

**SOUTH STRABANE TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING**

**February 25, 2020**

**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The February 25, 2020 Regular Meeting of the South Strabane Township Board of Supervisors (Board) came to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Mae C. Reynolds Meeting Room of the Municipal Building (550 Washington Road).

The following were present:

Board of Supervisors                Thomas Moore, Chairman; Rich Luketich, Vice-Chairman; Bob Weber; Bracken Burns; and Mark Murphy.

Also Present                            Township Manager Brandon Stanick; Assistant to the Township Manager Patrick Conners; Township Engineer Creagh; Public Works Director Grego; and Township Solicitor Makel.

A list of 7 visitors is on file at the Municipal Building.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Moore stated the Board allocates a period of time during this item for those individuals who would like the opportunity to address the Board on any matter. Each person addressing the Board is asked to limit their comments to a maximum of three (3) minutes.

Mr. Art Sullivan of Warrick Drive came before the Board to express his desire to see a first response training program available to South Strabane residents. He cited similar efforts which have been implemented by Allegheny County in partnership with UPMC. He discussed the benefits of such a program stating that trained residents could serve in a supportive role to assist EMS operations should a medical emergency occur within their presence. He concluded by offering his time and available resources to help implement such a program should the Township be interested.

Ms. Janie Deemer of Zediker Station Road came before the Board to express her concerns regarding the construction of the Keisling Pavilion. She reported the pavilion was to serve as a donation in remembrance of Mr. Keisling's son. She highlighted the Township's taxpayers should not have been responsible for any costs associated with the pavilion. She cited that after the

pavilion was constructed, electrical outlets, ceiling fans, and lighting were installed within the pavilion, noting that a portion of the costs were paid for by the Township. She concluded by encouraging the Board to table future matters in order to examine them thoroughly to avert similar situations moving forward.

Ms. Penny Steggles of Floral Hill Drive came before the Board to make members aware of the Humane Society's new facilities and an open house event that is scheduled to take place on Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### **4. CONSIDERATION OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 28, 2020**

Mr. Murphy moved to approve the January 28, 2020 Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Mr. Luketich seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

#### **5. FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

The Board considered the following financial business:

- Payroll: \$ 145,416.34 (pay date of January 31, 2020)
- Payroll: \$ 120,646.64 (pay date of February 14, 2020)
- General Fund: \$ 116,151.00
- Liquid Fuels Fund: \$ 5,182.92
- **Total Expenditure:** \$ **387,396.90**

Overtime costs for the period include:

- ⊖ Police: \$ 3,083.60
- ⊖ Fire: \$ 884.77
- ⊖ Public Works \$ 1,746.42
- ⊖ **Total OT:** \$ **5,714.79** (pay date of January 31, 2020)

- ⊖ Police: \$ 2,183.82
- ⊖ Fire: \$ 1,153.35
- ⊖ Public Works \$ 1,852.66
- ⊖ **Total OT:** \$ **5,189.83** (pay date of February 14, 2020)

Please know the following expenses are included for this period:

- Municipal Employees Insurance Trust (February Coverage) \$ 54,926.94

Mr. Luketich moved to approve the payroll for the periods January 12 through January 25 and January 26 through February 8, 2020 and the Bills for the period January 25, 2020 through February 19, 2020. Mr. Weber seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

## **6. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Township Manager Stanick reported the Township experienced difficulties with its website provider, noting the provider's servers experienced numerous difficulties over the last few days. He concluded by highlighting the Township's website is back online, but noted that as a precaution the current Board of Supervisors meeting is being broadcasted on the Township's Facebook page in addition to the webpage.

## **7. TOWNSHIP REPORTS**

### **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Report**

Township Manager Stanick noted the Board of Supervisors allocates a period of time during this item for comments regarding the topic of stormwater. Each person addressing the Board of Supervisors is asked to limit their comments to a maximum of three (3) minutes.

There were no comments received.

### **Township Solicitor's Report**

The Township Solicitor had nothing to report.

