**REGULAR MEETING**

**March 18, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Reading Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Township Building and called to order at 6:02 pm by Chairman Wes Thomason. Vice Chairman Jason Phillips and Mike Weigand were also present with Chairman Thomason presiding over the meeting.

Others in attendance included Susan Smith, Solicitor, Law Offices of Susan Smith.

Trey Elrod, Gordon Brown, and Associates; Jerry Shank, Planning Commission; Jason Grim, Public Works; Jeff and Luanne Megonnell, Kim Weigand, Rodney Hollabaugh, Gary Bullock, Vernon Grier, Kevin & Benay Holtzinger, Keith Bortner, Gary Myers, Emmert & Patty Harzell, Bony Dawood, George Wolf, Cory Lease, Dean Shank, Jason Williams, Andrew Herrold, Art Becker, L Shear, Donald Godfrey and Michael Keelan.

Pledge of Allegiance

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The new name for the Hampton Fire Hall is Reading Township Community Center at Hampton Fire Company Memorial Hall.

The Letter was written and sent to PennDOT concerning the Brake Retarders on March 6th.

Reading Township is looking for volunteers for the Recreation Board, there will be a questionnaire to complete.

The Board of Supervisors met with Judge Little to discuss changes to the magistrate office on March 7th and March 13th.

Chairman Thomason met with PMCA to inspect Hampton Fire Hall on March 13th. There were very little repairs needed.

Drug Take Back event at Bermudian School District on April 27th from 10 am until 2 pm.

Chairman Thomason credited the Public Works Department and the Road Crew for catching on the game camera’s the people that were responsible for stealing Township signs. All signs and posts were recovered. Chairman Thomason led the audience in a round of applause for the Public Works Department and Road Crew.

**MINUTES**

Minutes from February 18th, the Board of Supervisors Meeting were approved with corrections, on a motion by Vice Chairman Phillips, second by Supervisor Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

Minutes from March 7th, special meeting were approved with corrections, on a motion by Vice Chairman Phillips, second by Supervisor Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

**OPEN AGGREGATE BIDS**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Kinsley** | **York Building** | **Vulcan** | **New Enterprise** |
|  |  | **Products** |  |  |
|  | **TOTAL** | **TOTAL** | **TOTAL** | **TOTAL** |
| AASHTO #1 | $23.00 | **$19.40** | $26.25 | $23.71 |
| AASHTO #3 | $23.00 | **$19.40** | $26.25 | $23.71 |
| AASHTO #57 | $24.00 | **$19.40** | $26.25 | No Bid |
| R-4's RIP RAP | $25.00 | **$23.30** | $28.20 | $26.76 |
| PA-2A SUB-BASE | $17.25 | **$14.30** | $20.20 | $19.01 |
| TYPE 2 ANTI-SKID | No bid | $22.05 | **$27.35** | $27.56 |
|  |  |  |  |

Vice-Chairman Phillips made a motion to award the bid for the AASHTO #1,3 & 57, R-4’s and PA-2 sub-base to York Building Products, and Type 2 Anti-skid to Vulcan, second by Supervisor Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

**OPEN TAR AND CHIP BIDS**

The Board received one bid for tar and chip. The bid came from Russell Standard/Hammaker in the amount of $222,533.70. Vice Chairman Phillips made a motion to award the bid to Russell Standard, second by Supervisor Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Thomason stated the Board received a letter from the Reading Township Municipal Authority thanking the Road Crew for the use of their extended backhoe tractor for an installation of a pump on Browns Dam Road.

Rodney Hollabaugh questioned the Board as to whether there were going to be any decisions made on the solar ordinance that is mentioned later in the agenda. Chairman Thomason stated they will discuss it but no decisions will be made.

Jeff Megonnell wanted to know if there could be signs at the Hampton Ball Fields stating Reading Township is not responsible for accidents. Chairman Thomason stated we will look into that.

Mr. Holtzinger said he spoke to Brandon Danner who is the previous president of the Bermudian Springs Ball Team, Mr. Danner stated his son moved up to the next level so someone else is now in charge. He stated the dug outs are still on the books.

