

REGULAR MEETING
January 18, 2021

The regular meeting of the Reading Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Township Building and called to order at 6:05 pm by Kevin Holtzinger, Chairman. Vice Chairman Greg Heefner and Jason Phillips were present with Chairman Holtzinger presiding over the meeting.

Others in attendance included Susan Smith, Solicitor, Law Offices of Susan Smith. Virginia Thornton and Roger Phillips, Gannett Fleming; Gary Bullock, EMC; Bill Ceravola, Officer in Charge; Jerry Shank, Planning Commission; Phil Garland, Lexington Land Developers; George Wolf, Jeff and Louanne Megonnell.

Mark Wheeler with Community Media broadcasted the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 14th the Board met with John Biese and Bill Bowen, members of the Planning Commission.

PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance authorizing the establishment of parking restrictions in Hampton Heights and providing penalties for violation.

Chairman Holtzinger opened the hearing for public comments.

There were no public comments.

Chairman Holtzinger closed the public hearing.

MINUTES

Minutes from the December 16, 2020 Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Heefner, second by Mr. Phillips; motion carried unanimously.

Minutes from the Board of Supervisors Re-organization meeting held on January 4, 2021 were approved on a motion by Mr. Heefner, second by Mr. Phillips; motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeff Megonnell stated the speed on Stoney Point Road has not slowed down. He stated he spoke to Officer Ceravola and himself and Officer Morehead are going to address the issue.

Mr. Megonnell also stated there is a state trooper who has radar off Stoney Point Road into Hampton Heights.

Louanne Megonnell stated traffic coming north on 94 into the circle do not slow down and the big trucks are using jake brakes. Officer Ceravola stated one of the previous boards addressed the jake brake ordinance in the past and the solicitor at the time had said it is not allowed because of the grade of the road it would cause a traffic accident.

Chairman Holtzinger read a letter from PennDOT stating they contracted with a company that will be placing counters in the county and municipal roads to collect data for safety improvement. This will take place between January and April. The letter stated this is not being done for any road projects or speed traps.

Louanne Megonnell questioned Officer Ceravola as to whether the cars with the loud mufflers are legal. Officer Ceravola stated the vehicles must pass inspection.

Jerry Shank questioned the Board as to whether the improvement on the intersection on 94 still taking place. Chairman Holtzinger stated he has not heard anything recently but the last they spoke it was still supposed to occur this year.

Engineers Report

Jeffrey & Deborah Seibert

SALD #2015-08

Final Subdivision Plan

Mr. Heefner made a motion to approve the Jeffrey and Deborah Seibert plan upon the following conditions being met, second by Mr. Phillips; motion carried unanimously.

1. 22-403.2C Payment in lieu of constructing the improvements to widen the cartway to required width from 17' to 22', subject to Townships Engineer's cost estimate.
2. Modify slightly the deed restriction that is to be recorded to the Solicitor's satisfaction.
3. Execute the documents that have already been approved, the maintenance agreement and declaration.
4. Pay any outstanding administrative fees.
5. Construction shall be in conformance with the Townships Construction and Materials Standards Specifications.
6. Payment of Recreation Fees in accordance with section 22-415 to be paid before the recording of the plan.

Phil Garland-Discussion on Hampton Heights Fees

Mr. Garland presented the Board a printout of section 510 of the MPC. Mr. Garland stated the MPC states if you are disputing the fees the municipality cannot delay or disapprove your request of the release of financial security or subdivision or land development application or any approval or permit related to the development due to the applicants dispute of inspection and expenses. Mr. Garland said he will be asking to have his final plan signed which he submitted a month ago. Attorney Smith stated she must also point out to him

another section of 510 which calls for you to provide details as to what you are in fact challenging. She stated he has been provided a detailed invoice and Attorney Smith has not received anything back from him that shows what he is disputing. Mr. Garland said he submitted a dispute letter stating what he is disputing which are invoices that were not detailed, and they were excessive. Attorney Smith replied before the whole process starts Mr. Garland must identify what it is, he is specifically disputing. The Township will respond once in receipt of that. Mr. Garland disagrees with Attorney Smith's interpretation of the section of the MPC which he stated earlier.

