

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING                      MARCH 20, 2018**

The Regular Meeting of the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Ruth O'Leary at 7:00 p.m. Other Commissioners in attendance were Vice President Edward L. Gottschall, Sheri Hoover, William B Miller and David J. Batdorf. Also attending were Solicitor Michael A. Setley, Superintendent of Public Works Robert McNichols, Jr., Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Michael L. Yost, Business/Personnel Administrator Peggy A. Carpenter, Manager Jeanne E. Johnston, Secretary Latoya Procopio, and Joseph P. Rogosky of Great Valley Consultants.

Pledge to the Flag.

**PUBLIC**

Attendance: Jack Price of 819 Mountain View Road, John King of 265 Lincoln Road, Tim Musser of SBREMS, and Larry Solomon of 475 Poplar Neck Road.

A) John King and Larry Solomon re: request to close a portion of Poplar Neck Rd. on Sundays

Mr. King addressed the Board regarding the Reading Gravity Racing League. Mr. King stated that the soap box club would like to have events on Poplar Neck Road. They requested that the road be closed every Sunday for 4 hours at a time. Mr. King showed the Board a video on Oak Lane in Lower Alsace Township on how they operate. Mr. King stated the club is no longer allowed to hold their events on Oak Lane and would like to call Poplar Neck road home base for their events. The box cars are handmade by the youth that are in the club. The hope is trying to encourage the community's youth to get involved in outdoor activities. The club has a \$1 million liability insurance policy. When they pull a permit, it is always for 100 people. Their last event was held on Skyline Drive. To give the Board and idea of how fast the soapbox cars can go, Mr. King stated a driver was clocked at 50 mph with a 10-inch wheel.

Chief Winchester stated this would be a problem for law enforcement since Poplar Neck Road is the only access road to the area. Emergencies do not happen on a schedule. There is also major equipment that needs to be accessed by Poplar Neck Road. Mr. Miller agreed

Mr. King responded, "It's just a matter of someone moving the blockade."

Chief Winchester said he still had concerns about the soapbox cars not being able to get out of the way. The club stated they were willing to have an ambulance on the site during races.

Mr. Setley stated that the Board members would each relay their individual opinions to the Manager and a decision would be issued.

B) Jack Price of 819 Mountain View Road was present for discussion.

Mr. Price stated the road is not drivable and speeding is an issue. He would like something to be done by the Police Department. He stated the electronic speed sign is not working and would like the Police Department to monitor the road more.

**TREASURER**

A) Monthly Report

Mrs. Carpenter informed the Board that the tax bills went out at the beginning of the month of March. The Township also sent out letters about delinquent sewer accounts.

### TAX COLLECTOR

A) February 2018 Report

1) Year 2018 Real Estate

Balance collectable beginning of month – \$71,034.87

Cash collected - \$0

Balance collectable end of month - \$71,034.87

2) Year 2017 Real Estate Interim

Balance collectable beginning of month - \$841.65

Cash collected - \$663.04

Balance collectable end of month - \$167.98

3) Year 2017 Refuse

Balance collectable beginning of month - \$41.25

Cash collected - \$40.42

Balance collectable end of the month - \$0

4) Year 2017 Per Capita

Balance collectable beginning of month - \$1,795.00

Cash collected - \$80.00

Balance collectable end of the month - \$1,710.00

5) Year 2017 SMP

Balance collectable beginning of month - \$1,575.00

Cash collected - \$0

Balance collectable end of the month - \$1,575.00

### APPROVE MINUTES

**ON MOTION OF MR. MILLER, SECOND OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 20, 2018.**

### DEPARTMENTS

Police Department

A) Monthly Report – February 2018

Chief Winchester informed the Board that the Township has experienced the theft of catalytic converters, consistent with reports from other local areas. Fraud remains a prominent crime in the Township.

B) Civil Service Commission List – extension

- 1) Memorandum from Manager re: CSC extended list to expire 3/19/2019, dated 3/19/2018

Chief Winchester explained to the Board that the Civil Service Commission List had been extended for 1 year.

## SBREMS

Mr. Malcolm Cole informed the Board that Southern Berks Regional EMS had a total of 164 calls in the month of February, with 10 covered by others. Mr. Cole stated that Southern Berks will be sponsoring two scholarships in 2018 for EMTs. Mrs. O'Leary questioned if any complaints were received from residents regarding Life Lion bills. Mr. Cole stated he contacted Life Lion last week regarding working out a billing agreement. He stated an audit was scheduled to be performed on March 26, 2018. SBREMS experienced \$171,000 in profit for 2017.

## Fire Department

### A) Monthly Report – February 2018

Chief Beane informed the Board that the Chestnut Hill Drive structure fire will be close to \$250,000 worth of damage. He stated no one was injured and the fire was confined to the garage.