Mr. Keelan stated the construction equipment are speeding through Chesterfield and he is concerned and there are little children in the area.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT AND PLANS**

**Extension request for Hampton Heights, Phase VI**

Vice Chairman Phillips made a motion to approve the extension request for Hampton Heights, Phase VI final plan until May 31st, 2024, second by Supervisor Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

**Chesterfield update on the Corrective Action Plan**

Mr. Elrod stated Chesterfield was having some drainage and erosion control problems so the Township put a stop to building permits. Since that time 4 permits were allowed to be issued. Mr. Dawood gave an update on the progress. He stated there are two inlets at the caul-de-sac, and a drainage pipe between two lots that need to be addressed yet.

**Kevin S. & Benay V. Holtzinger**

**Preliminary/Final Subdivision Plan**

**SALD# 2023-08**

**Parcel # 31J07-0045---000**

**2425 East Berlin Rd.**

**East Berlin, PA 17316**

**BOS action deadline: 4/15/24**

Mr. Holtzinger is requesting a-Waiver §22-505 A (2) Sewer which requires the applicant does not connect to the sanitary sewer and thy install a cap system. Mr. Elrod stated that it is not practical to build a sewer at that location. It is a very high spot and the areas around it are all lower. Due to the elevation and location of Mr. Holtzingers property it is unlikely that public sewer will be extended to the property in the foreseeable future, so a capped system will serve no useful purpose. It is uphill. Mr. Elrod does not have a technical objection to the waiver.

Mr. Herrold, Mr. Holtzingers attorney, stated that this waiver does not apply because his property will not be hooked up to the sewer. As Mr. Elrod the Engineer stated, this is not practical or reasonable. Mr. Holtzinger’s property is not in the expansion area. Mr. Herrold stated that Mr. Holtzinger has gone through all the necessary applications process with DEP and has approval from them. He stated that this is a textbook case for a waiver.

Mr. Elrod submitted an email from Ryan Swope, director of the Reading Township Municipal Authority which is similar to what he has said. The email is below:

I am writing this email to address a few concerns over the sewer lines in the Stoney Point Road/234 area. I have attached a drawing that has been highlighted by me, showing the existing sewer lines and I have also highlighted 2 “future” easements. On the North side of Stoney Point Road, the Thomason’s property is the last home to be connected to public sewer. To address the concern of a “manhole” being located on the north side of Stoney Point Road towards 234, there is no sewer manholes in that area. I have been out twice to check on this. What is there is an old, hand dug, rock lined well, that happens to have a sewer manhole lid on top. I have no idea why a sewer manhole lid would be on top or where it came from but I have personally double checked that this is not a sewer manhole and have personally inspected inside. Hopefully to address the final concern over dry hook-ups. This is not something I recommend or would like to see. I feel as though this could cause a lot of issues for multiple reasons. There is no telling how deep the lines would need to be, as well as the pipes sitting in the ground for an extended period without being used. With my experience when they sit for extended periods of time they become useless when the time comes to use them because of settlement issues and leaks which would have to be done all over again when/if the time comes to hook up to the public sewer. I hope all this information is useful and puts any concerns at ease. I will not be able to attend the meeting tonight 3/18/2024.

Chairman Thomason spoke to Mr. Swope concerning this issue. Mr. Swope stated he did go look at the area and he said it was a concrete area with a sewer cap over it and it was a hand dug well with a rock lining. Chairman Thomason asked him if he could go back and look at it again. He agreed with his original statement.

Mr. Becker, attorney for Vernon Grier, stated in section 22-505 it says all subdivisions and Land Development Plans shall be connected to a public sanitary sewer system if possible. He stated all lots on the west side are connected. There is an easement area designated for a sewer system when the plan was approved in 2010. Mr. Becker continued stating his case.

Mr. Grier re-read section 22-505. He stated it was possible for Mr. Holtzinger to connect to the sewer system when he was going to have 6 houses why is it not possible for 3.

Chairman Thomason asked for a motion to either to approve or deny Mr. Holtzinger’s request for a waiver from the cap system keeping in mind the RTMA Director, Engineer and both Attorneys comments. Supervisor Weigand made a motion to deny the waiver, second by Vice Chairman Phillips; Chairman Thomason opposed. It was a 2-1 vote.

