

Newton Township Board of Supervisors' Meeting

March 11, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:31PM with Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Carr to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2024 General Meeting minutes, 2nd by Naegele. Motion voted, all in favor.

Announcements: PADOT and LaBella Associates will conduct a meeting on Monday, May 13, 2024 at 5:30PM in regards to the bridge replacement on Falls Road.

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

Public Input:

Joe Beezup – Upper Maple Drive was present to ask the township what they are going to do with the water problem he has on his property. He states that the township cut the embankment across from him and more water is coming onto his property. He wants a pipe installed and is willing to allow the pipe to only drain to a ditch on his property. The township will set up a meeting with our engineer, DPW and a supervisor to visit the area and discuss. An easement will be prepared by our solicitor that Mr. Beezup will have to sign.

New Business:

Bartholme/Lomeo Subdivision: Mike Dudley, LaBella, was present to discuss the subdivision that he was able to get a waiver from having highway occupancy permits as long as he put on the maps that the township is not held responsible if permits cannot be obtained in the future and must have permits if there is any land development. **Motion by Carr to approve the subdivision as presented, 2nd by Naegele. Motion voted, all in favor.**

Standing Committee Reports: POSTED - Planning Commission

NRVFC: Chief LaCoe reported that there were 36 calls for the month of January and 42 calls for the month of February. Discussion ensued regarding the contract between the fire company and the township. Per the contract, EMS and fire services are to be provided by the fire company but currently there is only mutual aid for EMS calls.

Rec Center: Committee chairperson Terri Purcell presented the board with the committee report. She also discussed that she will be applying for a grant on behalf of the center and township referencing the master plan.

Road Master: Naegele discussed that the foreman will be putting the old loader on Municibid to sell. The supervisors agree to have it listed for a minimum of \$8,000. The board also discussed the information received from the foreman about the purchase of a new truck.

Zoning: Haan reported that he has been fielding calls regarding the new zoning

Planning Commission: Haan reported that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the plans for the Bartholme/Lomeo subdivision.

Solicitor: Sheils reported that he has spoken with DEP lawyer that told him the hearing went well with Pileggi. A discussion regarding the fencing on Bald Mountain Road ensued. An easement will be prepared for the land owner to sign. There has been no contact from the attorney for Daydreamers, Sheils will reach out to him with a deadline to sign by April 1 or the township will look to market the space. A letter will also go out to the dance room lessee about extending her lease.

Unfinished Business:

Police Contracts: Newton Township Board of Supervisors has been in discussion with both Clarks Summit and South Abington with regards to police coverage in Newton Township. The supervisors stated that South Abington Police would put in 37 hours per week at \$89.57/hr. (this is not an increase in hourly wages) and have supplemental assistance by the State Police overnight. The contract will be in effect until December 31, 2025. **Motion by Carr to accept the contract, 2nd by Naegele. Motion voted, all in favor.**

Resolution 2024-1: This is a resolution of the township to enter into a contract with South Abington Township Police for coverage. **Motion by Carr to approve Resolution 2024-1, 2nd by Naegele. Motion voted, all in favor.**

Public Input:

Country Club Road – PADOT Stockpile: The residents from Country Club Road were present to discuss if there was any more information received by our solicitor in regards to the stockpile. Supervisors have asked Sheils to move forward with getting information.

Bills: **Motion by Carr to approve the bills as presented, 2nd by Naegele. Motion voted, all in favor.**

Being no further business, **Carr motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:45PM, 2nd by Naegele. Motion voted, all in favor.**