

**TOWNSHIP OF SALISBURY
LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
July 9, 2020
REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 PM**

**SPECIAL NOTIFICATION - This public meeting of the Salisbury Township Board of Commissioners was held online using the Zoom virtual meeting platform due to the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing guidelines.*

CALL TO ORDER

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

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

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

Debra Brinton, President
Rodney Conn, Vice-President
James Seagreaves, President Pro-Tempore
Heather Lipkin
Alok Patnaik

Staff Present:

Cathy Bonaskiewich, Township Manager
Sandy Nicolo, Assistant Township Manager/Code Enforcement Director/MS4 Coordinator
Kerry Raybold, Planning and Zoning Officer
Paul Ziegenfus, Finance Director
John Andreas, Director of Public Works
Kevin Soberick, Chief of Police
John Ashley, Esquire, representative of Davison & McCarthy, Township Solicitor
David Tettermer, representative of Keystone Consulting Engineers, Township Engineer
Genny Baillie, Recreation Director

NOTIFICATION

Ms. Bonaskiewich welcomed the attendees to the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for July 9, 2020. She noted that the meeting is being held online using the Zoom virtual meeting platform due to the current COVID-19 conditions and with respect to social distancing and public gathering guidelines. Ms. Bonaskiewich commented that the meeting is being recorded electronically for the purpose of taking the Minutes and asked that attendees keep themselves muted to keep background noise to a minimum. She stated that if anyone would like to comment on a particular agenda item or during courtesy of the floor, he/she should unmute his/herself and use the hand raise button. All public comments on agenda items will be taken prior to the vote

and all public comments related to non-agenda items will be taken after the agenda has been satisfied. Ms. Bonaskiewich requested speakers to please announce his/her name and address for the purpose of taking down the Minutes.

APPROVAL OF THE LIST OF BILLS PAYABLE

Motion by Commissioner Lipkin, seconded by Commissioner Seagreaves, to approve the list of Bills Payable for the period 6/20/2020-7/3/2020, broken down as follows:

\$44,282.29 = GENERAL
\$664.70 = FIRE
\$0 = LIBRARY
\$76,155.02 = WATER
\$5,365.47 = SEWER
\$107,977.79 = REFUSE & RECYCLING
\$243.98 = HIGHWAY AID
\$183.00 = CAPITAL SEWER
\$234,872.25 = GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER PATNAIK – YES
COMMISSIONER LIPKIN – YES
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES – YES
COMMISSIONER CONN – YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON – YES

The Motion passed by 5-0.

MINUTES

June 25, 2020

Commissioner Brinton declared the Minutes of June 25, 2020 accepted as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES

None.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution to Approve the Plot 886 LLC Preliminary Major Subdivision Plan.

Ms. Bonaskiewich turned the proceedings over to Mr. Dave Tetteimer, Township Engineer.

Mr. Tettermer noted that the plan is for five residential lots at the end of Mosser Drive. He stated that the plan has been reviewed by the Planning Commission and they are recommending approval. Mr. Tettermer commented that there are a number of waivers requested, which are recommended for approval, and they are listed in the Resolution. He stated that when the Board approves the Resolution, it is approving all the conditions of the Resolution.

Commissioner Conn inquired if the infiltration plan is a new type of system. Mr. Tettermer commented that this type of facility has become more common in the last few years because of NPDES requirements, and when SALDO is rewritten, it will be addressed.

Commissioner Patnaik inquired about the requirement of the distance between street trees. Mr. Tettermer stated that according to the SALDO, depending on the size and the species of the tree, there should be anywhere between 30-40 feet of separation along the right-of-way. He noted that because of the location of the driveways, fire hydrants and other things, they were unable to get that specific 30-40 foot distance. Mr. Tettermer commented that in order to provide the required number of street trees, they have to be a little closer together.

Commissioner Brinton expressed concerns about street trees being too close together. Mr. Tettermer explained that there is only one spot where the trees are less than 25 feet, and they are using a species of tree that normally does not get a big canopy.

