

**TOWNSHIP OF SALISBURY
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
August 8, 2019
REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 PM**

The Public Meeting of the Salisbury Township Board of Commissioners was held on the above date in the Township Municipal Building located at 2900 South Pike Avenue, Allentown, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Martucci asked everyone to rise and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Martucci called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Martucci announced that an Executive Session regarding a personnel matter will be held after the Workshop.

Commissioner Martucci turned the proceedings over to Ms. Cathy Bonaskiewich, Township Manager.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

Robert Martucci, Jr., President
Debra Brinton, Vice-President
James Seagreaves, President Pro-Tempore
Joanne Ackerman
Rodney Conn

Staff Present:

Cathy Bonaskiewich, Township Manager
Sandy Nicolo, Assistant Township Manager/Code Enforcement Director/MS4 Coordinator
Paul Ziegenfus, Finance Director
John Andreas, Director of Public Works – EXCUSED
James Levernier, Highway Supervisor, Department of Public Works
Kevin Soberick, Acting Chief of Police
Cynthia Sopka, Director of Planning & Zoning
John Ashley, Esquire, representative of Davison & McCarthy, Township Solicitor
David Tetterer, representative of Keystone Consulting Engineers, Township Engineer

NOTIFICATION

Ms. Bonaskiewich informed the attendees that all sessions of the Salisbury Township Board of Commissioners regular meetings are recorded electronically for the purpose of taking the Minutes. All public comments on agenda items will be taken prior to the vote. All public commented related to non-agenda items will be taken after the agenda has been satisfied. Ms. Bonaskiewich reminded everyone of the three-minute rule and asked that anyone who wishes to speak, come to the podium, announce oneself, and sign-in with name and address so as to assist Township administration with follow-ups.

APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT AND LIST OF BILLS PAYABLE

Motion by Commissioner Ackerman, seconded by Commissioner Brinton, to approve the unaudited Financial Report for the period ending June 30, 2019, and the list of Bills Payable for the periods 7/6/2019-7/19/2019 and 7/20/19-8/2/2019, broken down as follows:

7/6/2019-7/19/2019:

\$230,850.45 = GENERAL
\$758.55 = FIRE
\$0 = LIBRARY
\$4,041.96 = WATER
\$2,950.96 = SEWER
\$1,620.91 = REFUSE & RECYCLING
\$11,086.98 = HIGHWAY AID
\$7,451.12 = CAPITAL GENERAL FUND
\$4,442.11 = SUBDIVISION & ESCROW
\$263,203.04 = GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS

7/20/2019-8/2/2019:

\$236,463.57 = GENERAL
\$1,520.60 = FIRE
\$0 = LIBRARY
\$12,311.73 = WATER
\$15,951.97 = SEWER
\$106,749.41 = REFUSE & RECYCLING
\$47,053.08 = HIGHWAY AID
\$0 = SUBDIVISION & ESCROW
\$420,050.36 = GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER ACKERMAN – YES
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES – YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON – YES
COMMISSIONER CONN – YES
COMMISSIONER MARTUCCI – YES

The Motion passed by 5-0.

MINUTES

July 11, 2019

Commissioner Martucci declared the Minutes of July 11, 2019 accepted as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES

None.

RESOLUTIONS

None.

MOTIONS

Motion to Accept the Bid received from Insituform Technologies, LLC on July 18, 2019 for the 2019 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Mainline Cured-In-Place Pipe Lining (CIPPL) Project.

Ms. Bonaskiewich commented that the project is a continuation of the ongoing Cured-In-Place Pipe Lining work.

Motion by Commissioner Ackerman, seconded by Commissioner Conn, to accept the bid received from Insituform Technologies, LLC on July 18, 2019 for the 2019 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Mainline Cured-In-Place Pipe Lining (CIPPL) Project.

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER ACKERMAN – YES
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES – YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON – YES
COMMISSIONER CONN – YES
COMMISSIONER MARTUCCI – YES

The Motion passed by 5-0.

Presentation regarding Fair Districts PA Legislation proposed.

Mr. Terry Schettini was present to address the Board regarding gerrymandering in the state and to answer any questions. He thanked the Board for their consideration in supporting an independent citizen commission.

Commissioner Martucci inquired how the citizens on the committee are chosen. Mr. Schettini stated that the idea is to have 11 citizens, including four from the largest registered party in the

state, four from the second-largest registered party, and three that will be independent or unaffiliated or third-party affiliated. He explained that the legislature steps in with deciding the qualifications, but the Bills do lay out who is *not* qualified. Mr. Schettini commented that the State legislature makes qualifications so the applicants are vetted through that process. Then a pool of 40 from each of the groups, which totals 120, are randomly selected. The legislature may then step in to select two people who they believe are not appropriate, followed by random selection again.