Supervisor Phillips made a motion to conditionally approve plan 2023-08 with the conditions being met on the Engineers comment letter dated 11/3/2023, County comment letter dated 10/28/2023 and the Zoning Officer’s comment letter dated 10/27/2023, second by Chairman Thomason; motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION**

**2014, 2015 and 2016 Disposition of Tax Records**

Vice Chairman Phillips made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-16 disposing of 2014, 2015 & 2016 tax records, second by Supervisor Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

**business matters**

**Refer Proposed Amendment to Code Chapter 15 Motor Vehicles and Traffic to Establish Stop Conditions at Certain Intersections in Lake Meade to Public Hearing**

Vice Chairman Phillips made a motion to move proposed amendment to Public Hearing to be held on April 15th at 6:02 pm, second by Chairman Thomason; motion carried unanimously.

**Proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance for solar use**

A special meeting for public comment will be held April 29th at 6:00 pm at the Hampton Fire Hall.

**Access Road off Big Rock Road on Dean Shank’s property to Lake Meade**

Vice Chairman Phillips made a motion to support the access road at Big Rock Road to Long Street Drive in Lake Meade to allow road crew to do the work at a maximum of 10 days with 2 people, second by Chairman Thomason; motion carried unanimously.

**Approve Abogar/Apple Valley Creamery 5-K Run to be held Saturday, July 27th beginning at 8 am**

Vice Chairman Phillips made a motion to approve the Apple Valley Creamery 5-K run with the hold harmless agreement signed, second by Chairman Thomason; motion carried unanimously.

**Platinum Cleaning Company, LLC estimate for deep cleaning and strip and waxing the floor**

Reading Township received a quote from Platinum Cleaning Company, LLC for a deep cleaning and strip and waxing at the Hampton Fire Hall. The estimate was $800.00 for the deep cleaning and to strip and waxing would be an additional $2500.00. Vice Chairman Phillips made a motion to approve the deep cleaning up to $1000.00 and hold off on the stripping and waxing of the floor, second by Chairman Thomason; motion carried unanimously.

**Key Fob System upgrade for community center**

Vice Chairman made a motion to approve the key fob system at Hampton Fire Hall and the work be done by Markle’s, second by Supervisor Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

**PMCA inspection of Hampton Fire Hall**

Chairman Thomason did a walk through of the Hampton Fire Hall with an inspector from PMCA. There is very little to fix or upgrade.

**Ladders, paint, kiltz, ceiling tiles and replacement tiles for community center**

Vice Chairman Phillips made a motion to complete what repairs are needed to have the building ready for the inspection from the PA Department of Agriculture up to $1000.00, second by Supervisor Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

**Quote to paint the Church shutters, railings, door and trim and Hampton Firehall doors and trim around doors**

There were two estimates received for the painting at the Church. Roy M. Williams & Sons, Inc. totaled $16,660.00. Another estimate was received from Adams Franklin Painting Company totaling $17,300.00. Supervisor Weigand made a motion to award the job to Roy M. Williams & Son, Inc., second by Chairman Thomason; motion carried unanimously.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Treasurer’s report for February

State Fund MM $387,644.29

ARPA Fund $287,981.07

General Fund: $157,743.81

Total Income $176,137.83

Total Expenses $99,986.99

Net Income $76,150.84

The Treasurer’s Report for the month of February were approved pending audit on a motion by Supervisor Phillips, second by Supervisor Weigand; motion carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

The Board acknowledged receiving reports from the Police, Public Works, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer and Building Inspector, Emergency Management and Northeast Adams Fire & EMS and Heidlersburg Fire Company and the Liquid Fuels Audit.

Dean Shank, EMC, spoke to the audience asking them not to smoke with oxygen on or in the house. There have been numerous incidents happening concerning that.

**SOLICITOR REPORT**

Attorney Smith gave legislative and judicial updates.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Shank requested the treasurer report numbers be included in the Board of Supervisors Agenda. He also stated that people stealing signs are happening in more places than Reading Township.

Supervisor Weigand stated he attended the York Springs Awards Banquet with Huntington and Latimore Township Supervisors, and the fire company thanked all the municipalities for all their financial support.

Mr. Megonnell stated the baseball teams mow 70% of the community center grass and the fire company was responsible for the other 30%. Chairman Thomason stated that was something the Township will be responsible for.

**adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned into executive session at 8:41 pm on a motion by Vice Chairman Phillips, seconded by Supervisor Thomason; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Beard

Secretary/Treasurer