



# SOUTH HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

## WORKSHOP & GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING – 3-16-2021

### CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE

The Board of Supervisors of the Township of South Heidelberg met at the Municipal Building for the monthly workshop & general business meeting. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Byrne at 9:00 AM, on March 16, 2021 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  
Police Chief, Leon J. Grim  
Public Works Manager, Bill Lanza  
Township Solicitor, Colin Macfarlane  
Township Engineer, Gary Kraft

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Byrne also made an announcement that the meeting audio is being recorded for the purposes of accurately documenting the meeting minutes.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

### TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT

Mr. McKee referenced the following items from his report:

**Krick Lane Extension.** Mr. McKee provided updates regarding the Krick Lane extension including that the plans and files prepared by the previous Engineer are being gathered and provided to Kraft Engineering for review. Mr. McKee stated that the negotiations to acquire the land can take several months and advised the Board to begin that process soon.

**Freightliner Plow Vehicle.** Mr. McKee discussed the issues with the current 2007 International Plow Truck. The vehicle has been experiencing several mechanical issues and has been problematic since it's purchase. Mr. McKee provided the Board with a quote for the purchase of a Freightliner to include options relating to a lease to own through Vist-Tompkins Bank. Mr. Lanza stated that the Freightliner if ordered now would not be ready until early 2022 possibly. Mr. McKee advised the Board that the purchase should be considered based on the lead time to receive the new truck as well as the issues being experienced with the 2007 International.

**Benecon HRA Administration.** Mr. McKee discussed a service provided by Benecon relating to the administration of the Township Health Reimbursement Accounts. Mr. McKee stated that Benecon would administer the plan for \$4 per employee per month and that would include the issuance of a debit card for employees to use for health related expenses.

## **TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT**

**Planning Commission Member.** Mr. McKee stated the Planning Commission has a vacancy that has still not been filled. Mr. McKee offered several options and noted that further discussion should be had in regards to appointing a member to the Planning Commission.

**Land Development Update.** Mr. McKee provided updates concerning several projects including Members First. Mr. McKee stated that with the economy improving that land development will most likely begin to pickup with several projects that were put on hold due to the pandemic possibly coming back in the upcoming months.

McKee asked the Board if there were any questions. No comment from the Board.

## **CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT**

Chief Grim McKee referenced the following items from his report:

**Full Time Ron Mohl Hiring.** Chief Grim discussed the hiring of Ron Mohl as a full-time officer. Mrs. Billingsley asked about Officer Mohl's expertise in vehicle stops relating to large trucks. Chief Grim stated that last year Officer Mohl accounted for approximately \$23k in fines issued. Mr. Byrne asked where those fines go to as far as collection. Mr. McKee stated that the fines are received into the general fund under the fines category but that in general the Township issued approximately \$25k total per year. Chief Grim clarified that not all those monies go directly to the Township.

**Part Time Hiring.** Chief Grim discussed the potential hiring for a part time role including a candidate formerly from Northern Berks Police Department. Chief Grim stated that a part time Officer is needed to help during the heavy vacation periods.

**Autism Awareness Day.** Chief Grim mentioned the upcoming Autism Awareness day being held at the Conrad Weiser East Elementary School. Chief Grim stated that the SHPD will be joined by the Western Berks Fire Department and Western Berks Ambulance Department along with other entities in support of autism.

Chief Grim asked the Board if there were any questions. No comment from the Board.

## **PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER REPORT**

Mr. Lanza McKee referenced the following items from his report:

**Street Sweeping.** Mr. Lanza referenced street sweeping which will begin the week of April 19<sup>th</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Lanza asked the Board if there were any questions from his report. No comment from the Board.

## **TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR REPORT**

Mr. MacFarlane referenced his report.

**Wernersville CCC Zoning Hearing Update.** Mr. MacFarlane stated the briefs have been filed and the appeal is schedule for April 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Child First Services Hearing Update.** Mr. MacFarlane stated no appeal date has set however a notice of intervention which allows the Township to be part of the appeal.

The Board had no questions.

## **TOWNSHIP ENGINEER REPORT**

Township Engineer Gary Kraft referenced his report.

**Industrial Park.** Mr. Kraft stated that a punch list of items to address the recently paved roadways have been completed which will allow the deeds of dedication to move forward. Mr. Kraft explained that once the roads are dedicated, they are owned by the Township which starts the maintenance period. Mr. Kraft stated that the financial security for the industrial park and the escrow release will need to be worked on due to the age of the project and the number different parties involved. Mr. Kraft stated he would work with Township Manager McKee to sort the security and escrow release and will hope to have that ready for the April meeting.

**Crave Café.** Mr. Kraft provided the Board with a proposal from Crave Café relating to a pole building to replace an existing shed and also place a pavilion over an existing juice shop. Mr. Kraft stated that the proposal is minor but he would recommend a waive of land development.

**Caron Foundation.** Mr. Kraft referenced a request for a proposed 720 square foot building addition to the existing administration building located on Preston Road. Mr. Kraft stated there doesn't appear to be any significant impact beyond the site and it's on existing impervious. Mr. Kraft stated he would recommend approval and waiver of land development.

## **RECREATION BOARD**

Mrs. Billingsley stated the Easter Egg Hunt will be April 27<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Billingsley stated the Egg Hunt will be expanded and include a petting zoo and it will also include the Wernersville Public Library. Mrs. Billingsley also noted the upcoming Spotlight will be Township resident Brian Cutts.

Mr. McKee mentioned outdoor yoga sessions that would be offered to citizens. Mr. McKee stated he spoke to an individual that offers these yoga sessions and stated the sessions would be held in May over several weeks as a pilot to determine if the sessions could continue. Mr. McKee stated that the yoga sessions were more adult oriented however families including children would be welcome to attend. The Board was in favor of offering the sessions to citizens.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn at 9:54am was made by Mrs. Billingsley seconded Mr. Musante and carried unanimously by the Board.

  
Tiffany L. Billingsley, Secretary/Treasurer