

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING                      DECEMBER 15, 2020**

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.

**PUBLIC**

**SOUTHERN BERKS REGIONAL EMS**

A) Monthly Report – November 2020

**APPROVE MINUTES**

**ON MOTION OF MRS. O'LEARY, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING MINUTES FOR 10/20/2020, 10/22/2020, 10/29/2020, AND 11/17/2020.**

**TREASURER**

A) Monthly Report – November 2020

Mrs. Carpenter informed the Board that real estate taxes came in as originally expected. Earned income taxes came in at -7%, which was better than the expected -10%.

**TAX COLLECTOR**

A) November 2020 Report

1) Year 2020 Real Estate

Balance collectable beginning of month – \$128,422.95

Cash collected - \$14,541.24

Balance collectable end of month - \$115,203.68

2) Year 2020 Real Estate Interim

Balance collectable beginning of month - \$320.45

Cash collected - \$20.86

Balance collectable end of month - \$301.49

- 3) Year 2020 Exception/Change
  - Balance collectable beginning of month - \$1,399.16
  - Cash collected - \$1,371.18
  - Balance collectable end of month - \$0
- 4) Year 2020 SMP
  - Balance collectable beginning of month - \$2,470.00
  - Cash collected - \$214.50
  - Balance collectable end of the month - \$2,275.00
- 5) Year 2020 Refuse
  - Balance collectable beginning of month - \$33,130.00
  - Cash collected - \$4,345.00
  - Balance collectable end of the month - \$29,180.00
- 6) Year 2020 Per Capita
  - Balance collectable beginning of month - \$11,420.00
  - Cash collected - \$2,265.50
  - Balance collectable end of the month - \$9,200.00

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**TAX COLLECTOR**

**2021 TAX BILLS**

**ACTION:**

**AUTHORIZED EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH BERKS COUNTY FOR THE PRINTING OF 2021 REAL ESTATE TAX, REFUSE FUND, AND SEWAGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FUND BILLS, AND REIMBURSEMENT TO BERKS COUNTY FOR THE APPROPRIATE PORTION OF THE COST.**

**2021 BUDGET**

**ADOPT THE 2021 BUDGET**

- 1) budget advertised 11/2020

**ACTION:**

**ADOPTED THE 2021 BUDGET, AS ADVERTISED.**

**ACTION:**

**AUTHORIZED ORDERS IN DECEMBER 2020 FOR CAPITAL ITEMS TO BE EXPENSED FROM THE 2021 BUDGET AND AUTHORIZE 5 YEAR CAPITAL LEASES, AS SPECIFIED BELOW:**

- 1) **HIGHWAY AND SEWER DEPARTMENT – 5 YEAR CAPITAL LEASE FOR BACKHOE REPLACEMENT, WITH AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$ BASED ON A QUOTE; TO BE PAID OUT 50% FROM GENERAL CAPITAL FUND AND 50% FROM SEWER OPERATIONS CAPITAL 800;**

- 2) **HIGHWAY AND SEWER DEPARTMENT – 5 YEAR CAPITAL LEASE FOR TRACTOR/MOWER, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$ BASED ON A QUOTE; TO BE PAID 85% FROM GENERAL CAPITAL AND 15% FROM SEWER OPERATIONS CAPITAL 800.**
- 3) **SEWER DEPARTMENT – PURCHASE OF A RIGHT OF WAY MACHINE AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000**

**ADOPT THE 2021 REAL ESTATE TAX LEVY**

- 1) 2021 real estate tax levy ordinance advertised 12/4/2020

**ACTION:**

**ADOPTED THE 2021 REAL ESTATE TAX LEVY BY ORDINANCE AS ADVERTISED ON DECEMBER 4, 2020, INCLUDING 4.645 MILS FOR GENERAL PURPOSES, .335 MIL FOR DEBT SERVICE, 1.23 MIL FOR FIRE SERVICES, AND .27 MIL FOR AMBULANCE SERVICE.**

*No change in millages from 2020.*

**ADOPT THE 2021 REFUSE FEE**

**ACTION:**

**ADOPTED A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE 2021 REFUSE COLLECTION FEE SCHEDULE, INCLUDING \$220.00 FOR A DWELLING WITH 2 OR MORE ADULT OCCUPANTS AND \$198.00 FOR A DWELLING WITH A SINGLE ADULT OCCUPANT.**

*Previous rate schedule, \$210 two adults and \$190 for one adult, was in effect for 2020.*

**ADOPT THE 2021 SEWAGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AND FEE**

**A) Fee Administration**

- 1) draft resolution for rate schedule

**ACTION:**

**ADOPTED A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE 2021 SEWER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FEE AT A FLAT AMOUNT OF \$65.00.**

*No change from 2020.*

**2021 PAYMENTS OF BILLS - GENERAL**

**ACTION:**

**AUTHORIZED THE STAFF TO SATISFY THE ORDINARY AND ROUTINE OBLIGATIONS INCURRED BY THE TOWNSHIP IN ORDER TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF DISCOUNTS AND ALLOWANCES, AND TO AVOID DELINQUENT PENALTIES AND CARRYING CHARGES.**

