

MINUTES

BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

December 11, 2023

John Curtaccio, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors, located in the Municipal Building, 1300 Brighton Road, to order at 7:00 P.M. Six (6) visitors were present.

PRESENT: John Curtaccio – Chairman
 Mark Piccirilli – Vice Chairman
 James E. Equels, Sr. – Supervisor
 Bryan K. Dehart - Manager/Secretary
 Marie S. Hartman, P.E. - Township Engineer
 Kathryn L. Johnston, Esq. – Solicitor

Public Comment – Agenda Items: There was no public comment.

Minutes of November 13, 2023 Regular Meeting: Mr. Equels made a motion, seconded by Mr. Piccirilli, vote unanimous, to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2023 Regular Meeting.

Mr. Curtaccio dispensed with the reading of the monthly **November Reports**. Mr. Equels made a motion, seconded by Mr. Piccirilli, vote unanimous, to accept the following November Reports as written and submitted.

- A. Treasurer's Report
- B. Building Permit Report
- C. Road Department Report
- D. Police Department Report
- E. Fire Department Report
- F. Report of Tax Collectors
- G. Report of Fines
- H. Recycling Report

Approve Quotation for Permitting/Code System: Several software packages for permitting and code enforcement have been reviewed by staff. Their recommendation is that the Board approve Cloudpermit for this purpose. The annual cost is \$7,000 for the software, and there is a one-time initial fee for implementation. Funding is provided in the 2024 Budget. The start date would be subject to clarifying the availability of some reporting forms and integration with GIS.

Mr. Piccirilli made a motion, seconded by Mr. Equels, vote unanimous, to accept the proposal of Cloudpermit at an annual cost of \$7,000 and implementation fee of \$2,000.

Resolution No. 2023-30 Establishing the Compensation of Authority Board Members:

Board members of the Municipal Authority and Sewage Authority is currently set at \$600 per year paid in monthly increments of \$50. The Authorities have inquired about an increase. Resolution No. 2023-30 increases the compensation to \$900 per year paid in \$75 monthly increments. The compensation of authority board members is determined by the Board of Supervisors as the appointing governing body. The increased compensation only applies to appointments made on or after January 1, 2024. Prior to the Board taking the Resolution under consideration, Mr. Piccirilli read a Conflict of Interest statement and presented a signed copy for the record. Mr. Piccirilli serves as a Board member on both the Brighton Township Municipal Authority and Sewage Authority, creating a conflict of interest. Therefore, Mr. Piccirilli stated he would not be voting on the Resolution being presented.

Mr. Equels made a motion, seconded by Mr. Curtaccio, to approve Resolution No. 2023-30 to establish the annual compensation for Board members of the Municipal Authority and Sewage Authority as \$900, to be paid in monthly increments of \$75, effective at the beginning of each term appointed on or after January 1, 2024. The vote to approve the motion was two (2) "YES" votes and one (1) "ABSTAIN" by Mr. Piccirilli.

Two Mile Run PRP Stormwater Project Updates and/or Actions: The Township is in the process of designing a stormwater facility to meet the full obligations of the Township's Pollution Reduction Plan (PRP) for the Two Mile Run watershed as part of the MS4 permit. The Township Engineer is designing the project and preparing the necessary permit packages. The Engineer stated that the Chapter 105 Permit is being finalized for submission. On site testing needs to be completed also, pending authorization to enter the property.

The Solicitor said that the final value on the property under condemnation needs to be determined. That may go to a Board of Viewers to make that determination. The land being purchased is subject to the subdivision recording and scheduling with her office.

Township MS4 Program: The Township Engineer provided an update on the Municipal Separate Storm Systems Program. The required annual report has been submitted to the PA DEP. No current activities are taking place. The next round of permitting will take place next year and the PA DEP is expected to incorporate any outstanding projects into the new permit.

Adopting the 2024 Budget: The 2024 Budget was presented at the October 9, 2023 meeting and reviewed a second time at the November 13, 2023 meeting. The 2024 Budget has been advertised for adoption. The budget establishes an Initial Real Estate Tax levy of 1.9033 mills and proposes a 2024 Real Estate Tax Levy of 2.0500 mills. The Stormwater Fee is budgeted to remain at \$5.50 per month per ERU.

Mr. Piccirilli made a motion, seconded by Mr. Equels, vote unanimous, to approve **Resolution No. 2023-31** adopting the 2024 Budget as follows: General Fund \$5,878,020; Stormwater Fund \$637,500; Capital Reserve Fund \$4,368,000; State Aid Fund \$327,830 and Police Pension Fund \$3,430,434.

Mr. Equels made a motion, seconded by Mr. Piccirilli, vote unanimous, to approve **Resolution No. 2023-32** establishing the 2024 Initial Real Estate Tax Levy as 1.9033 mills.

Mr. Piccirilli made a motion, seconded by Mr. Equels, vote unanimous, to approve **Resolution No. 2023-33** establishing a 2024 Real Estate Tax Levy of 2.05 mills.

Mr. Equels made a motion, seconded by Mr. Piccirilli, vote unanimous, to approve **Resolution No. 2023-34** establishing a 2024 Earned Income Tax Levy of 1.0%.

