

**TOWNSHIP OF O'HARA  
COUNCIL VIRTUAL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 11, 2021**

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I. OPENING PROCEDURES

- A. Call to Order by President Smith at 8:14 p.m.
- B. Roll Call

Council Members Present: Robert John Smith, President of Council; Charles A. Vogel, Vice-President of Council; George H. Stewart, Second Ward; Gregory Caprara, Third Ward; Cassandra Eccles, Fifth Ward; John R. Denny, Jr., At-Large

Absent: Allison Berger, Fourth Ward

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

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Council Workshop – April 6, 2021
- B. Council Regular Meeting – April 13, 2021

Ms. Eccles and President Smith noted corrections to the minutes.

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

III. FINANCE

- A. Vouchers – April 2021

Motion by Mr. Denny, Jr. to pay the subject Vouchers as presented was seconded by Mr. Caprara.

Ms. Eccles and Mr. Stewart presented questions which staff answered satisfactorily. The motion carried unanimously. The Vouchers total \$367,372.10.

- B. Receipts and Expenditures Records – March 2021

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

#### C. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Curran stated the finances are fine. He noted the focus has been on waste water and stimulus funding. He stated staff has been on top of things. Treasurer Curran noted the challenging year. Extensions to pay taxes were implemented, and the Township wants to continue to provide services.

Mr. Stewart noted the Treasurer was not on the upcoming ballot, but has done a fantastic job. Mr. Denny, Jr. suggested the Treasurer write his name on the ballot and get 9 friends to do the same.

#### IV. REPORTS

##### A. Other Organizations and Agencies Reports

Mr. Stewart recalled comments conveyed from Council to the RIDC Alliance. Mr. John Kight requested more waste cans to eliminate the litter.

##### B. Monthly Department Reports

Mr. Stewart presented questions concerning the Fox Chapel sewer charge, which the Manager stated was an annual transportation charge.

Mr. Stewart requested an update on the Periwinkles Bakery in RIDC. The Manager indicated the bakery is having trouble getting fully staffed.

Mr. Stewart questioned if there was any interest in a list of code violations, which Ms. Eccles expressed interest. Manager Jakubec indicated code violations would be notated in Chris Komora's report.

Mr. Stewart noted discrepancies in the Lennon Smith Souleret Engineer's Report and the Township Engineer's report concerning paving alternates. Mr. Steinert, Jr., P.E. noted Papercraft Avenue and Field Club Road would not be included in the 2021 paving contract.

President Smith inquired about storm water fee reduction requests. Mr. Steinert, Jr., P.E. explained they are trying to determine the best way to calculate the 90 units in Fox Hall; one lady received some discounts and plans to add some rain barrels for more discounts. Mr. Stewart inquired about storm water control for the proposed land development near Meadow Park. Mr. Steinert, Jr., P.E. indicated they may have a rain barrel in the future.

Mr. Stewart inquired about the results of the speed study on Delta Drive, and noted confusion at the Highland Park Bridge Project. Police Superintendent Slagel did not have results for the speed study, but noted when people see the speed displayed on the sign they tend to slow down. He noted the State Police handles traffic accidents along Route 28, but the Township has assisted the State Police.

Ms. Eccles noted people are speeding in the Route 28 construction area. Police Superintendent Slagel indicated he would contact the State Police to inquire about what measures they are taking to enforce the speed limit in the construction area.

C. Township Manager's Report

No comments.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Ordinance – Second Reading and Adoption

- (1) Restating and Repealing Ordinance No. 1372, Establishing and Enacting Rules and Regulations for the Use of Parks and Recreation Facilities in the Township of O'Hara, and to Promote and Preserve the Public Health, Safety and Welfare in the Parks Owned and Maintained by the Township of O'Hara B-25-2021

Manager Jakubec stated the proposed ordinance was introduced during the April 13<sup>th</sup> regular meeting. The Township Parks and Recreation Commission has recommended amending the rules to prohibit smoking of any devices and all tobacco products in all Township parks. The ordinance restates and repeals Ordinance No. 1372, known as the Township Parks Rules and Regulations.