**TRANSFERS – GENERAL**

**ACTION:**

**AUTHORIZED THE TREASURER TO TRANSFER FUNDS AS NECESSARY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2021 ADOPTED BUDGET.**

**INVESTMENTS – GENERAL**

**ACTION:**

**AUTHORIZED THE TREASURER TO INVEST FUNDS AS SHE DEEMS APPROPRIATE, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MANAGER.**

**POLICE PENSION EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION**

**ACTION:**

**ADOPTED A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE 2021 POLICE PENSION EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION AS 5%, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CUMRU TOWNSHIP AND THE CUMRU TOWNSHIP POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION.**

**ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE**

**ACTION:**

**AUTHORIZED EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BERKS COUNTY FOR 2021 AT THE \$1 PER CAPITA RATE (\$15,147).**

**PLANS**

**ESCROW RELEASE**

**2018-01 GRANDE STORAGE LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Owner: Fiorino Grande; Applicant: Grande Land, LP; Agent: Stackhouse Bensinger, Inc.;  
Location: southwest corner of the intersection of Ridgeway Rd. and SR 724; plan no.  
2017-071

**ACTION:**

**AUTHORIZED ESCROW RELEASE NO. 2 FOR THE GRANDE STORAGE LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$62,623.55, SUBJECT TO REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY THE TOWNSHIP ENGINEER.**

**END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**DEPARTMENTS**

**Police Department**

**A) Monthly Report – November 2020**

Chief Winchester reported on the discharge of a weapon during a domestic situation, shots fired at the Diamond Lounge in the Stabon Plaza, and a juvenile who assaulted staff at the Skateaway. The Board asked about a bottle club ordinance. Mr. Setley stated that a bottle club ordinance can be adopted, but the regulations have to be applied uniformly, including to restaurants.

## Fire Department

### A) Monthly Report – November 2020

### B) Santa Run 2020

#### 1) December 19, 2020 after Kenhorst parade

Ms. Johnston informed the Board that a number of compliments were received about the revised Santa run. Mr. Miller thanked the volunteers.

## Administration

### A) Codes Department – November 2020

Building Permits Issued- 16

Use Permits Issued- 1

Zoning Permits Issued- 10

Notices of Violations- 11

Citations issued- 0

Violations complied- 8

Phone calls from contractors, realtors & public approximately- 206

Permit Inspections Done – 20

Inspections with the Fire Department – 2

### B) Emergency Management

#### 1) COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Extended to 2/28/2021

#### 2) Berks County CARES grant disbursement

## Public Works

### A) Leaf Picking – ended 12/11/2020, as scheduled

### B) Winter Storm 12/16/2020

## Solicitor

### A) Pipeline Agreement and Release

Mr. McNichols said no settling has been observed. Funds received will be used for road patching and storm sewer.

**ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING THE AGREEMENT AND RELEASE FOR THE SUNOCO PIPELINE.**

### B) East Pointe Drive

Mr. Setley informed the Board that the developer is ready to dedicate the sewer to Robeson Township Authority. However, on behalf of Cumru, he has informed Robeson that Cumru will not accept the road until he receives proof of dedication of the sewer main, such as recording information.

**PAYMENTS OF BILLS**

**ON MOTION OF MR. BATDORF, SECOND OF MR. KALBACH, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING PAYMENTS OF BILLS DATED 11/20/2020, 11/25/2020, 12/2/2020 – ACH, 12/2/2020 – PLGIT, 12/4/2020, AND 12/11/2020.**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- A) Penn DOT notice of public comment period on funding capital projects, expires 12/17/2020
- B) Letter from Waste Management re: acquisition of Advanced Disposal (WBLF), dated 11/12/2020

**COMMISSIONERS**

- A) Vacancies/Expirations of Terms
  - 1) **Zoning Hearing Board**
    - a) Matt Keperling – renew term
    - b) Dona Starr – candidate for alternate

**ON MOTION OF MRS. O’LEARY, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE REAPPOINTING MATT KEPERLING TO THE ZONING HEARING BOARD AND APPOINTING DONA STARR AS AN ALTERNATE TO THE ZONING HEARING BOARD WITH TERMS TO EXPIRE ON 1/1/2024.**

Ms. Johnston informed the Board that two persons are interested in the Municipal Authority position and both have been invited to attend the Authority meeting on 1/14/2021.

B) Website

Mr. Bilger advocated restructuring of the Cumru Township website. Ms. Johnston informed the Board that the current format was chosen by a previous Board and requested feedback from the Commissioners on what they would like to see.

C) Reminders

Mr. Miller stated that the 12/29/2020 meeting is canceled.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**ON MOTION OF MR. BATDORF, SECOND OF MR. KALBACH, A UNANIMOUS VOTE ADJOURNING THE MEETING AT 7:50 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanne E. Johnston  
Assistant Secretary