Mr. Piccirilli made a motion, seconded by Mr. Equels, vote unanimous, to approve **Resolution No. 2023-35**, establishing a 2024 Per Capita Tax Levy of \$5.00.

Mr. Equels made a motion, seconded by Mr. Piccirilli, vote unanimous, to approve **Resolution No. 2023-36**, establishing a 2024 Amusement Tax Levy of 5.0%.

Mr. Piccirilli made a motion, seconded by Mr. Equels, vote unanimous, to approve **Resolution No. 2023-37**, establishing a 2024 Local Service Tax Levy of \$47 Brighton Township/\$5.00 Beaver Area School District.

Mr. Equels made a motion, seconded by Mr. Piccirilli, vote unanimous, to approve **Resolution No. 2023-38**, establishing a 2024 Real Estate Transfer Tax Levy of 0.5%.

Mr. Piccirilli made a motion, seconded by Mr. Equels, vote unanimous, to approve **Resolution No. 2023-39**, establishing the base 2024 ERU Stormwater Management Fee as \$5.50 per month.

Ordinance No. 241 - Zoning Code Amendments: The Board of Supervisors conducted a public hearing at 6:30 P.M. on this ordinance to amend the Zoning Code amendment to include Day-Care Center as a Permitted Principal Use in the C-1 Neighborhood Commercial District and the C-2 Mixed Use District and made a correction within the C-2 Mixed Use District. The ordinance has been advertised and can be acted upon.

Mr. Piccirilli made a motion, seconded by Mr. Equels, vote unanimous, to approve Ordinance No. 241 amending Chapter 195 Zoning Code.

Deerfield Preserve – Corrective Action Notice: At the September meeting the Board authorized the Solicitor to give notice to the developer of Deerfield Preserve of the Township's intent to take action to evaluate a sinkhole on Fox Water Trail if they failed to have the evaluation completed on their own by a certain date. The developer failed to take corrective action within the timeframe given by the Solicitor, and the Township has completed an initial evaluation. This evaluation is detailed in the Township Engineer's report of November 28, 2023. The Engineer reported that the perpendicular cross pipes installed after the road was constructed were installed incorrectly and were done by bore crossing. The boring went through the storm water piping on Fox Water Trail. This is the cause of the sink hole. The Solicitor has given notice to Attorney Torrence, who is representing the developer, of the findings in the Engineer's report. They have been advised to submit a corrective action plan and schedule by December 18, 2023 for the

replacement of the two (2) perpendicular storm water crossings, and repair/replacement of the damaged parallel storm water piping on Fox Water Trail.

Additional Business: Mr. Curtaccio stated for the record that tonight was the final Board meeting for Mr. Equels, whose term of office expires at the end of the year. Mr. Equels was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from PSATS for his nearly 14-years of service to the Township as a Supervisor. Messrs. Curtaccio and Piccirilli expressed their appreciation for his service. Mr. Equels thanked them for the recognition and said that serving as a Township Supervisor was an honor and pleasure.

Public Comment: Jerry Fisher of 1390 Tuscarawas Road said that he has noticed that many of the street lights have been repaired at the Brighton Interchange. He stated that he has had no luck with Penn D.O.T. taking action to clean/clear the berms on the hill of Tuscarawas Road where it approaches the high school. Mr. Curtaccio suggested he contact Senator Vogel's office on this subject.

Beverly Pietrandrea of 107 Fernwood Drive asked questions about the Roberts Run Plan, recently submitted for approval. She asked about traffic, if there was adequate street frontage for access, and the time frame for approval. Mr. Dehart said that the Planning Commission conducted their first review on December 4th. The plan consolidates four (4) existing lots, and the Tuscarawas Road frontage is in excess of 200 feet in width. Mr. Dehart said the Zoning Code requires a traffic access/impact analysis when a new plan generates 75 or more peak hour trips.

William Bailey of 1985 Tuscarawas Road said that he was also concerned about traffic. He lives across the road from the proposed plan entrance.

John Gary Gardner of 5260 Tuscarawas Road said that he was concerned about the capacity of the Beaver Area schools. He said he previously spoke with the prior school business manager who advised him there as not much capacity remaining in the classrooms. Mr. Gardner said that constructing new homes could result in a need to expand the schools through new construction or renovation, which would be very costly to the tax payers. He also said that more homes do not just mean more revenue, it also means more expenses.

Mr. Curtaccio said that he has not seen an increase in the number of students per class insofar as they are similar in size from when his children attended to now with his grandchildren's classes. He said that the Township is not taking an active role in expanding public utilities to encourage more development, and that, because of topography, there are limited areas for further residential development.

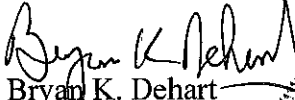
Mr. Gardner suggested a public forum to see if people are willing to support zoning changes for larger lots and less development. Mr. Dehart said that larger lots can result in more costly development through increase clearing and additional lineal feet of roads and utilities. It can also result in less common area or public land dedication.

Mr. Curtaccio said the Board would take the request under consideration for further discussion at a later date.

Ratify November Bills List: Mr. Piccirilli made a motion, seconded by Mr. Equels, vote unanimous, to ratify the November Bills List.

Adjournment: Mr. Equels made a motion, seconded by Mr. Piccirilli, vote unanimous, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Bryan K. Dehart
Township Secretary

