

TOWNSHIP OF O'HARA
COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 13, 2018

I. OPENING PROCEDURES

- A. Call to Order by President Smith at 7:01 p.m.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance led by President Smith.
- C. Roll Call

Council Members Present: Robert John Smith, President of Council; Charles A. Vogel, Vice-President of Council; George H. Stewart, Second Ward; Scott Frankowski, Third Ward; Allison Garcia, Fourth Ward

Absent: Cassandra Eccles, Fifth Ward; John R. Denny, Jr., At-Large

Also Present: Ted Curran, Treasurer; Julie A. Jakubec, CPA, CGMA, Township Manager; Dan Garfinkel, Township Solicitor; Charles W. Steinert, Jr., P.E., Township Engineer; James R. Farringer, Superintendent of Police; Loren R. Kephart, Public Service Superintendent; Cathy Bubas, Manager's Secretary

Manager Jakubec informed Council that Ms. Eccles was unable to attend the meeting due to a work commitment and Mr. Denny, Jr. was tending to a personal matter.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Council Organizational Meeting – January 3, 2018
- B. Council Workshop – January 3, 2018
- C. Council Regular Meeting – January 9, 2018

Motion by Vice President Vogel to approve the subject minutes as presented was seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried unanimously.

III. FINANCE

- A. Vouchers – January 2018

Motion by Mr. Frankowski to approve the subject Vouchers as presented was seconded by Vice President Vogel.

Ms. Garcia inquired about dumping of leaves and the process to compost, which staff explained satisfactorily. The Vouchers total \$609,035.90.

The motion carried unanimously.

B. Receipts and Expenditures Records – December 2017

Manager Jakubec noted the numbers presented are unaudited and do not include any adjustments. The Township audit is scheduled to begin in March.

Motion by Vice President Vogel to accept the Receipts and Expenditures Records as presented was seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried unanimously.

C. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Curran indicated finances look good. The auditors will come in and the Manager will make necessary adjustments. Due to the weather, salt is a variable expense.

IV. REPORTS

A. Other Organizations and Agencies Reports

Treasurer Curran reported about the recent North Hills COG meeting. Items to note include a new member from Blawnox Borough; cable contract; funding available that is tied to casinos, CITF and GEDF tied to the COG; update on stormwater management; Bill No. 1620 to control all towers is being objected because it takes authority away from municipalities; and the price and efficiency benefits of larger scale bids.

B. Monthly Departmental Reports

Ms. Garcia noted letters sent to residents with sidewalks along Delafield Road. Manager Jakubec stated the residents are not shoveling the sidewalks and the Township must give notice if not shoveled in 24-hours after a heavy snow fall. She noted the County made the residents sign an agreement to maintain the sidewalks, and the County has deemed it as sidewalks.

President Smith inquired about the status of the building addition which Manager Jakubec explained. She anticipated the project to be completed by mid to late-April.

Mr. Stewart inquired about sewer line repairs, which Mr. Steinert, Jr., P.E. indicated were bid through the North Hills COG. Mr. Stewart questioned as RedZone finalizes the inspections, how many lines will require work. Mr. Steinert, Jr., P.E. estimated 200 wys would need repaired as a lot have broken off.

Mr. Frankowski inquired about drug overdoses. Police Superintendent Farringer recalled one person from the same family on Powers Run Road now has their own Naloxone. There hasn't been many overdoses.

Mr. Frankowski referenced letters of commendation to officers.

C. Manager's Report

No comments.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolutions

- (1) Denying Minor Subdivision Approval of the Li Lan An Plan of Lots B-3-2018

Manager Jakubec noted Li Lan An, owner of property located at 703 Woodland Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15238, has proposed to subdivide parcel 290-B-112. The property is located in the R-1 (Special Residential) zoning district. If subdivided, neither lot would meet the minimum required lot area of 40,000 s.f. In addition, one lot would not meet the minimum required lot width of 150 feet. Ms. An requested variances from the Zoning Hearing Board, which were denied based on facts presented and testimony of neighbors. The proposed resolution denies the minor subdivision as recommended by the Township Planning Commission.

