



SOUTH HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING – 2-28-2023

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE

The Board of Supervisors of the Township of South Heidelberg met at the Municipal Building for the monthly general business meeting. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Byrne at 7:00 PM, on February 28th 2023 followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MEETING ATTENDEES

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Chairman, Thomas R. Byrne
Vice Chairman, John N. Musante
Secretary, Tiffany L. Billingsley

TOWNSHIP STAFF & ADVISORS

Township Manager, Sean A. McKee
Acting Police Chief, J. Matthew Hook
Public Works Manager, Bill Lanza
Township Solicitor, Andrew George, Esq.
Township Engineer, Scott Anderson

MEETING MINUTE APPROVAL

A motion was made by Mrs. Billingsley, seconded by Mr. Musante and carried unanimously by the Board to approve the meeting minutes of the Board of January 3rd, 2023 Board of Supervisors Re-Organization-General Business Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

NEW BUSINESS

Tommy's Car Wash Preliminary/Final Plan. A motion was made by Mr. Byrne, seconded by Mrs. Billingsley and carried unanimously to approve the Preliminary/Final Land Development plan for Tommy's Car Wash relating to a 5,315 square foot single tunnel car wash with drive-thru lanes proposed on Lot #3 of the Members First Subdivision conditioned upon meeting the Engineer's Review Letter dated February 6, 2023.

Walters Avenue Grant Submission. A motion was made by Mr. Byrne, seconded by Mr. Musante and carried unanimously to authorize Township Manager Sean McKee to submit grant in the amount of \$550,000 for the Walters Avenue Bridge Replacement. The project will involve removal of existing bridge and replacement.

Memo of Understanding: Kelly Time. A motion was made by Mr. Byrne, seconded by Mrs. Billingsley and carried unanimously to authorize signature of Mem of Understanding between South Heidelberg Township and the South Heidelberg Township Police Officer's Association regarding "Kelly" time.

Joint Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator Resolution. A motion was made by Mrs. Billingsley seconded by Mr. Musante and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution 11-2023 which authorizes South Heidelberg Township to enter into a Joint Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator Cooperation Agreement.

NEW BUSINESS

Members First Escrow Release #2. . A motion was made by Mrs. Billingsley seconded by Mr. Musante and carried unanimously to authorize Escrow Release relating to the Members First Subdivision in the amount of \$125,964 which leaves a remaining escrow balance of \$20,006 to be retained. Township Engineer has recommended via a February 23, 2023 review letter.

Police Hire. A motion was made by Mrs. Billingsley seconded by Mr. Byrne and carried unanimously to hire Darren Dougherty as a full-time police officer, conditional upon sufficient background check, psychological testing and medical evaluation, subject to a one-year probationary period, and this hire is based on the South Heidelberg Township Police Department providing police coverage to the Heidelberg Township, and the Boroughs of Robesonia and Wernersville.

Chief of Police Appointment. A motion was made by Mr. Byrne seconded by Mrs. Billingsley and carried unanimously to appoint South Heidelberg Township Police Officer J. Matthew Hook to the position of South Heidelberg Township Chief of Police.

Chief Hook addressed the Board and those in attendance with the following speech regarding his appointment as Chief of Police.

First, I would like to thank the South Heidelberg Township Board of Supervisors for entrusting me with this very important job. It has been a pleasure working with you over the past several years and I look forward to many more years of a successful partnership with you in this new role.

I have been a member of the South Heidelberg Police Department for the last 18 years and have seen the department grow into the professional police department it is today. I am humbled and honored to become the next Police Chief.

There are three main components that attribute to our success as a police department. Those are supportive political leaders, quality officers and staff and a supportive and trusting public.

To South Heidelberg Township Board of Supervisors, who always lead from the front and do what is best for the community, because of your leadership it allows us to be successful law enforcement professionals for the residents of South Heidelberg, Robesonia Borough, Wernersville Borough and Heidelberg Township.

To the leaders of the partnering municipalities and Conrad Weiser School District thank you your leadership and trust in forming this positive partnership that is a vital component to our success as a police department. What you all have created here will positively impact this community for generations.

Next are the men and women officers and staff who make up the SH police department. This community is blessed with men and women of integrity who create a culture of accountability, that promote learning and facilities and celebrates the success of their fellow officers. Without your hard work and dedication to your chosen profession I would not be standing here today.

Always know my goal is to see you succeed as individuals and police officers. I hold myself to a high standard and I expect the same of you. Be better in everything and striving to improve.

If we do that, we will be successful together.

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To the communities we serve, the service that you have become accustomed to over the past several years will not change. Our department is guided by the three words **Integrity, Service and Community**. I want you to know that these are just not words.

- **Integrity:** We hold ourselves to the high standards of moral and ethical conduct. We support the principles embodied in the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pa
- **Service:** To serve people one-by-one so together, we can create environments that are safe and secure, and where people can thrive
- **Community:** Strong relationships of mutual trust between the POLICE and the communities we serve to maintain public safety and effective policing

Our Mission will not change during my tenure as Police Chief of the South Heidelberg Township Police Department, we will always lead from the front and always do what is best for the residents we serve.

Thank you again for this honor. We will not let you down!

Chief of Police Contract. A motion was made by Mr. Byrne seconded by Mr. Musante and carried unanimously to authorize signature of employment contract between South Heidelberg Township and Police Chief J. Matthew Hook. The contract is a 5 year contract beginning on 2/28/2023.

Chief of Police Salary Resolution. A motion was made by Mr. Musante seconded by Mrs. Billingsley and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution 12-2023 which fixes the annual salary of the South Heidelberg Township Police Chief at \$120,000

RECREATION BOARD

Mrs. Billingsley provided an update that the Recreation Board will be working on the Easter Event which will occur Saturday April 1st from 2:00pm to 5:00pm at Richard E. Hummel South Mountain Park.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

Mr. McKee referenced his monthly report and stated he had no further details to cover from his report.

PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER

Mr. Lanza referenced his monthly report and asked the Board if there were any questions from his report.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Grim referenced his monthly police report and had nothing further to report.

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER REPORT

Mr. Anderson referenced his monthly report and had nothing further to report.

TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR REPORT

Mr. George referenced his monthly report and had nothing further to report or action to be taken.

WERNERSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY REPORT

Leigh-Anne Yacovelli provided her report to the Board and stated that she would be resigning from the Wernersville Public Library.

TOWNSHIP TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mrs. Billingsley seconded by Mr. Musante and carried unanimously by the Board to receive and accept the Township Treasurer's Report.

BILL PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION.

A motion was made by Mr. Musante seconded by Mrs. Billingsley and carried unanimously by the Board to Authorize payment of bills dated February 28, 2023 and ratify, confirm and approve payment of bills paid since January 3, 2023 including procurement card purchases for January 2023.

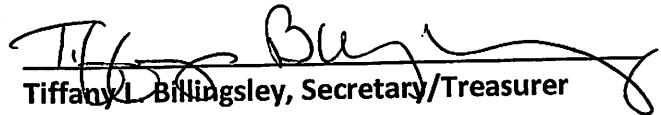
PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Soliday, Borough of Robesonia RE: SHPD. Mayor Soliday made comments regarding the professionalism and service provided by the South Heidelberg Township Police Department. Mayor Soliday stated that Robesonia appreciated the police department and officers for all they do in the Borough.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Byrne stated that a reception for Chief Hook will be held in the community room for those who would like to attend there will be light refreshments and photo opportunities.

A motion was made by Mrs. Billingsley, seconded by Mr. Musante and carried unanimously by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 PM.


Tiffany L. Billingsley, Secretary/Treasurer