

**LOWER HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
BOS MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 17, 2020**

The Lower Heidelberg Township Board of Supervisors held their monthly meeting at the Township Building, 720 Brownsville Road, on the above date. Present were Chairman Michael Keltz, Vice-Chairwoman Deborah P. Scull, Township Solicitor Eric Brown, Chief Thomas Deiterich, Township Engineer Ryan Rhode (KE), Code Officer Glenn Kraft, and Township Manager/Secretary/Treasurer Pamela J. Stevens. Also present were Gregg Bogia and Eric Vorgity. Mrs. Johnson was absent.

Chairman Keltz called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m., and led the pledge to the flag.

**Executive Session:** Mr. Keltz stated that the Board held Executive Session prior to tonight's meeting concerning personnel, potential litigation and collective bargaining.

**Approval of Minutes:** There were no minutes that were available to be approved.

**Public Comment – Open to Public**

**Guests re: Glen Ridge Estates Project** and Mr. Bogia discussed the proposed option on the new emergency access. Chief stated that Mrs. Scull and Ms. Stevens went with him on a drive through the property to assess the proposed Emergency Access and it appears to be where the property meets Sweitzer Road at a fairly level area. Some trees may need to be trimmed for the safe access to the emergency lane. Mr. Vorgity agreed that trees could be trimmed but the goal was to keep as much existing vegetation as possible to screen the development. Chief stated that there should be a chain across the access to prevent unauthorized access, and the access needs to be wider for the ladder truck turning movement. Mrs. Scull stated that the proposed emergency access from Sweitzer Road is better than through Bayberry Lane. Ms. Stevens discussed that PA American apparently approved the layout with blow-offs in the cul-de-sacs, but why aren't fire hydrants proposed instead of blow-offs for water main flushing. Ms. Stevens will contact PA American to set up a meeting to see a blow-off.

**Reports**

**Tax Collector** – Mrs. Boyer was not present but Ms. Stevens stated that she had collected \$20,896.09 for January and the County will be mailing the 2020 Real Estate Bills at the end of February.

**Wernersville Public Library** - Mrs. Scull discussed the Library Report from Leigh-Anne Yacovelli and there were in January 2,364 people through the door of the Wernersville Public Library, there were 18 new library cards issued, there are 5 mobile hot spots, there are 20 children active in Books Before Kindergarten, and South Mountain YMCA will be at the Library once a week through the summer of 2020 for a Story Program.

**Fire Commissioner** - Fire Commissioner not present. Mrs. Scull read the Fire Department report. There were a total of 445 hours of training, 14 calls for Lower Heidelberg, a total of 60 calls for the month with 22 mutual aid calls, and no fire losses for the month.

**Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC)** - The Emergency Management Coordinator was not present and there was no report.

**Ambulance** – Mrs. Scull read the report and there were a total of 32 calls for the month of January with 23 transported, 17 to the Reading Hospital and the busiest time was 10:00 a.m. Ms. Stevens noted that the Ambulance Director also submitted his 2019 Annual Report, and we can make copies available for the public next month.

**Planning Commission** – Mr. Keltz stated the February 10, 2020 Planning Commission Meeting was cancelled as there was no planning business.

**Building/Zoning** – Mr. Glenn Kraft stated that Kraft Code Services issued 20 permits issued for a construction total value of \$721,700. KCS attended the hearing for 333 N. Church who was found guilty by the DJ who reduced the fine by half. Mr. Kraft stated that 333 N Church property will be reviewed by the Blight Committee which will be discussed at their March Hearing, and Mr. Kraft will attend the Hearing.

**Engineers** – Mr. Rhode stated that there was not too much in his report, except for Glen Ridge Estates and Green Valley Estates West received permission to close out the sediment basin and need to watch the mud on the roads. Mr. Rhode stated that if mud is seen on Gaul Road contact the Township and Kraft Engineering, and the basin was permitted to be filled in.

**Recreation Board** – Ms. Scull stated that the Easter egg hunt is Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup> at St. Johns Hains Church and there are 3,000 eggs for the children.

**Police Chief** - The Police Chief to present his Report and there were 1,909.25 hours of service, 147 incidents, 7 criminal incidents, and 10 motor vehicle accidents. Two new Officers have started with their Field Training Officers and things are going well. There is a new AED installed in the main lobby on the Township side, and Mrs. Grimes will do the training for those people who want to be certified. Mr. Hart asked for the names of the two (2) new Officers, and the Chief stated Ryan Rhoads from Upper Macungie area with about 20 years of experience and Steven Caltagirone. From Shillington with about 10 years of experience. Mr. Kurtz asked if other could be trained on the AED and Ms. Stevens will check the cost and pass on the information to the Board.