## Administration

### A) Codes Report- February 2018

Building Permits Issued- 5

Use Permits Issued- 1

Zoning Permits Issued- 5

Notices of Violations- 27

Citations issued- 0

Violations complied- 22

Phone calls from contractors, realtors & public approximately- 201

Permit Inspections Done – 15

Inspections with the Fire Department – 2

### **B) Matz Tract Subdivision Plan - adopt sewage planning module resolution**

1) planning modules submitted

2) Letter from BCM Engineers re: planning module review, dated 3/16/2018

**ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION FOR SANITARY SEWAGE PLANNING MODULES TO BE SUBMITTED TO PADEP.**

### **C) Reitnouer Trailers – waiver of land development**

1) Memorandum from Secretary re: Planning Commission recommended waiver subject to review of storm water by the Township engineer, dated 3/20/2018

**ON MOTION OF MR. MILLER, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE GRANTING A WAIVER OF LAND DEVELOPMENT TO REITNOUER TRAILERS FOR THE RECONFIGURATION OF TRAILER PARKING.**

### **D) YMCA – request for waivers and playground program**

1) Memorandum from Manager re: Park and Recreation Board recommended waiver of fees, but not other policies, and recommend revision to playground agreement, dated 3/20/2018

The Board of Commissioners indicated that existing policy would be followed with respect to not allowing the reservation of other facilities other than the Warren Recreation Center, i.e., the pavilions, courts, and gazebo are not subject to reservations for exclusive use.

**ON MOTION OF MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE WAIVING THE RENTAL FEE FOR THE WARREN RECREATION CENTER FOR THE YMCA, ONLY IF THAT IS THE SOLE EVENT FOR THAT WEEKEND; IF THE YMCA IS THE SECOND EVENT FOR THAT WEEKEND, THEN THE RENTAL FEE WILL BE REQUIRED TO COVER A PORTION OF THE CALL-OUT EXPENSED INCURRED.**

**ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO INCREASE SUMMER PLAYGROUND BY TWO MORE WEEKS, FOR A TOTAL OF 8 WEEKS, SUBJECT TO NO INCREASED COST TO THE TOWNSHIP.**

**E) GPS – change service provider**

- 1) draft agreement from Verizon

**ON MOTION OF MR. MILLER, SECOND OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO CHANGE THE GPS SERVICE PROVIDER TO VERIZON.**

**F) Recreation – Breakfast with the Easter Bunny**

Ms. Johnston stated approximately 40 people attended Breakfast with the Easter Bunny.

Public Works

**A) Monthly Report – February 2018**

**B) PennDOT Mowing Contract**

- 1) Draft contract proposed by PennDOT

**ON MOTION OF MR. MR. MILLER, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A 2018-2020 MOWING CONTRACT WITH PENNDOT.**

**C) Poplar Neck Br. over Schuylkill River – repair**

- 1) 2<sup>nd</sup> bid advertisement 2/8/2018; pre-bid meeting 2/22/18; bids to be opened 3/8/2018
- 2) Memorandum from Manager re: recommendation to reject single bid received, dated 3/19/2018

**ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE REJECTING THE SINGLE BID RECEIVED FOR THE POPLAR NECK BRIDGE AND AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP STAFF TO REBID THE PROJECT.**

**D) Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan – update**

Ms. Johnston stated the meeting the DEP had to be rescheduled due to inclement weather.

Engineer

With respect to the public comment from Mr. Price, Mr. Rogosky stated that Mt. View Rd., from SR 625 to SR 724, was part of the 2018 road work.

Solicitor

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- A) Berks County Redevelopment Authority progress report 2017
- B) Zoning Hearing Board notice for April 2018

**PAYMENTS OF BILLS**

**ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A MAJORITY VOTE APPROVING THE PAYMENT OF BILLS OF: 02/22/2018-IT, 02/23/2018, 03/02/2018, 03/02/2018-IT, 03/08/2018, AND 03/16/2018.**

**Mrs. Hoover abstained from the vote with respect to 02/22/2018- IT and 03/02/2018-IT.**

**COMMISSIONERS**

**A) Executive Session**

8:17 p.m. – The Board of Commissioners went into executive session to discuss  
1 real estate issue, 1 pending litigation, and 2 labor matters.

8:55 p.m. – The meeting reconvened. Mr. Setley stated that the Board of Commissioners had  
discussed 2 labor matters, 1 real estate issue, and 1 pending litigation.

**B) Vacancies/Expirations of Terms**

1) Municipal Authority – 1 vacancy, 1 candidate - Carl Cesare

**ON MOTION OF MRS. HOOVER, SECOND OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPOINTING MR. CARL CESARE TO THE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY.**

**C) Ambulance Service**

**ON MOTION OF MR. MILLER, SECOND OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO EXTEND THE SOUTHERN BERKS REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES CONTRACT TO 12/31/2018, WITH RE-EVALUATION OF THE GOALS OF THE AGREEMENT ON OR ABOUT 9/30/2018, SUBJECT TO MRS. SHERI HOOVER BEING PLACED ON THE SBREMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**ON MOTION OF MR. GOTTSCHALL, SECOND OF MR. MILLER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,



Latoya Procopio  
Secretary