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Middle Paxton Township

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

December 4, 2017

Call to Order

The December 4, 2017 regular monthly meeting of the Middle Paxton Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:02 PM by Vice-Chairman and Assistant Secretary James Fisher in the Township meeting room. Also present were Supervisor Richard Peffer; Supervisor Wilbur Evans; Supervisor Larry Cooney; Julie Ann Seeds, Township Manager, Secretary and Assistant Treasurer; Steve Stine, Solicitor; and Ed Fisher representing Light-Heigel & Associates, Inc. Chairman and Treasurer Jeffery Smith was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments

Vice-Chairman Fisher invited comments from those in attendance who were not listed on the meeting agenda. Steve Mumma, 900 Hecks Drive, expressed his appreciation to the Township for permitting the Crunch softball team use of the Haggy Park ball fields during the recent sports season. He specifically recognized members of the Board, Manager Seeds and the Township Roadcrew who through their collective efforts contribute to the success of the youth sports programs operating within our community.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Supervisor Evans to approve the minutes from the November 6, 2017 regular monthly meeting was seconded by Supervisor Cooney. *Motion passed with Supervisor Peffer abstaining due to his absence from that meeting.*

Motion by Supervisor Fisher to approve the minutes from the November 21, 2017 workshop meeting was seconded by Supervisor Evans while noting he would appreciate more detail included within the minutes concerning items mentioned during Manager Seeds' presentation of information items/letters received. *Motion passed with Supervisor Peffer abstaining due to his absence from that meeting.*

Treasurer's Report/Monthly Financial Statements

Manager Seeds presented the monthly Treasurer's Report showing the total of the *State Account* \$232,384.84; *Fiduciary Account* \$92,329.76; and *General Account* \$1,405,283.46 funds to be \$1,729,998.06 as of November 30, 2017.

Manager Seeds noted the JCB Wheel Loader and accessories purchased from Stephenson Equipment, Inc. totaling \$134,000 after the trade-in allowance was paid out of the Equipment Fund and the \$124,334.16 Local Share Municipal Grant received to cover the Township's DCIB loan annual debt service for the Potato Valley Road Bridge Replacement and Roadway Realignment project was deposited in the Reserve Account. Manager Seeds also reported having received a letter of security from Mid Penn Bank covering all Township accounts held by the bank inasmuch as the total of those accounts exceed FDIC coverages.

Motion by Supervisor Evans to accept the November 2017 Treasurer's Report to be filed for audit was seconded by Supervisor Cooney. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Manager Seeds distributed a copy of the 2018 General Fund Budget that has been advertised as being available at the Township office for public inspection prior to being presented for adoption at the Board's December 19, 2017 workshop meeting.

Agenda Items

Potato Valley Road Bridge and Roadway Realignment Project Update

A written status report dated December 1 was submitted by Herbert, Rowland & Grubic, Inc. (HRG) project engineer Ryan Hostetter, P.E. In addition, the Board's meeting packet included a waiver request dated November 30 for project drainage plan requirements submitted by HRG to the Township's engineer, Light-Heigel & Associates, Inc. The Board deferred action on the waiver request pending receipt of a recommendation from Light-Heigel & Associates, Inc.

Stormwater Escrow Release Requests

- Light-Heigel & Associates, Inc. correspondence dated November 7, 2017 indicated the stormwater facilities have been completed in general conformity with the approved plan for the Mark Fisher property on Lot#2, Green Grove.

Motion by Supervisor Evans to release the \$3,800 improvement guarantee held for completion of the stormwater facilities on the Mark Fisher property on Lot#2, Green Grove pursuant to Light-Heigel & Associates, Inc. correspondence dated November 7, 2017 was seconded by Supervisor Cooney. *Motion passed unanimously.*

- Light-Heigel & Associates, Inc. correspondence dated November 27, 2017 indicated the stormwater facilities have been installed in conformance with the approved plan for the Sebastian Detres property on Lot# 85 of the Felicita subdivision, but that the site still needs to be stabilized.

Motion by Supervisor Cooney to release \$27,902.38 of the \$28,902.38 improvement guarantee held for completion of the stormwater facilities on the Sebastian Detres property on Lot# 85 of the Felicita subdivision with \$1,000 to remain in escrow until the site is stabilized was seconded by Supervisor Evans. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Brian McFeaters – Sewage Enforcement Officer (SEO)

Township SEO Brian McFeaters thanked the Board for his appointment as Township SEO during 2017 and presented his 2018 Fee Schedule continuing the same fees as were presented at the time of his appointment. Mr. McFeaters noted his daughter, Carrie M. McFeaters, is now fully certified as a Pennsylvania SEO and included her name as an alternate SEO representative of his firm.

The Board commended Mr. McFeaters for his service to the Township and its residents since the time of his appointment and for keeping the Board fully informed when issues were encountered during his efforts to maintain compliance with the Township's Act 537 Plan under the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Program.

Municipal Option to Prohibit Siting of Category 4 Casinos

Notice was distributed to the Board concerning a recent amendment of the Pennsylvania Gaming Act authorizing the creation of up to ten (10) Category 4 casino licenses permitting operation of 300 to 750 slot machines and eventually up to 50 table games. Category 4 casino locations cannot be located within 25 linear miles of an existing Category 1, 2 or 3 casino facility with the exception that the operator of a Category 1, 2 or 3 casino facility may locate a Category 4 casino with 25 linear miles of its own casino facility.