**Road Foreman** – Mr. Clay presented his Report that the crew serviced equipment due to the mild winter, did some road patching, and except for the Penn Werner area the roads are in good shape, they did tree cutting on various roads, they installed crime alert signs, they did sign maintenance throughout the Township, they fixed the salt shed due to wind damage, they entered the Build a Better Mouse Trap competition with the paver box, and they attended a safety class at the Township Offices on Fire Extinguishers.

#### **Manager/Secretary/Treasurer/Sewer Engineer**

There is no update on **Legacy at the Paper Mill** per Atty. Brown.

**Chapter 94 Reports:** Mr. Keltz stated that these are the annual sewage reports sent to the Sewer Treatment Plant owners for their submission to PA DEP. There were no questions. **On Motion** by Mr. Keltz, seconded by Mrs. Scull, approve the Manager to submit the Annual Chapter 94 Reports to the relevant Municipalities for the 4 Sewer Districts. Motion passed unanimously.

**SEO Reimbursement Packet:** Mr. Keltz stated that this is the annual sewage enforcement reimbursement report that is submitted to PA DEP. **On Motion** by Mrs. Scull, seconded by Mr. Keltz, approve the Manager to submit the Annual Sewage Enforcement Officer Reimbursement Report to the PA DEP. Motion passed unanimously.

**Code Red Emergency Alert System:** Mr. Keltz stated that this is the emergency alert system that the Township utilizes. No questions on Code Red. **On Motion** by Mr. Keltz, seconded by Mrs. Scull, approve the Manager to renew the Agreement for the Code Red System through ONSOLVE for an annual Service Fee of \$3,250.00. Motion passed unanimously.

**Shared Recycling Site Grant:** Mr. Keltz stated that South Heidelberg is applying for a Recycling Grant for a security system and a new backhoe at the shared site. The backhoe that is currently at the site was purchased through a grant with PA DEP and Lower Heidelberg. South Heidelberg wants to trade the existing backhoe in as part of the Grant to purchase a new Backhoe but needs Lower Heidelberg's permission. Mr. Kurtz asked if there was any cost to the Township, and Mrs. Scull answered that at this time there is no Cost to Lower Heidelberg. **On Motion** by Mr. Keltz, seconded by Mrs. Scull, approve the Manager to issue the letter suggested by the County Recycling Director to South Heidelberg authorizing the trade-in of the backhoe for the purchasing of a new backhoe - wheel loader. Motion passed unanimously.

**Bill List and Treasurers Report:** **On Motion** by Mr. Keltz, seconded by Mrs. Scull, approve the Treasurer's Report and file for Audit. Motion passed unanimously.

**Solicitor:** The Solicitor issues in the Memo were covered in the agenda.

#### **Old Business - None**

#### **New Business**

Mr. Scott Hart introduced himself as a resident and discussed the concern about Faust Road speeding and he is requesting a speed study for a multi-way stop sign and/or speed bumps. There are vehicles being passed even when these vehicles are going over 25 mph. The Police Department is doing a great job. People are passing vehicles that are doing the speed limit and are doing this in blind curve areas. Raising the speed limit was previously discussed and that will only increase the speed. Both intersections are bus stops and people have driven around the busses. He will bring residents from Faust Road at the next meeting. Mr. Rhode stated that this stop sign has been previously requested and there are traffic requirements associated with stop signs. A stopped bus acts as a multi-way stop. If the Board authorizes Mr. Rhode to contact LTAP, he can have LTAP revisit this speeding concern on Faust Road. LTAP can be requested to investigate this area of concern, but it will take several months to obtain the LTAP Report, and this is at no cost to the Township. Mr. Hart will be in contact with the Attorney General and the State Representatives. Mr. Rhode was authorized to contact LTAP and begin the process for Faust Road.

Atty. Brown assisted in the motion for the new part-time receptionist - **On Motion** by Mr. Keltz and seconded by Mrs. Scull to extend conditional offer for a part time receptionist who was discussed in executive session at a rate of \$12.00 per hour but subject to a clear background check. The name is not being mentioned in case the person does not pass the background check. Motion passed unanimously.

Atty. Brown assisted in the motion for the healthcare contribution - **On Motion** by Mrs. Scull and seconded by Mr. Keltz to establish a 3% healthcare contribution rate for non-union administrative employees and supervisors. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Scull made a motion to Adjournment and Mr. Keltz seconded and the meeting is adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Approved: 5/18/2020

N:\Documents\Shared Documents 1\Shared Documents\BOS 2020 Meetings\Feb 17 2020 BOS Meeting\LHT BOS 2.17.2020 APPR mins.docx

**Next Resolution Number 2020 – 18**

**Next Ordinance Number 2020 – 361**

**Important Date - 2019 Road Project: One-Year Warranty Period will end on November 19, 2020.**