

**Newton Township Board of Supervisors' Meeting**  
**April 12, 2021**

General Meeting called to order at 7:25PM following the SAPA Hearing.

Board Members in Attendance: Douglas Pallman, Kevin Carr and Robert Naegele

Board Guests in Attendance: Robert Sheils, III, Solicitor; D. Scot Haan, CEO; Francine Fawcett, Secretary/Treasurer

Public in attendance: Fire Company Chief M. Jeffrey LaCoe, Rec Center Manager, Sabrina Herbert, Planning Commission member, Karen Lilik and resident Diane Bonczek.

**Approval of Minutes: Motion by Carr to approve the minutes of the General Meeting of March 8, 2021, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Naegele. Motion voted, all in favor.**

**Announcements:** None

**Correspondence:** Correspondence is available with the Secretary's office during regular business hours for review.

**New Business:**

***Abington Rotary:*** John Hambrose, Abington Rotary, was present to discuss the proposed annual fireworks for Friday, July 2, with a rain date of July 3 at the Abington Heights Middle School. The event will be the same as years past and the insurance certificate will be sent to the township mid-June. Planning Commission recommended approval of the mass gathering permit and waiving the fee. **Motion by Carr to approve the permit and waive the fee, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Naegele. Motion voted, all in favor.**

***Resolution 2021-3:*** This is a resolution by the pension broker to update the names of administrators (supervisors). **Motion by Naegele to sign, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carr. Motion voted, all in favor.**

***Resolution 2021-1:*** This is a resolution to apply for a \$50,000 grant from Keystone Communities. The supervisors ask if first we can find out if we will be able to apply for funding elsewhere if we go for this grant and if granted, how soon does it have to be used. Resolution tabled.

**Unfinished Business:**

***Website:*** The township's website is now running and under construction. Some were having trouble getting some information. We need to check on getting emails through the website for the supervisors.

**Master Plan:** Naegele stated that he is working with Highland Associates on updating plans.

**Act 537 update:** The update will be on hold since the discussion with the state hospital.

**Website:** Pallman will have a meeting with Fawcett and web designer to make a new website.

**Standing Committee Reports:** POSTED - Planning Commission

**Tax Collector:** Not present.

**NRVFC:** Chief LaCoe reported that the fire company had 33 calls for the month of March. The wiener sale was a success.

**Road Master:** Naegele discussed the work performed by the DPW this past month along with still taking care of icy spots and maintaining the equipment. Santarsiero got pricing for a new truck that would take 10 to 12 months to get once ordered. A new truck would cost \$157,000. Two years ago, the cost of our new Peterbilt was \$144,243. Price quotes were received through COSTARS for the AEP oil for dirt roads. Both Suit Kote and Vestal quoted \$1.629/gallon. Last year it was \$1.73/gallon. A price was received from Vestal for a grader and operator at the rate of \$1,735/day, last year it was \$1,675/day. **Motion by Carr to authorize Vestal Asphalt to oil at the rate of \$1.629/gallon on AEP and the grader/operator at the rate of \$1735/day, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pallman. Motion voted, all in favor.** Discussion continued regarding the pipe on Kimberly Circle. A meeting will be set up with two neighbors and the township to discuss.

**Recreation Center:** Discussion regarding opening the center; Herbert stated that the center will open on April 24<sup>th</sup> by appointment only. Safety measures will be put in place and a policy will be posted at the building. Herbert will have a training session for employees before the opening. A quote of \$1975 was received for redoing the floor in the dance room by Floor Excellence. Supervisors would like to have it done when she vacates the building the end of May. Youth soccer will rent the field for \$1,000 for the month of August thru November, Monday through Friday 4-8pm.

**Planning Commission:** The planning commission met with a surveyor regarding the subdivision of a property on Newton Ransom Blvd. It was discussed that there was a zoning hearing back in 2015 that was to be continued but the owner never came back.

**CEO:** Haan reported discussions with a land owner wanting to subdivide his property, however, the property is part of the Department of General Services' land that cannot be subdivided unless the DGS approves it. Haan also discussed a call from an attorney that is representing a client that is looking at purchasing a lot in Wooded Lane.

**Solicitor:** Sheils reported that his conversations with Reilly Engineering produced a resolution that states the township agrees to discuss the relocation of the sewage treatment plant. **Motion by Carr to approve Resolution 2021-4, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Naegele. Motion voted, all in favor.** Attorney Sheils also gave the supervisors a quote and background information on Attorney William Lawrence. Mr. Lawrence is an environmental attorney and would be an asset to Newton Township with the updating of our Act 537 and discussions with the Clarks Summit State Hospital for the sewage treatment plant. **Motion by Carr to hire Mr. Lawrence at the rate of \$250/hr. as special consult for matters regarding the CSSH hospital and Act 537, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Naegele. Motion voted, all in favor.**

**Bills:** Motion by Carr to approve the bills as read and prepared, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Naegele. Motion voted, all in favor.

**Public Input:** None

Being no further public input and discussion, Naegele motioned to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carr. Motion voted, all in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM

Respectfully submitted by Francine Fawcett