Motion by Mr. Caprara to adopt ordinance Bill No. B-25-2021 was seconded by Ms. Eccles and carried 5 – 1, with Vice President Vogel voting against.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolutions

- (1) Granting Minor Subdivision Approval to the Schaffner Plan of Lots B-39-2021

The Manager noted Dave Schaffner, owner of parcels 357-J-20 and 357-J-15 located at 1119 Saxonburg Boulevard, has proposed a revision to the lot line between the parcels. Both parcels are zoned R-4 (Special Moderate Density Residential District). The Planning Commission reviewed the Plan and has recommended that Council approve the Plan.

Motion by Mr. Stewart to approve resolution Bill No. B-39-2021 was seconded by Mr. Denny, Jr. and carried unanimously.

- (2) Granting Preliminary Land Development Approval to the Hidden Grove Plan B-40-2021

Manager Jakubec stated it has been proposed by Summer Hill Real Estate Development, LLC, owner of 105 Harding Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15215, to develop and construct 11 single-family houses. The property consists of 4.287 acres and is Zoned R-3 (Urban Residential District). The

Planning Commission reviewed the Plan and has recommended that Council approve the Plan subject to 9 conditions listed in the proposed resolution.

Motion by Vice President Vogel to approve resolution Bill No. B-40-2021 was seconded by Mr. Caprara.

It was noted the stormwater condition had been met and was removed. Mr. Stewart inquired about the waiver for the concrete curb. Manager Jakubec stated the developer will have to request a specific waiver from Council.

The motion carried unanimously.

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| (3) | Authorizing the Filing of a Grant Application with<br>Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic<br>Development for the O'Hara Township Community Park<br>Trail Stabilization Project | B-41-2021 |
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The Manager stated the resolution authorizes the filing of a DCED Grant Application for the Trail Stabilization Project at O'Hara Township Community Park. A gabion wall along the creek has failed and needs to be replaced.

Motion by Ms. Eccles to approve resolution Bill No. B-41-2021 was seconded by Mr. Stewart and carried unanimously.

Treasurer Curran commended the Manager's efforts in pursuing grant funding.

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| (4) | Authorizing the Filing of a Grant Application with<br>Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic<br>Development for the Pollution Reduction Plan | B-42-2021 |
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Manager Jakubec noted resolution authorizes the filing of a DCED Grant Application for the Pollution Reduction Plan.

Motion by Mr. Stewart to approve resolution Bill No. B-42-2021 was seconded by Vice President Vogel and carried unanimously.

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| (5) | Recommending the Use of Alternative Seal Coatings | B-43-2021 |
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The Manager explained due to recent concerns expressed about the use of coal-tar-based seal coatings, the proposed resolution recommends the use of alternative seal coatings that are safer.

Motion by Mr. Stewart to approve resolution Bill No. B-43-2021 was seconded by Mr. Caprara and carried unanimously.

Mr. Stewart suggested including information in the Township Newsletter to educate residents about coal-tar-based seal coatings.

## VII. COMMUNICATIONS

### A. Citizens

Ms. Harris inquired about the status of making more information included in the Council meeting packet available to the public. Manager Jakubec stated she and the Township Solicitor are working on it.

### B. Council

No comments.

### C. Staff

Manager Jakubec informed Council that she had received guidelines on the use of American Rescue Plan monies. Stormwater is a permitted use of the monies, and she anticipated additional guidance would follow.

Mr. Caprara requested staff to provide him a synopsis of the information on stormwater.

Mr. Denny, Jr. questioned the amount of American Rescue Plan monies the Township would receive. Manager Jakubec indicated a total of \$870,000, of which 50% is for 2021 and 50% is for 2022. She noted additional information that she needs to follow up for more details.

The Manager requested Council to remain after the meeting for an Executive Session to discuss legal and labor matters.

## VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Vice President Vogel to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Mr. Denny, Jr. and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. and Council entered into Executive Session.

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Cathy Bubas, Manager's Secretary