly Report – December 2020

Chief Winchester reported two armed robberies and two other robberies.

Mr. Miller stated that the Board has sent a draft agreement to the Borough of Mohnton.

Fire Department

A) Monthly Report – December 2020

B) Run Cards

Chief Beane stated that he reviewed run cards with TowerDirect Chief Wurster. Minor changes were submitted to DES.

Administration

A) Codes Department – December 2020

- Building Permits Issued- 7
- Use Permits Issued- 1
- Zoning Permits Issued- 6
- Notices of Violations- 6
- Citations issued- 0
- Violations complied- 4
- Phone calls from contractors, realtors & public approximately- 68
- Permit Inspections Done – 19
- Inspections with the Fire Department – 0

B) Open Records – update policy to include new fee schedule

ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE ADOPTING A REVISED OPEN RECORDS POLICY TO INCLUDE AN UPDATED FEE SCHEDULE.

C) Reaffirm Plan Approvals

ON MOTION OF MR. KALBACH, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE REAFFIRMING APPROVALS OF THE FOLLOWING LAND DEVELOPMENT PLANS:

- Rahn's Truck Shop
- East Pointe Lot 8 (Service Caster)
- Heritage of Green Hills

D) Keystone Enterprise Zone – adopt resolution to authorize application

(Note: reauthorization of previous action)

ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE ADOPTING A RESOLUTION FOR REAUTHORIZATION OF CUMRU TOWNSHIP'S PARTICIPATION IN A MULTI-MUNICIPAL KEYSTONE ENTERPRISE ZONE.

Public Works

A) 2020-2021 Sewer Replacement Project – application for payment no. 1 \$114,246.00

ON MOTION OF MR. KALBACH, SECOND OF MR. BILGER, A UNANIMOUS APPROVING APPLICATION FOR PAYMENT NO. 1 FOR THE HIGH BLVD SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$114,246.00.

Engineer

A) Hampshire Rd. culvert – authorization to bid

ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT OF BIDS FOR THE HAMPSHIRE RD. CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT.

**B) Brecon Lane – change order and application for payment no. 5
ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MR. MILLER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE
APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 AND AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR
PAYMENT NO. 5 FOR THE BRECON LANE STORM SEWER PROJECT.**

The Board authorized payment in two installments.

Solicitor

A) Sewer Rate Ordinance

Mr. Miller stated that, given the high balance in the sewer fund, he believed the new sewer rate should take effect with the April reads. Ms. Johnston stated that the 12% increase in the treatment rate from the City of Reading would take effect for the second quarter payment. The Board agreed to advertise the ordinance as effective with the second quarter of 2021.

PAYMENTS OF BILLS

**ON MOTION OF MRS. O’LEARY, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS
VOTE APPROVING PAYMENTS OF BILLS DATED 12/18/2020, 12/23/2020, 12/29/2020
– ACH, 12/30/2020 – ACH, 12/30/2020, 1/8/2021, AND 1/15/2021.**

CORRESPONDENCE

- A) Penn DOT notice of public access to plans for Freemansville Rd. bridge ends 1/22/2021
- B) ZHB notice for 1/26/2021
- C) Monthly meeting schedule advertised

ADJOURNMENT

**ON MOTION OF MR. BATDORF, SECOND OF MRS O’LEARY, A UNANIMOUS
VOTE ADJOURNING THE MEETING AT 8:20 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,


Jeanne E. Johnston
Secretary/Manager