

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING JUNE 15, 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, Chip Bilger, and Sam Kalbach. Also attending were Solicitor Michael A. Setley, Chief of Police Madison Winchester, Fire Chief James A. Beane, Superintendent of Public Works Robert McNichols, Jr., Business/Personnel Administrator Peggy A. Carpenter, Manager/Secretary Jeanne E. Johnston, and Joseph P. Rogosky of Great Valley Consultants.

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.

Pledge to the Flag.

PRESENTATION

Det. H. Robert Wanner – retirement

Chief Winchester presented a retirement gift to Det. Wanner for his 30 years of service to the Township. Such service included resolution of a cold case murder that occurred in 1984. Det. Wanner took up the case in 2003 and, due to his efforts, a suspect was convicted in 2018.

PUBLIC

A) Dan Klahr of 20 Troy Lane re: Hunters Rd.

Mr. Klahr complained about the condition of Hunters Rd. He claimed that the Township was going to pave it in 2020. When he recently had contact with Mr. McNichols, he was told that paving of Hunters Rd. was postponed until 2025 because other roads were in worse condition and took more traffic.

Mr. McNichols explained to the Board that, after Mr. Klahr's previous complaint, the Township did considerable patching on Hunters Rd., such that the road work list was revised for the reasons Mr. Klahr described. The northern end Hunters Rd. is currently on the list for 2025, but the list is examined every year. Ms. Johnston stated that the road paving plan is evaluated as part of the annual budget process.

Mr. Kalbach noted that liquid fuels funds were considerably reduced due to the COVID shutdown in 2020.

B) Ryan Brown of 1219 Hunters Rd.

Mr. Brown stated that he lived on the cul de sac end of the road. He asked if the pipeline gave the Township money that could be used on the other section. Mr. McNichols responded that it was intended to patch sections of Hunters Rd.

C) Richard Fry of Hunters Rd.

Mr. Fry complained about a neighbor and about a stump in the right of way of Hunters Rd.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

A) Monthly Report – May 2021

TowerDirect Chief Fred Wurster presented information on May 2021 calls. There were 175 calls in May, all within the contracted times. Three calls were referred to other services.

APPROVE MINUTES

ON MOTION OF MRS. O'LEARY, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING THE MINUTES OF 5/20/2021.

TREASURER

A) Monthly Report – May 2021

Mrs. Carpenter presented the May 2021 financial report.

TAX COLLECTOR

A) May 2021 Report

1) Year 2021 Real Estate

Balance collectable beginning of month – \$411,630.57

Cash collected – \$41,313.93

Balance collectable end of month - \$370,303.62

2) Year 2020 Real Estate Interim

Balance collectable beginning of month - \$104.00

Cash collected - \$114.40

Balance collectable end of month - \$0

3) Year 2021 Refuse

Balance collectable beginning of month - \$92,774.00

Cash collected - \$11,594.00

Balance collectable end of the month - \$81,180.00

4) Year 2021 SMP

Balance collectable beginning of month - \$6,500.00

Cash collected - \$520.00

Balance collectable end of the month - \$5,980.00

B) 180 Candy Rd. – 2020 real estate tax bill

1) Court ordered reassessment – exonerate old 2020 bill

ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MRS. O'LEARY A UNANIMOUS VOTE EXONERATING THE ORIGINAL 2020 REAL ESTATE TAX BILL FOR 180 CANDY ROAD, SO THAT A NEW 2020 REAL ESTATE TAX BILL CAN BE GENERATED.

CONSENT AGENDA

28 Eagle Lane – waiver for driveway

- 1) Letter from Berks County Conservation District re: E&S approval, dated 6/1/2021
- 2) Letter from Great Valley Consultants re: stormwater review

ACTION:

GRANTED A WAIVER TO SECTION 509.A.5 OF THE SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE TO ALLOW A DRIVEWAY LEVELING AREA OF LESS THAN 20 FEET.

2020-2021 Sewer Replacement Project – application for payment

- 1) Letter from BCM Engineers re: recommendation for payment no. 4, dated 6/9/2021

ACTION:

APPROVED APPLICATION FOR PAYMENT NO. 4 BY ANKIEWICZ ENTERPRISES FOR THE 2020-2021 SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$154,372.50.

30 Ridgeway Rd – waiver of land development

- 1) Memorandum from Manager re: Planning Commission recommended waiver, dated 6/8/2021

ACTION:

GRANTED A WAIVER OF LAND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING FOR AN ACCESSORY STRUCTURE AT 30 RIDGEWAY RD., AS DESCRIBED IN THE MANAGER'S MEMORANDUM DATED 6/8/2021.

Reaffirm Plan Approvals

ACTION:

REAFFIRMED LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN APPROVALS FOR RAHN'S TRUCK SHOP AND EAST POINTE LOT 8.

Grande Storage Units – escrow release

- 1) Letter from Great Valley Consultants re: recommendation for release, dated 6/14/2021

ACTION:

AUTHORIZED ESCROW RELEASE NO. 3 FOR GRANDE STORAGE UNITS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$36,918.69.

East Pointe Lot 8 – escrow release

- 1) Letter from Great Valley Consultants re: recommendation for release, dated 6/14/2021

ACTION:

AUTHORIZED ESCROW RELEASE NO. 2 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$45,554.81 FOR EAST POINTE LOT 8 AND AUTHORIZE RELEASE OF THE LETTER OF CREDIT IN EXCHANGE FOR A CASH ESCROW OF \$5,000.

