

TOWNSHIP OF O'HARA
COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 12, 2019

I. OPENING PROCEDURES

- A. Call to Order by President Smith at 7:00 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; Allison Berger, Fourth Ward; Cassandra Eccles, Fifth Ward

Absent: Scott Frankowski, Third Ward; John R. Denny, Jr., At-Large

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

Manager Jakubec noted Mr. Frankowski was unable to attend the meeting due to a personal commitment and Mr. Denny, Jr. was tending to a business commitment.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Council Combined Workshop and Regular Meeting – February 12, 2019

Motion by Ms. Eccles to approve the subject minutes as presented was seconded by Vice President Vogel.

Manager Jakubec acknowledged students in the audience and explained the minutes are the permanent record of actions. She continued to provide further explanation of items on the agenda throughout the meeting. President Smith suggested the students inform their instructors that it would be more beneficial for students to attend a workshop as more in-depth discussion occurs. Ms. Berger stated the workshops are scheduled on the first Tuesday of the month and begin at 7:00 p.m.

On voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

III. FINANCE

- A. Vouchers – February 2019

Motion by Vice President Vogel to approve the subject vouchers was seconded by Mr. Stewart.

Ms. Berger, Ms. Eccles and Mr. Stewart presented questions about specific invoices which staff answered satisfactorily. The motion carried unanimously. The Vouchers total \$1,079,964.05.

B. Receipts and Expenditures Records – January 2019

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

C. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Curran indicated the Township's finances look good, and noted a few expenses related to current projects. He also noted a phone call from the Auditor with Maher Duessel.

President Smith recalled Maher Duessel has been the auditor for the past few years and thought auditors should change every so often. Manager Jakubec did not agree, noting the level of services provided by Maher Duessel. Treasurer Curran noted Maher Duessel also handles the Township's IT, and from a cost perspective, it is better than having a full-time employee.

IV. REPORTS

A. Other Organizations and Agencies Reports

Treasurer Curran reported on the North Hills Council of Governments ("COG") meeting, noting the prime concern has been recycling changes imposed by Waste Management. The COG is also working on contracts for road salt and cable pricing, which is through Cohen Law Group.

Manager Jakubec noted changes with the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") with regard to right-of-way. The Solicitor is reviewing the wireless communication facility ordinance for potential amendment.

B. Monthly Departmental Reports

Ms. Eccles noted the Government Revenue Fund, which the Manager explained to be a result of timing.

Mr. Stewart referenced the Building Code Officer's report concerning home based business. Manager Jakubec explained provisions are in place and home based businesses are required to register with the Township. Occasionally staff searches Google to see if any home based businesses show up.

Ms. Berger asked if the CCTV and maps issue had been resolved. Mr. Steinert, Jr., P.E. indicated he had requested a status update from RedZone but had not received the information. He added the work is over and above the scope of work. The Manager requested the Engineer to send a letter to RedZone.

Mr. Stewart noted the Township received a grant award for the Powers Run Project. Mr. Steinert, Jr., P.E. stated \$312,000 was received for the sewer line, which the Township is working with Fox Chapel Borough.

Manager Jakubec explained delays in demolishing the house at the bottom of Powers Run Road because Duquesne Light Company has not disconnected the utility service.

Ms. Berger commented about the DUI and Advanced ID Police Training. Police Superintendent Slagel stated the Police have been using what was taught in the academy. In addition to the standardized field sobriety test, there is now an advance focus on drug driving. The goal is to have all Officers trained to the advance level to identify and follow court cases. Officer Wolfson is certified as a Drug Recognition Expert. He also explained a separate sobriety test for individuals impaired by not on drugs includes a

blood test and full report. Manager Jakubec added that the use of the intoximeter has resulted in higher DUI arrests.

A typographical error in the Building Code and Zoning Officer's Report was noted.

Mr. Stewart noted meetings with several plumbers. Mr. Kephart explained when sanitary sewer inspections are performed and fail, residents question every minor detail, and plumbers question why they must replace the whole line. It is the Township's requirement.

C. Manager's Report

Ms. Berger referenced a meeting with County and municipalities about pedestrian and bike improvements. Manager Jakubec explained the County is looking to expand walking/biking trails on Delafield Road. Delafield Road would be difficult to accommodate bikes; some areas along Fox Chapel Road would need a form of separation between vehicles and bikes. Ms. Berger noted significant erosion along the stream side of Delafield Road.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Ordinance – Second Reading and Adoption

- (1) Amending the Township Budget for Fiscal Year 2018 B-5-2019

Manager Jakubec explained the budget amendment is needed as a result of the July 2018 storm damages and severe flooding. The exceptional event resulted in \$780,000 of repairs.