Motion by Commissioner Conn, seconded by Commissioner Lipkin, to adopt Resolution No. 07-2020-1680, approving Plot 886 LLC Preliminary Major Subdivision Plan.

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER PATNAIK – YES
COMMISSIONER LIPKIN – YES
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES – YES
COMMISSIONER CONN – YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON – YES

The Motion passed by 5-0.

MOTIONS

Ms. Bonaskiewich stated that the next two items are tax assessments that were appealed by two organizations: Lehigh Pointe Senior Living LLC and HCR ManorCare Properties LLC. She noted that typically the School District and/or the County will take the lead in the appeals process because they have the most money at stake. Those two taxing districts and the appellants came to an agreement and the Motions will authorize the Township Solicitor to execute the agreements on behalf of the Township. She commented that the Township will be losing about \$3,700 in annual tax revenue between the two facilities.

Motion to Authorize the Township Solicitor to Execute Stipulation to Settle the Tax Assessment Appeal for Lehigh Pointe Senior Living LLC.

Motion by Commissioner Lipkin, seconded by Commissioner Seagreaves, to authorize the Township Solicitor to execute a stipulation to settle the Tax Assessment Appeal for Lehigh Pointe Senior Living LLC.

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER PATNAIK – YES
COMMISSIONER LIPKIN – YES
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES – YES
COMMISSIONER CONN – YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON – YES

The Motion passed by 5-0.

Motion to Authorize the Township Solicitor to Execute Stipulation to Settle the Tax Assessment Appeal for HCR ManorCare Properties LLC.

Motion by Commissioner Lipkin, seconded by Commissioner Seagreaves, to authorize the Township Solicitor to execute a stipulation to settle the Tax Assessment Appeal for HCR ManorCare Properties LLC.

Roll Call:

COMMISSIONER PATNAIK – YES
COMMISSIONER LIPKIN – YES
COMMISSIONER SEAGREAVES – YES
COMMISSIONER CONN – YES
COMMISSIONER BRINTON – YES

The Motion passed by 5-0.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Commissioner Lipkin inquired about additional signage being posted on the stop sign at Savercool Avenue and Weil Street, announcing that oncoming traffic does not stop. Mr. Andreas stated that he will follow-up with the Police Department on the request.

Commissioner Brinton noted that she received a letter from a resident regarding fireworks. Chief Soberick gave an update of Police Department's call volume that took place Friday, July 3rd through Sunday, July 5th. He noted that Officers responded to approximately 80 calls during that timeframe, and on July 4th, they took about 15 fireworks complaints. He noted that they were unable to respond to most of the complaints because of having people in custody on serious calls. Chief Soberick stated that for a lot of the fireworks calls they are receiving, the Officers are unable to identify where the fireworks originate, or they are being set off outside of the Township.

Commissioner Brinton reiterated that it is hard for the Police to pinpoint where the fireworks are coming from, unless the caller has evidence or is willing to testify as an eyewitness.

Ms. Bonaskiewich stated that she received a call from a resident on E Mountain Road thanking the Department of Public Works for the paving work on that road.

Ms. Bonaskiewich announced that Ms. Linda Minger is resigning as Tax Collector at the end of this tax year 2020, but will officially remain in the office until July 15, 2021 in order to close out the year. She stated that the Board will have to accept her resignation and take applicants to find a replacement. Ms. Bonaskiewich explained that the replacement will have to serve the remaining year of her term for the year 2021, and the Board will need to appoint someone to the position of Township Treasurer as well.

Commissioner Brinton commended the staff at the Drop-off Centers for creating a smooth process at both locations.

Mr. Michael Marcucci of 835 S. Ott Street expressed concerns about the trash at Lindberg and Green Acres Parks and inquired as to why the basketball courts were reopened. Ms. Bonaskiewich commented that the topic of reopening the parks is on the Workshop Agenda. It was the consensus of the Board to entertain Mr. Marcucci's comments at that time.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Lipkin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Patnaik. The time was 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Bonaskiewich
Township Secretary

These constitute the official minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on July 9, 2020.

Approved and certified on this date:

Cathy Bonaskiewich

Date: _____

SEAL