



# **SOUTH HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING – 7-27-2021**

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## **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 July 27<sup>th</sup>, 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, Andrew George, Esq.  
Township Engineer, Scott Anderson

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Meeting Audio Recording.** Mr. Byrne announced that the meeting is being audio recorded to ensure accuracy of documenting meeting minutes.

## **MEETING MINUTE APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Mr. Musante, seconded by Mrs. Billingsley and carried unanimously by the Board to approve the meeting minutes of the June 15, 2021 Board of Supervisors Workshop Meeting and the June 22, 2021 Board of Supervisors General Business Meeting.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Mr. Aldom RE: Winding Way Feral Cat Issue/Township Animal Control.** Mr. Aldom stated he had contacted the Township regarding information on the Township's animal control program and was informed by the Township staff member that the Township does not have a control program. Mr. Aldom noted that at his property on Winding Way there is a significant issue with feral cats and without animal control the issues will get worse within the Township. Mr. McKee provided background concerning past animal control proposals from the Animal Rescue associations in Berks County. Mr. McKee stated the Township does have entities to handle cat issues and noted a hoarding/cat situation on Mountain Top Road in which the entity was hired to trap, neuter/spay and adopt the cats recovered. Mr. McKee stated the Township also utilizes a Bern Township entity when dogs are found and no one claims the dog. Mr. McKee stated in both cases there is a fee per animal and that the number of these incidents are very low, stating The Township has had only a few occasions in which either service/entity was needed.

Mr Aldom also asked about the Township's overall plan which was clarified to me a comprehensive plan. Mr. McKee stated the Township has been working on amending its Joint Comprehensive Plan and that item is on the agenda and is moving into its final stages of adoption. Mr. McKee provided an overview of the changes which were intended to maintain the agriculture and rural areas to the South of the Township while encouraging non-residential economic growth in the northern areas.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Mr. Rotenberg & Mr. Schulz RE: Caron Foundation/SHPD K9 Partnership.** Chief Grim introduces Mr. Rotenberg and Mr. Schulz as they were in attendance along with Officer Baxter and the SHPD's new K9 Aldo. Chief Grim provided an overview of the partnership with Caron which led to the acquisition of Aldo who is a non-biting narcotics/scent K9 unit. Mr. Rotenberg addressed the Board by thanking Chief Grim and the continued partnership with the Township to include the K9 unit. Mr. Rotenberg stated the K9 will help maintain safety for Caron Foundation patients and that the continued partnership with the SHPD and Township is welcome. Chief Grim introduced Officer Baxter and K9 Aldo to the Board and those in attendance and thanks Mr. Rotenberg and Mr. Schulz for their support in acquiring Aldo for the SHPD.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Joint Comprehensive Plan Public Hearing Advertisement.** A motion was made by Mr. Musante, seconded by Mrs. Billingsley and carried unanimously by the Board to authorize Township Solicitor Andrew George to advertise Public Hearing to occur at the next Board of Supervisors meeting concerning the amendments to the Joint Comprehensive Plan.

**COVID-19 Declaration of Disaster Emergency.** A motion was made by Mr. Byrne, seconded by Mrs. Billingsley and carried unanimously by the Board to rescind the COVID-19 Declaration of Disaster Emergency which was declared on March 24, 2020.

**Huntzinger Road Guiderail Replacement Project - Acceptance of Bids.** A motion was made by Mr. Musante, seconded by Mrs. Billingsley and carried unanimously by the Board to accept all bids relating to the Huntzinger Road Guiderail Replacement Project. The bids are as follow:

- William Orr and Sons Inc: \$33,975.00
- Minichi, Inc. \$55,000.00
- Collinson, Inc. \$62,500

**Huntzinger Road Guiderail Replacement Project – Bid Award.** A motion was made by Mr. Musante, seconded by Mrs. Billingsley and carried unanimously by the Board to award the Huntzinger Road Guiderail replacement project to the lowest responsible bidder which is William Orr and Sons, Inc with a bid of \$33,975.00.

**Public Works Hire.** A motion was made by Mr. Musante, seconded by Mrs. Billingsley and carried unanimously by the Board to approve the hiring of Public Works Employee Niko Cepeda, at a rate of \$19.00/hour. Hire comes with a 90-day probationary period in which benefits would be established following successful completion of probationary period. Hire is also conditioned on Mr. Cepeda obtaining his CDL license within 6 months of his employment date.

## **RECREATION BOARD**

Mrs. Billingsley provided an update regarding summer playground program. Mrs. Billingsley stated that plans are underway for the end of year event.

## **WESTERN BERKS FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Fire Chief Renshaw was not present by provided his report via email to the Board.

## **TOWNSHIP MANAGER**

Mr. McKee referenced his monthly report and had nothing further to add.

**PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER**

Mr. Lanza referenced his monthly report and had nothing further to add.

**POLICE REPORT**

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

**TOWNSHIP ENGINEER REPORT**

Mr. Anderson referenced his monthly report. Mr. Anderson referenced a letter from PP&L that is under review regarding several PP&L owned facilities that will undergo replacement. Mr. Anderson stated he is researching this letter and attempting to contact PP&L to determine the scope of the work.

**TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR REPORT**

Mr. George referenced his monthly report. Mr. George had an update regarding Child First Services appeal of the Zoning Hearing Board decision. Mr. George stated that a legal brief has been filed on behalf of the Township.

**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.**

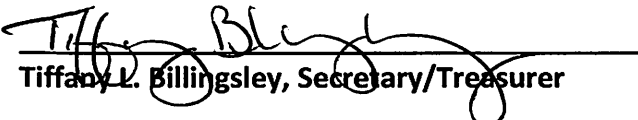
A motion was made by Mr. Musante seconded by Mrs. Billingsley and carried unanimously by the Board to Authorize payment of bills dated July 27, 2021 and ratify, confirm and approve payment of bills paid since June 22, 2021 including procurement card purchases for June 2021.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Justin Schlottman. RE: EMC Laptop.** Mr. Schlottman referenced a request sent to Township Manager McKee regarding the purchase of a wifi/cellular enabled laptop to be used during emergency response. Mr. Schlottman reviewed the options and asked the Board if they are in agreement to proceed with the purchase of the laptop. The Board had no issue with the purchase of the laptop as part of the shared emergency management duties shared with Lower Heidelberg Township.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mrs. Billingsley, seconded by Mr. Musante and carried unanimously by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM.

  
Tiffany L. Billingsley, Secretary/Treasurer