### **Township Manager's Report**

#### **Clare Drive Update**

Township Engineer Creagh summarized the events of the Clare Drive road slip which occurred on February 10<sup>th</sup>. He noted the Public Works Department immediately responded to the situation to widen the road as much as possible to ensure emergency services access. He highlighted that within 24 hours the situation deteriorated, resulting in a loss of the majority of the drivable portion of Clare Drive. He reported the Township quickly contacted PennDOT for assistance. He highlighted that PennDOT took a leadership role providing their own workforce, equipment, and geotechnical engineers to evaluate and repair the slip. He next outlined the parameters of the road repair, noting that if not immediately resolved, the slip would have posed an imminent danger to portions of Interstate 70. He reported that nearly all costs of the repair were borne by PennDOT, noting that discussions are currently underway concerning the repaving of the affected portion of Clare Drive. He concluded by highlighting that by Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup> the residents evacuated along Clare Drive had returned to their homes. Township Manager Stanick noted the Township was in constant communication with those residents, providing them updates whenever information became available. He thanked Staff for their efforts keeping the residents informed. In response to a question from Mr. Weber, Public Works Director Grego outlined a strategy for the repair and maintenance of the road moving forward. He highlighted the effective working relationship will all parties involved. Mr. Moore thanked Staff and all other parties involved for their efforts during the situation.

#### **Internet and Public Water Service**

Township Manager Stanick reported that over the course of some time there has been a growing demand from residents living in the eastern portion (Strabane, Garber, Meyers, Beagle Club, Booth, Rt. 40, etc.) of the Township for improved broadband internet service, as well as potable water service from PA American Water. He stated that staff has been in contact with Comcast and anticipates receiving the results of a survey that was recently conducted to determine if service is a viable option

in this area. He also stated that Staff has been in contact with PA American Water to explore available options for water service. He noted updates will be provided as information becomes available.

### **Township Engineer's Report**

Township Engineer Creagh provided an update regarding the construction of a Cold Storage Building along Floral Hill Drive, noting that it is nearly complete with the exception of the landscaping and seeding requirements surrounding the construction. He noted the Community Park kitchen and bathroom project would be opening up for bid the following day. He also highlighted the storm sewer pipe repair in Washington Woods has been completed. Mr. Luketich inquired regarding the timeline for the Community Park kitchen and bathroom project. Township Engineer Creagh stated that after the advertisement for bid is approved, the estimated timeline would be 6 weeks from the award of the bid.

### **Secretary/Treasurer's Report**

The following items have been received or issued between January 25, 2020 and February 21, 2020:

#### **Minutes and Agendas:**

- a. Planning Commission Reorg. & Regular Meeting Minutes – January 2, 2020;
- b. Green Team Meeting Minutes – January 16, 2020;
- c. Planning Commission Meeting Agenda – February 6, 2020;
- d. Green Team Meeting Agenda – February 20, 2020; and
- e. Zoning Hearing Board Meeting Agenda – March 18, 2020.

#### **Reports and Publications:**

- a. Fire Department Report – January 2020;
- b. Volunteer Fire Department Financial Report – January 9 – February 5;
- c. Public Safety Department Report – January 2020;
- d. Tax Collector's Report & Interim Collection Only – January 2020;
- e. Animal Control Officer's Report – January 2019;
- f. MS4 Report – February 2020;
- g. Township Engineers Report – February 25, 2020
- h. *WEWJA 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Financial Statement ending December 31, 2019;*
- i. PSATS News Bulletin – January 2020; and
- j. PSATS Township Legal Defense Partnership – Winter 2020.

#### **Correspondence:**

- a. Flyer dated February 4, 2020 from Washington County Commissioners regarding a Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> from 9a – 12p Town Hall Meeting;
- b. Letter dated January 24, 2020 from Comcast regarding Xfinity TV Channel Updates;
- c. Letter (w/o attachments) dated January 31, 2020 from Polestar regarding its permit applications to drill the proposed Captian USA Well in North Bethlehem Township;
- d. Letter dated February 5, 2020 from County of Washington, Department of Public Safety, Ron Sicchitano regarding Local Emergency Mgmt. Coordinator Meeting;
- e. Letter (w/o attachments) dated February 4, 2020 from EQT regarding its permit applications to drill the proposed Cogar Well in Amwell Township; and

- f. Letter (w/o attachments) dated February 11, 2020 from Range Resources regarding its permit applications to drill the proposed Pawlosky Anthony 12123 4H-6H Well in Chartiers Township.

*Copies of those items in italics are not attached, but available upon request.*

## **8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **8A: Resolution Approving an Agreement with East Washington Borough to Participate in the Township's Glass Recycling Program (Tabled)**

Township Manager Stanick presented for the Board's consideration an agreement with East Washington Borough allowing participation in the Township's new Glass Recycling Program. In summary, he stated the following concerning the agreement:

- Term is March 1, 2020 through February 28, 2021;
- Charge \$57.87 per pick-up (determined proportionally using population of communities); and
- Indemnifies the Township for any issues arising out of the use of the Township's facilities.