Motion by Vice President Vogel to approve resolution Bill No. B-3-2018 was seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried unanimously.

- (2) Granting Minor Subdivision Approval to the Shawn T. Flaherty/Chapel Harbor Plan of Lots B-4-2018

The Manager stated Shawn Flaherty and Stapleton Pearce, Inc., owners of parcels 171-M-87 and 171-M-91 located along Arbor Court, Pittsburgh, PA 15238, wish to revise the lot line between the two (2) parcels. Mr. Flaherty inadvertently planted landscaping on and beyond the property line. The purpose of the revised lot line is to accommodate the existing landscaping. The Township Planning Commission reviewed the Plan and has recommended to Council that approval be granted.

Motion by Mr. Frankowski to approve resolution Bill No. B-4-2018 was seconded by Ms. Garcia and carried unanimously.

- (3) Granting Final Land Development Approval to the Fox Chapel Area School District – New Kerr Elementary School B-5-2018

Manager Jakubec stated Fox Chapel School District, owner of parcel 286-S-125 and 286-M-110, located at 341 Kittanning Pike, Pittsburgh, PA 15215, is proposing the construction of a 72,519 square foot elementary school along with the necessary parking accommodations, landscaping, lighting and stormwater management controls. The existing school building will be demolished once the new building is operational to make way for a new parking lot. The Planning Commission reviewed the Plan and has recommended to Council that approval be granted subject to five (5) conditions listed in the proposed resolution.

Motion by Vice President Vogel to approve resolution Bill No. B-5-2018 was seconded by Mr. Frankowski.

The Manager noted the wording of one condition was changed for clarification purposes.

Mr. Stewart asked if the adjacent cemetery owner had expressed any objection, which staff was not aware of.

Manager Jakubec noted some plants from the community garden would be transplanted to another area for educational purposes.

The motion carried unanimously.

President Smith explained to the audience that Council had previously reviewed and discussed the agenda items during a workshop.

- (4) Authorizing the Township's Participation in the State Road Salt Contract B-6-2018

Manager Jakubec explained in order for the Township to continue participating in the Pennsylvania Department of General Services ("DGS") sodium chloride (road salt) contract, a new Salt Contract Participation Agreement must be executed and submitted to DGS by March 15, 2018. The Township shares contracts with the North Hills Council of Governments and the State for road salt and it is recommended that the Township continue to share the road salt contracts for the upcoming 2018-2019 winter season in order to maximize cost savings, needed tonnage and delivery.

Motion by Ms. Garcia to approve resolution Bill No. B-6-2018 was seconded by Vice President Vogel.

Treasurer Curran agreed it is good to have two suppliers and it seems to be working really well. The Manager noted the overages of the State and North Hills COG current contracts.

The motion carried unanimously.

- (5) Authorizing the Submittal of a Pennsylvania Small Water Grant Application for the Village Drive and Dorseyville Road Sanitary Sewer Extension B-7-2018

Manager Jakubec stated staff is requesting authorization to submit a grant application for the Village Drive and Dorseyville Road Sanitary Sewer Extension. The grant amount is \$144,075 of which the Township's portion for the project is 15%, or \$21,611.25.

Motion by Mr. Stewart to approve resolution Bill No. B-7-2018 was seconded by Vice President Vogel.

Mr. Frankowski inquired about how many more are on septic systems other than properties along Saxonburg Boulevard, which Mr. Steinert, Jr., P.E. explained.

The motion carried unanimously.

- (6) Authorizing the Purchase of Police Vehicles B-8-2018

The Manager stated Police Superintendent Jim Farringer is requesting authorization to purchase two 2018 Ford Police Interceptor Utility AWD vehicles from Tri-Star Motors, Blairsville, PA 15717, through the South Hills Area Council of Governments (“SHACOG”). The cost of the two new vehicles is \$57,190 less trade in values of one 2016 and one 2014 Ford Expeditions in the amount of \$25,500 for a total purchase price of \$31,690. The 2018 Budget allotted \$63,000 to replace the vehicles.

Motion by Ms. Garcia to approve resolution Bill No. B-8-2018 was seconded by Vice President Vogel and carried unanimously.