Mr. Garland submitted a bond reduction based on the roads being paved out in Phase IV in early December. Ms. Thornton said she never received it. Mr. Garland then re-order the bond based on the bond reduction. Mr. Garland gave Ms. Thornton credit for responding immediately to the resubmitting of the bond. Ms. Thornton responded with a letter with issues on the bond. Ms. Thornton stated comments one and two were the same comments on the letter for phase III. She stated items one and two are an FYI to the Board. Item three stated the sidewalks are omitted from the bond. Mr. Garland stated that was an error on his part. Mr. Garland stated he would like to add a condition, he would not ask for a bond reduction on bond until the amount of sidewalks remaining is covered. He also stated Use and Occupancy permits are not issued until the sidewalks are completed. After discussion with Attorney Smith explaining the MPC, Mr. Garland removed his condition for the sidewalks. Attorney Smith stated the Performance Bond must be sent to her for review. Before anything can move forward there must be a Township Engineer's accepted estimated cost of improvements including sidewalks. Mr. Garland will address the issues for the next Board of Supervisors meeting in February.

**Responsibility for signing
Township Road Occupancy Permit**

Mr. Heefner made a motion to have the director of public works sign the township road occupancy permits and if he is not available than the road foreman may sign in his absence, second by Mr. Phillips; motion carried unanimously.

Chesterfield

Ms. Thornton provided an update on Chesterfield. She stated construction is underway. Currently the main project is sanitary lines and storm water. She also stated a request has been submitted to modify the approved backfill material. A soil sample test was submitted for their review and public works will also be included in the review. Ms. Thornton will be finalizing the review for compliance with conditions and records for recording. A project advisor will be on site full time due to construction activities that are occurring.

BUSINESS MATTERS

The Board acknowledged receiving a letter concerning the Lake Meade Drive over Mud Run Superstructure Replacement Project.

The Board accepted a Pension Disclosure Statement as submitted.

Mr. Heefner made a motion to increase the treasurer's bond from 2 million to 2.2 million at a total cost of \$2707.00 per year.

ORDINANCE

Mr. Heefner made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-01, authorizing the establishment of parking restrictions Hampton Heights and providing penalties for violation, second by Mr. Phillips; motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

Chairman Holtzinger state John Biese requested to be reappointed for a one-year term and not the usual four-year term.

Chairman Holtzinger made a motion to approve resolution 2021-07 as requested by Mr. Biese for a one-year term, the reappointment to the Planning Commission, second by Mr. Phillips; motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report for the month of December were approved pending audit on a motion by Mr. Heefner, second by Mr. Phillips; motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

The Board acknowledged receiving reports from the Police, Public Works, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer and Building Inspector, Emergency Management, United Hook and Ladder and Northeast Adams Fire & EMS and the RTMA Audited Financial Statement for the month of December.

Gary Bullock, EMC, stated two months ago the Board sent him a letter saying they do not want him directing traffic. Chairman Holtzinger stated this came about because of the previous accident that occurred and there was concern for Mr. Bullock's safety and the liability issue. Mr. Phillips stated an EMA director cannot respond to a fire department call as a Reading Township EMA director to direct traffic. Mr. Bullock stated he received a letter from the doctor stating he is fine. He will give that to Mr. Rabine. Mr. Phillips stated they will proceed from there. Chairman Holtzinger thanked Mr. Bullock for his years of service. Mr. Bullock stated he is not being treated fairly. Mr. Heefner also stated Mr. Phillips earlier concern pertaining to responding to a fire call as a Reading Township EMA. It would be a liability to the fire department if he would get hurt and there was no hazmat issue that required emergency management. Mr. Bullock will speak to Mr. Rabine.

Mr. Heefner made a motion to accept the Administrative Reports as presented, second by Mr. Phillips; motion carried unanimously.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Smith stated there will be no call ins at the Public Hearing for the Re-zoning Ordinance. Also, any written comments will carry over to this hearing and there is no need to resubmit them. The meeting will also be on zoom.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jerry Shank questioned the Board as to how they choose someone to replace Mr. Biese of the Planning Commission when his year is up. The Board said if anyone is interested please let the Township Offices know.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm on a motion by Mr. Heefner, seconded by Mr. Phillips; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Beard
Secretary/Treasurer