Motion by Mr. Stewart to adopt ordinance Bill No. B-5-2019 was seconded by Ms. Berger and carried unanimously.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolutions

- (1) Authorizing the Submittal of an Application for Business Partner Identification Number with Penn D.O.T.

The Manager explained in order to obtain a Highway Occupancy Permit with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, the Township must register as a Business Partner in order to be permitted electronic access to the Engineering and Construction Management System ("ECMS"). Staff is requesting authorization to execute the application for the Business Partner Identification Number.

Motion by Vice President Vogel to approve resolution Bill No. B-10-2019 was seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried unanimously.

- (2) Awarding a Bid for Grass Mowing, Landscaping and Related Services

Manager Jakubec recalled bids for grass mowing, landscaping and related services were received and opened at the March 5th Council Workshop. Due to the significant pricing differences in the bids, staff met with the low bidder to ensure complete understanding of the scope of work. Staff verified the

references and is recommending that the contract be awarded for 2019 with the option to award years two and three based on the pricing submitted with the bid.

Motion by Ms. Eccles to approve resolution Bill No. B-11-2019 was seconded by Vice President Vogel and carried unanimously.

B. Motions

(1) Appointment to the Township Zoning Hearing Board as Alternate Member

The Manager recalled prior to the February 12th meeting, Council interviewed residents interested in filling a vacancy on the Township Zoning Hearing Board created by the retirement of Dr. Alvin Kinsel. The term will begin immediately and expire December 31, 2021.

Motion by Ms. Berger to appoint Thomas Gray as Alternate Member to the Township Zoning Hearing Board was seconded by Ms. Eccles and carried unanimously.

(2) Appointments to the Township Long Range Comprehensive Plan

Manager Jakubec stated staff contacted the residents that Council interviewed for the Zoning Hearing Board vacancy to inquire of an interest in serving on the Township Long Range Comprehensive Plan Committee. Matthew Evans, P.E., Christian Pegher, AIA, Robert Richman, Esquire, and Michael Miele have responded that they are willing to participate in updating the Long Range Plan.

Motion by Vice President Vogel to appoint Matthew Evans, Christian Pegher, Robert Richman, and Michael Miele to serve on the Long Range Comprehensive Plan Review Committee, which Ms. Berger seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Citizens

Ms. Cindy Harris, Fox Pointe, inquired of how to apply to serve on the Long Range Plan Review Committee, which the Manager explained. It was noted the committee would most likely begin meeting in the Fall.

Ms. Harris inquired about the status of making information public. Mr. Stewart indicated the process is moving along and he has requested a meeting with the Peters Township Manager to discuss. Once he receives potential dates to meet with the Peters Township Manager, and indicated Manager Jakubec could also attend the meeting.

Ms. Becky Boyle of Senator Lindsey Williams' office noted a new location and telephone number.

Ms. Beth Klamut, Driftwood Drive, stated this is Pennsylvania Sunshine Week which celebrates openness and transparency. She thanked Council for their efforts. She has been able to go online and read the minutes so she knows what is going on in her community.

Ms. Sabrina McQuarrie, Fox Pointe, asked when potholes would be fixed on Saxonburg Boulevard. Manager Jakubec explained Saxonburg Boulevard is a State maintained road and staff would call tomorrow to ask them to fix the potholes.

Ms. Kristen Friday, Shadow Ridge Drive, indicated people do not seem fond of taking trees down and for the purpose of sidewalks, she questioned where is it proposed to make sidewalks. Manager Jakubec explained the ‘pedway’ would be constructed in the cartway alongside the road and trees would not be removed.

Ms. Berger asked if Senator Williams is supporting Alina’s Law and noted the law would allow Judges to require the placement of ankle bracelets on defendants of domestic violence cases. Ms. Boyle was not aware and would find out and get back to Ms. Berger. Manager Jakubec stated Alina attended school with her daughter and the incident was very upsetting.

B. Council

Mr. Stewart noted he had attended a fundraiser for the Blawnox Police Officer, and the recent School Board Meeting, during which a young student was recognized for helping a girl in Texas that was struggling with various issues.

Vice President Vogel asked how many students in the audience would be participating in the school musical. He recognized the amount of work to present the musical, which he attends every year.

Ms. Eccles asked if anyone in the audience was 18 years of age and registered to vote.

C. Staff

Manager Jakubec informed Council that the School District submitted the Maintenance Bond for the Kerr Elementary School Land Development.

The Manager stated Fox Chapel Borough opened bids for the Road Improvement Program and it appears the Township will be able to include all alternates.

Manager Jakubec recalled sending an email to Indiana Township officials regarding the Saxonburg Sewer Project. The email extended an invitation to talk, and noted an upfront buy-in and transportation charge conditions have not changed. To date she has not received any response from Indiana Township officials.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Vice President Vogel to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Cathy Bubas, Manager’s Secretary

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