- (7) Authorizing Participation with Fox Chapel Borough in the Bidding of the 2018 Road Improvement Program B-9-2018

The Manager stated staff is requesting authorization to participate with Fox Chapel Borough in the bidding of the 2018 Road Improvement Program in order to realize economies of scale. Aspinwall, Blawnox and Sharpsburg Boroughs will be invited to join in the bid. The Township roads recommended for milling and resurfacing include Crofton, Wickford, Harrow, Bentley, and Downing Drives and Springhouse Lane. The alternates include Cabin Lane, Woodmont, Epsilon, Sigma, and a portion of Alpha Drives.

Motion by Vice President Vogel to approve resolution Bill No. B-9-2018 was seconded by Mr. Stewart.

Mr. Stewart commented about the effects of the nasty winter weather on roads. The Manager noted experiments with other mixes, such as adding fibers and using a warm mix to patch potholes.

The motion carried unanimously.

- (8) Authorizing Participation with Fox Chapel Borough in the Engineering Inspection Services Related to the Road Improvement Program and the Execution of an Agreement with Lennon Smith Souleret for Said Services B-10-2018

Manager Jakubec referenced a memo from Chuck Steinert, Jr., P.E. explaining Fox Chapel Borough obtained requests for proposals and the Township is participating in the same proposal, but executing a separate agreement. Staff is requesting authorization to participate with Fox Chapel Borough in the engineering inspection services for the 2018 Road Improvement Program in order to realize economies of scale, and to execute the agreement.

Motion by Mr. Stewart to approve resolution Bill No. B-10-2018 was seconded by Vice President Vogel and carried unanimously.

President Smith read the following four resolutions in their entirety:

- (9) Recognizing the Services of Mark Rothert B-11-2018
- (10) Recognizing the Services of Mary Jo Bisceglia B-12-2018
- (11) Commemorating the Services of John J. Claus B-13-2018

- (12) Recognizing the Services of Eric Nolder B-14-2018

Motion by Mr. Stewart to approve resolution Bill Numbers B-11-2018, B-12-2018, B-13-2018 and B-14-2018. Mr. Frankowski seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

- (13) Naming the Lauri Ann West Community Center as a Township Recreation Partner B-15-2018

Manager Jakubec stated representatives of the Lauri Ann West Community Center have requested the Township's partnership to provide summer programs in Township parks in 2018.

Motion by Ms. Garcia to approve resolution Bill No. B-15-2018 was seconded by Vice President Vogel and carried unanimously.

- (14) Naming the Cooper Siegel Library as a Township Recreation Partner B-16-2018

Manager Jakubec recalled representatives of the Cooper Siegel Library have requested the Township's partnership to provide summer programs in Township parks in 2018.

Motion by Ms. Garcia to approve resolution Bill No. B-16-2018 was seconded by Vice President Vogel and carried unanimously.

- (15) Authorizing the Destruction of Specific Records B-17-2018

The Manager stated in accordance with the Retention and Disposition Schedule for Records of Pennsylvania Municipal Governments, the resolution authorizes specific documents to be destroyed, specifically 2010 Accounts Payable and 2010 Payroll records. She noted the Township has detailed general ledgers back to 1999.

Motion by Vice President Vogel to approve resolution Bill No. B-17-2018 was seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried unanimously.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Citizens

Ms. Cindy Harris, Fox Pointe, recalled a prior fracking conversation and comment that 'it would never happen here.' She noted fracking is happening in Indiana Township. Manager Jakubec stated anyone wishing to frack in the Township must comply as any other business, between the hours of 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. However, State law trumps municipal laws. The Township does have provisions about bonding for Township roads. She noted the Township cannot do anything if someone fracks underneath and into the Township. Ms. Harris asked if any other municipality had followed O'Hara Township's lead, but the Manager was not aware. Mr. Stewart recalled Monroeville had just enacted such an ordinance, which the Manager indicated she would review.

Mr. Steinert, Jr., P.E. also noted lot size and property line setbacks. Mr. Frankowski stated the County is drilling in Deer Lakes Park. Manager Jakubec acknowledged some free standing gas wells in the Township.