He noted the terms of the agreement were approved by East Washington Borough at its February 13th meeting.

Mr. Weber moved to remove the item from the table. Mr. Luketich seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Weber moved to approve an Agreement with East Washington Borough to participate in the Township's Glass Recycling Program. Mr. Luketich seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

### **9A: Resolution Granting Preliminary and Final Minor Subdivision Approval for the Siegal No. 5 Subdivision Along Quarry Road**

Township Manager Stanick reported the Township is in receipt of an application for Preliminary and Final Minor Subdivision Approval dated January 16, 2020 from Mr. Michael Seigel (Applicant) for a subdivision along Quarry Road. He stated the purpose of the subdivision is to subdivide Parcel No. 4 (Tax Parcel No. 600-007-00-00-0057-00) into an individual parcel consisting of 1.00 acre. He highlighted that according to the Township Engineer, the application was determined to be complete and in compliance with the Township's subdivision and zoning requirements. He concluded by reporting that at its meeting on February 6, 2020 the Planning Commission unanimously recommended Preliminary and Final Minor Subdivision approval to the Board.

Mr. Weber moved to grant Preliminary and Final Minor Subdivision Approval for the Siegal No. 5 Subdivision along Quarry Road. Mr. Luketich seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**9B: Resolution Granting Preliminary and Final Minor Subdivision Approval for the Passalacqua Consolidation Plan Along Pleasant Hill Drive**

Township Manager Stanick reported the Township is in receipt of an application for Preliminary and Final Minor Subdivision Approval dated January 16, 2020 from Mr. & Mrs. Michael Passalacqua (Applicant) for a lot consolidation along Pleasant Hill Drive. He stated the purpose of the subdivision is to consolidate Parcels 2 & 3 (839 Pleasant Hill Drive – Tax Parcel No. 600-005-03-01-0027-00) into Parcel No. 1 (Tax Parcel No. 600-005-03-01-0026-00) resulting in one parcel consisting of 4.514 acres. He highlighted that according to the Township Engineer, the application was determined to be complete and in compliance with the Township's subdivision and zoning requirements. He concluded by reporting at its meeting on February 6, 2020 the Planning Commission unanimously recommended Preliminary and Final Minor Subdivision approval to the Board.

Mr. Weber moved to grant Preliminary and Final Minor Subdivision Approval for the Passalacqua Consolidation Plan along Pleasant Hill Drive. Mr. Luketich seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**9C: Motion Approving a Memorandum of Understanding Between the South Strabane Police Wage and Policy Unit and the Township Regarding Personal Vacation Leave**

Township Manager Stanick reported that a Memorandum of Understanding with the Police Wage and Policy Unit is currently being prepared by Township Labor Counsel (Shon Worner of Campbell Durrant Beatty) regarding the administration of personal holiday leave for Sergeants and Police Officers. He recommended the Board table the matter until a future meeting.

Mr. Weber moved to table the matter. Mr. Luketich seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**9D: Motion Directing Staff to Prepare an Ordinance Prohibiting Smoking/Vaping in and/or on Public Park and Facility Grounds**

Township Manager Stanick presented for the Board's consideration a request from Mr. Luketich for the Board to direct Staff to prepare an ordinance that would prohibit smoking/vaping in public parks and on public facility grounds. Mr. Luketich highlighted numerous news reports of the negative health impacts of vaping and other associated tobacco products. He stated that cigarettes are known carcinogens, but cited the effects of vaping are still widely unknown. He also highlighted that a smoking ban in public parks would help combat litter.

After some discussion, Mr. Luketich moved to authorize Staff to investigate possible procedures to ban smoking and vaping within Township parks. Mr. Weber seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

**9E: Resolution for the Disposition of Specific Public Records**

Township Manager Stanick reported that pursuant to Resolution #11-18, a Resolution Declaring the Township's Intent to Follow the Schedules and Procedures for the Disposition of Records, establishes the Township's Disposal of Records Policy (Policy) where acts of disposition are approved by resolution. He stated that resolutions are not necessarily required for disposing of records that meet the criteria outlined in the Policy. He highlighted that because of the significant number of records accumulated over time, it is in the Township's best interest to document the disposition by resolution. He reported that the records proposed for destruction are listed in the proposed resolution per the categories of the Policy.

Mr. Luketich moved to approve a Resolution for the disposition of specific Public Records. Mr. Weber seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Weber moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Luketich seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandon J. Stanick  
Township Manager