Heritage at Green Hills, building 1.4 – escrow release

- 1) Letter from Great Valley Consultants re: recommendation for release, dated 6/14/2021

ACTION:

AUTHORIZED ESCROW RELEASE NO. 1 FOR HERITAGE AT GREEN HILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$73,102.18.

Records management

ACTION:

ADOPTED A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DISPOSAL OF RECORDS AS OUTLINED BY THE MANAGER, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECORDS RETENTION MANUAL.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

ON MOTION OF MRS. O'LEARY, SECOND OF MR. KALBACH, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING THE CONSENT AGENDA.

DEPARTMENTS

Police Department

A) Monthly Report – May 2021

B) Civil Service – update

Chief Winchester informed the Board that testing is complete. There are 13 candidates on the Civil Service list.

ON MOTION OF MRS. O'LEARY, SECOND OF MR. MILLER, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING CONDITIONAL OFFERS OF EMPLOYMENT TO BE PROFFERED TO THE TOP TWO CANDIDATES FOR PROBATIONARY POLICE OFFICER.

Fire Department

A) Monthly Report – May 2021

B) Civil Service

1) advertised

2) written test 7/17/2021

C) Utility Project – update

Administration

A) Codes Report – May 2021

Building Permits Issued- 15

Use Permits Issued- 5

Zoning Permits Issued- 18

Notices of Violations- 11

Citations issued- 0

Violations complied- 7

Phone calls from contractors, realtors & public approximately- 172

Permit Inspections Done – 42

B) American Rescue Plan Funds – update

- 1) new account

C) Keystone Communities Enterprise Zone – update

- 1) Letter from Pa DCED re: Greater Reading Enterprise Zone designation approved, dated 5/28/2021

D) East Pointe Dr. – ordinance for dedication

- 1) proof of publication

ON MOTION OF MR. KALBACH, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE OF DEDICATION FOR EAST POINTE DR., AS ADVERTISED.

E) 902 Recycling Grant – authorize agreement

- 1) Letter from PaDEP re: grant awarded for \$81,262.00, dated 6/1/2021

ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THE 902 RECYCLING GRANT AGREEMENT.

F) Refuse Contract – option years

ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MR. KALBACH, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THE 902 RECYCLING GRANT AGREEMENT.

G) Governor Mifflin Community Days

- 1) Request by Greater Governor Mifflin League for waiver of temporary zoning permit fee, conditioned on permission of property owner

ON MOTION OF MR. MILLER, SECOND OF MR. KALBACH, A UNANIMOUS VOTE WAIVING THE FEE FOR A TEMPORARY ZONING PERMIT FOR VENDOR PARKING RELATED TO THE GOVERNOR MIFFLIN COMMUNITY DAYS.

H) Heritage at Green Hills – tapping fee for building 1.4

- 1) Memorandum from Manager re: recommendations, dated 6/15/2021

The Board indicated that it was not inclined to accept the Authority's recommendation to credit 13.68 EDUs, but would consider that matter specifically if and when it is appropriate to do so.

ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE MANAGER TO ASSESS A TAP IN FEE FOR BUILDING 1.4 OF HERITAGE OF GREEN HILLS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SEWER CONNECTION ORDINANCE, SUBJECT TO A RE-EVALUATION OF THE NUMBER OF APPLICABLE EDUs AFTER ONE YEAR OF FULL OCCUPANCY.

Public Works

A) Fawn Dr. – pavement improvement

- 1) notice to residents dated 5/21/2021

Mr. Yost informed the Board that approximately 1,400 lineal feet of Fawn Dr. was improved.

B) Staffing - update

Mr. McNichols reported that interviews were being conducted for the highway and sewer replacement positions.

C) Auction – update

- 1) 6/23/2021, 3:00 p.m., Gouglersville Fire Co.
- 2) Advertisement published 5/30/2021

Engineer

A) 2021 Road Work – friction course

- 1) no bids first advertisement
- 2) second bid advertisement 5/28/2021
- 3) bid opening 6/23/2021

Mr. Setley stated that, if no bids are received after the second advertisement, then the Township may negotiate with vendors.

Solicitor

A) Zoning Ordinance Amendment – update

- 1) submitted to Berks County Planning Commission
- 2) public hearing scheduled 7/20/2021 at 6:30 p.m.
- 3) notice to be advertised 6/29 and 7/6/2021

PAYMENTS OF BILLS

ON MOTION OF MRS. O’LEARY, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING PAYMENTS OF BILLS DATED 5/21/2021, 5/21/2021 – ADDITIONAL, 5/28/2021, 6/1/2021, 6/1/2021 – PLGIT, 6/4/2021, 6/4/2021 – ADDITIONAL, 6/8/2021, AND 6/11/2021.

CORRESPONDENCE

- A) Zoning Hearing Board notice for June 2021

COMMISSIONERS

A) Vacancies


- 1) Zoning Hearing Board – need up to 3 alternates, 1 candidate

ON MOTION OF MR. BATDORF, SECOND OF MRS. O’LEARY, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPOINTING KEVIN SMITH AS A ZONING HEARING BOARD ALTERNATE WITH A TERM TO EXPIRE 1/1/2024.

B) Executive Session

ADJOURNMENT
ON MOTION OF MR. BATDORF, SECOND OF MR. KALBACH, A UNANIMOUS
VOTE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Jeanne E. Johnston
Secretary/Manager