A discussion ensued regarding the independent party not voting in the primary elections. Mr. Schettini noted that the Bill is still in the development process so the Board could support independent citizen commission, but note it would like amendments be made to the criteria.

Mr. Schettini stated that the way the constitution is currently written, there is a good chance that the democrats will be drawing the state legislative boundaries after the 2020 census. He commented that Fair Districts is committed to a nonpartisan method.

Ms. Bonaskiewich noted that the Resolution supporting Fair Districts can go up for vote at the next meeting on August 22, 2019.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Ms. Bonnie Thomasik of 1145 Lehigh Avenue expressed concerns regarding speeding on Lehigh Avenue. She requested that a four-way stop sign be installed or Ueberroth be made one way from E. Susquehanna Street. Corporal Whitehead noted that a speed study was done in the area of Lehigh Avenue and Vermont Avenue and there were no violations recorded. It was suggested that reflective strips be used or more visible signs erected in troublesome intersections. The Police Department and the Department of Public Works will follow-up in the area.

A resident from the 700 block of E. Montgomery Street alleged that he is having trouble with water and mosquitoes in his yard due to the resurfacing of the street. Mr. Nicolo stated that he was out at the property and witnessed the water coming up from the ground. Mr. Tettermer commented that the water table is currently somewhere around 20 feet above normal. He noted that the new sewer line was put in on E. Montgomery Street and the road was resurfaced, but the grading did not change. The resident requested that the Township spray for mosquitoes. Ms. Bonaskiewich commented that the Township does not spray because the State requires certifications for those operators.

Mr. Scott Mitchell of 3635 Salisbury Hills Drive expressed concerns regarding the line of sight when motorists pull out of Salisbury Hills Drive onto Devonshire Road. He noted that he spoke with Mr. Nicolo about the property owners trimming down the vegetation in the easement, but that trimming has not helped. He believes the problem to be caused by the height of the embankment. Mr. Levernier noted that the Department of Public Works will visit the area to see if signs need to be erected.

Ms. Suzanne Johnson of 3655 Salisbury Hills Drive stated that her property is at the corner of Salisbury Hills and Devonshire and noted that speed is an issue on Devonshire Road, which also makes it dangerous to pull out. The Police Department will follow-up regarding the speed of traffic in the area.

A resident expressed concerns about the condition of the property at 1725 Illingsworth Avenue. Mr. Nicolo noted that he has fined the property owner several times and has had him cut back the vegetation that grows into Morningside Avenue. He commented that the upkeep of a property may not rise the level of an ordinance violation. Commissioner Ackerman inquired if the Township has an ordinance that states all homes must be kept in a certain way in order to keep up the value of the surrounding properties. Mr. Nicolo stated that the Township does not have any kind of valuation-based ordinances for maintenance of a property.

Commissioner Conn brought forth a concern to the Police from a neighbor regarding the intersection at Country Club Road and Box Elder Road.

Commissioner Brinton stated that Mr. Reber of 122 Mountain Park Road contacted her regarding having a sign erected on that road pointing drivers in the direction of Route 145 since it is a dead end. Mr. Levernier noted that all the signs were replaced, but he will follow-up with Mr. Reber.

Commissioner Martucci brought forth a concern from a resident regarding a manhole cover on Hausman Avenue, on the south side of Emmaus Avenue, that has water bubbling out of it. Mr. Levernier noted that there has been issues on Hausman with water running constantly and they have been in contact with the City of Bethlehem. He noted that the utility supervisor, Don Zimmerman, believes there to be a leak somewhere, but it is not big enough to hear it. Mr. Levernier stated that he will call the city again tomorrow.

Commissioner Seagreaves thanked Ms. Bonaskiewich for helping with a trash issue on Maumee Avenue.

Commissioner Ackerman inquired if Republic Services can change the pickup time for the dumpster at the fire station.

Commissioner Brinton requested that issues at Laubach Park, including fixing the pavilion and restrooms and installing cameras, be placed on an upcoming Workshop Agenda. Ms. Bonaskiewich noted that it will be on the Workshop Agenda for August 22, 2019.

Acting Chief Soberick commented that the Police Department has been fielding a lot of traffic complaints and have been writing numerous citations. He also noted that he will have an officer present at each meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Ackerman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Brinton. The time was 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Bonaskiewich
Township Secretary

These constitute the official minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on August 8, 2019.

Approved and certified on this date:

Cathy Bonaskiewich

Date: _____

SEAL