The amendment provides municipalities the option to prohibit or "opt-out" of the siting of a Category 4 facility within that municipality. The option to "opt out" must, however, be exercised by adoption of a Resolution by the municipal governing body at a public meeting and delivered to the Gaming Control Board no later than December 31, 2017.

Inasmuch as the Township is within 25 lineal miles of Hollywood Casino, no other casino operator would qualify to site a Category 4 casino within the Township. The consensus of the Board was to take no action at this time unless residents voiced a concern whereby the "opt out" Resolution could be placed on the December 19 workshop meeting agenda.

Reports

Engineer – Light-Heigel & Associates, Inc.

A written report for the month of November was presented.

Roadmaster – Robert Hofer

A written report dated December 4, 2017 was presented.

Zoning Officer – Matt Sauers

A written report dated December 4 listing building and zoning permit applications handled during the month of November was presented.

Emergency Management Coordinator – Robert Rusbatch

Mr. Rusbatch stated he had nothing to report.

Manager – Julie Ann Seeds

Manager Seeds provided a written report dated December 4, as well as the November Code Enforcement report and an updated status listing of Township projects. She reported having reviewed the 149 properties within the Township currently listed under

the Dauphin County CRS Program. She also reported the 2016 Liquid Fuels Audit was completed last week in less than one day which in the past generally took two or more days.

Committee/Organization Reports

- *Dauphin-Middle Paxton Joint Park Authority* – Manager Seeds distributed an email from Nichole Staley O’Gorman reporting the 2016 audit is in progress and providing a status update on the Kennedy Grandstand renovation project. Minutes of the June 26, August 28 and September 25 Authority meetings were also attached to the email.
- *Dauphin-Middle Paxton Joint Fire Commission* – Supervisor Fisher reported the Fire Commission met on November 28 and approved the minutes of the previous meeting, as well as the Fire Company monthly financial reports which were forwarded to the Township. The Fire Company reported the retired Special Unit was sold for \$800 after all usable equipment and emergency warning devices were removed. They also reported having purchased an enclosed 16’ trailer in the amount of \$4,593 for storage and transportation of the ATV/skid unit as previously approved by the Fire Commission. Fire Company financial audits have been ordered for 2015 and 2016 with the auditor also requested to perform reviews for 2013 and 2014 covering all years since the 2012 audit. Further information received from the Capital Region Council of Governments for implementation of the Act 172 Volunteer Service Credit Program was disseminated, but the Fire Company determined the limited program benefits do not provide a meaningful incentive to warrant the level of effort involved. The next Fire Commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 30 at 5:30 PM in the Township meeting room.
- *Dauphin-Middle Paxton Joint Public Safety Authority* – Supervisor Fisher reported the next Authority meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 13 at 6 PM in the Township meeting room.
- *Capital Region Council of Governments (CapCOG)* – Supervisor Fisher reported The Board of Delegates met on November 20 with an opening presentation by PennDOT District 8 highlighting major projects under design or construction within the Capital Area. The 2018 budget was adopted with no increase in membership dues for the current 41 member municipalities. The Legislative Report indicated SB 251 providing local police authorization to use radar for traffic speed enforcement passed the Senate and now resides in the House Transportation Committee and HB 1909 intended to clarify the definition of firefighters covered under the State Workers’ Insurance Fund (SWIF) as a result of SWIF’s recent interpretation that fire police officers and administrative/social active duty members of volunteer fire companies are NOT covered by workers’ compensation was referred to the House Committee on Labor and Industry. The December monthly meeting was cancelled with the annual dinner to be held on January 15, 2018 at the Central Hotel & Conference Center (800 East Park Drive). The next Board of Delegates meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Monday, February 19 at the Hampden Township office.

Review/Approval of Bills

The listing of vendor bills for November 2017 was distributed to the Board for review/approval. Motion by Supervisor Fisher to pay all vendor bills listed for November 2017 and authorize payment of all recurring monthly expenses upon receipt to avoid late-charge penalties was seconded by Supervisor Evans. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Motion by Supervisor Evans to make the upcoming DCIB loan payment for the Potato Valley Road Bridge Replacement and Roadway Realignment Project from the Reserve Account was seconded by Supervisor Cooney. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Information Items/Letters Received

Manager Seeds presented items of general interest, as well as recent correspondence received by the Township. She requested those Board members interested in attending the January 15, 2018 CapCOG Annual Dinner to let her know as soon as possible to make the necessary reservations. She also will distribute an invitation received by the Township inviting public officials to attend the *Public Officials Day* at the Pennsylvania Farm Show on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 requiring reservations by December 29 to attend the 11 AM luncheon.

Executive Session

Not required.

Board Member Comments

The Board recognized and expressed its appreciation to Supervisor Peffer for his 36 years of distinguished service to the residents of Middle Paxton Township as he approaches the close of his sixth and last term of office ending on December 31, 2017.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM upon a motion by Supervisor Evans, seconded by Supervisor Peffer. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

James H. Fisher, Assistant Secretary