A member in the audience indicated the fracking occurring in Indiana Township is ½ mile from the middle school.

Mr. Stewart was not opposed to fracking but has a background in hygiene and what they are pumping into the ground. As a proprietor they do not have to disclose what is being pumped into the ground. He would not want the water table contaminated; it is a hygiene issue that needs to be seriously considered.

Other areas with fracking occurring were noted. Ms. Harris suggested reviewing the issue now. A member in the audience noted a meeting concerning fracking is scheduled for February 27th at 6:30 p.m. at the Indiana Township building. President Smith noted the Township is limited by State regulations, but supported reviewing the Township's ordinance. At least the Township has something on the books.

Libby Ernharth, 120 Crofton Drive, and Allison Francis, 104 Crofton Drive, were in attendance to discuss concerns regarding the intersection of Crofton Drive and kids crossing the road, especially in the morning while it is still dark. Ms. Francis noted there is no berm for the kids to walk, and they may not be in bright clothes, and people are speeding in their vehicles. They inquired of options to make more people aware. Ms. Francis stated that she lives too close to the school for bus service. If the Township cannot put in a crosswalk, maybe a sidewalk could be implemented. The ladies had talked with Dr. Freeman, Superintendent of the school district, who seemed amenable to looking into a path.

Mr. Steinert, Jr., P.E. explained the lines were put in the wrong place following resurfacing. The painters are to redo the lines when weather permits and the berm will be widened. The permanent crosswalk was replaced at Timber Lane and Field Club Road.

Ms. Francis recalled during sporting events there are lights on the crosswalk. Manager Jakubec indicated the school district must place the lights, as it was news to her. She explained the Township could put signs along Field Club Road every two feet, but parents still need to get the earbuds out of the kids' ears and get the kids to stop looking at their phones. Stop signs cannot be used for traffic calming.

Ms. Francis stated she would continue to work on the school district.

Ms. Garcia asked if the school were to put in a trail using trail dust, would it meet ADA compliance. The Manager indicated it would need to be on part of the cartway. She indicated staff would continue to review and the Police would continue to monitor the situation.

Mr. Bart Bodkin, Fox Pointe, referenced discussions about merging Police Departments and asked if Council participated in the discussions. Vice President Vogel answered yes. Mr. Bodkin asked what is going on. President Smith indicated there was a discussion. Mr. Bodkin recalled hearing about it on the news. President Smith indicated the news was looking for a good story. Mr. Bodkin inquired about the process. President Smith stated the discussion is very preliminary.

The number of Police Officers from Fox Chapel Borough, Indiana and O'Hara Townships was noted. Blawnox, Sharpsburg and Aspinwall Boroughs have full-time and part-time Police Officers.

B. Council

Mr. Stewart noted Dan Cohen spoke at the Local Government Academy class he attended about cable and wireless services and upcoming service upgrades include putting in mini towers. Manager Jakubec stated the Township has an ordinance in place to address towers.

Vice President Vogel asked if reservations had been made for the ALOM Seven Springs Conference. The secretary indicated if the checks were signed this evening, the reservations would be mailed tomorrow.

Vice President Vogel inquired about the status of ALCOSAN taking over sewer lines. Mr. Steinert, Jr., P.E. stated they would not be taking over any lines and he did not know what would come of the regionalization plan. Manager Jakubec explained the concern is no municipal representation. They bolt manholes so it backs up further down the line. She has not been able to get a copy of the agreement. Mr. Steinert, Jr., P.E. stated the segment ALCOSAN wants does not make any sense. They need to build a customer base to help pay for improvements. The Manager added that if they take over the line, municipalities could not refuse to take flows from other upstream community development. Mr. Steinert, Jr., P.E. stated everyone is aware of Indiana Township opting out of the Township's Saxonburg sewer project.

C. Staff

Manager Jakubec informed Council once again the Township has been named a Banner Community.

The Manager requested Council to remain after the meeting for an Executive Session to discuss a legal matter.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Vice President Vogel to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m. and following a short break Council entered into Executive Session.

Cathy Bubas, Manager's Secretary

Attachment(s): Sign-In Sheet(s)