

**TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

February 7, 2023

SUPERVISORS MEETING

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Irene Reed, Chairman
Brian Eveland, Supervisor
Daniel Tobias, Supervisor
Jeffrey Thompson, Supervisor

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Potts, Township Manager
Diane DeJesus, Secretary/Treasurer
Wesley Waugh, Chief of Police
Timothy Dietrich, Esquire
Kent Morey, Engineer
Bradley Pflum, Codes Enforcement

CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Thompson moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, which included the minutes of the January 3, 2022 Re-organization and Supervisors Meeting and to accept the finance report, subject to audit and approve payment of bills on the list, seconded by Mr. Eveland. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Balances as of February 7, 2023: General Fund: \$2,137,829.97, State Account: \$761,862.30, PLGIT: \$68,483.45, Certificate of Deposits: \$560,645.82, Expenses: \$141,263.57. Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

PUBLIC HEARING

Atty. Dietrich stated that the public hearing pertains to amending Chapter 149 of the Bern Township Code Ordinance titled Stormwater Management and the Ordinance has been advertised on January 17 and 24, 2023 in the Reading Eagle both digitally and hardcopy and proof of publication is available and the Ordinance is ready for public comment. Mr. Morey

stated that the updates were required by the state and a sliding scale based on the size of a lot has also been included. Mr. Evan Jack thanked the Township for the changes.

ORDINANCES/ RESOLUTIONS

Discussion/ Approval of the Stormwater Ordinance- Mr. Eveland made a motion to adopt the Stormwater Ordinance; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried. Mr. Potts inquired about a document for the Supervisors to sign and Atty. Dietrich stated he will provide the document.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

Mr. Potts provided his report to the Board and informed them that the newsletter will most likely go to the printer on February 8, 2023.

PUBLIC SAFETY & SERVICES

Fire Company

Mount Pleasant and Union provided their reports.

Greenfields- A report was received.

Emergency Medical Services

Northern Berks and Western Berks provided their reports.

Emergency Management

Mr. Hinkle provided his report to the Board.

Police Department

Chief Waugh provided his report to the Board.

PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Engineer- Mr. Kent Morey provided the report to the Board.

Planning Commission

Discussion/ Approval of Wentzel Schaeffer Escrow Release- Mr. Potts stated that the amount of the remaining escrow is \$779.57. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Wentzel Schaeffer Escrow Release; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson, and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of SunCap Escrow Release- Mr. Potts stated that Mr. Morey completed an analysis of the SunCap Escrow and recommended a release in the amount of \$303,011.00 with a remaining balance of \$668,437.00. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the SunCap Escrow release; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed.

Time Extensions

None required.

Code Enforcement

Discussion/ Approval to Return Unused Building Permit Fee Funds to Premium Office Builders- Mr. Potts stated that the amount remaining in the Premium Office Builders building permit escrow is \$17,805.08. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve returning the unused building permit fee funds to Premium Office Builders; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

MS4 Stormwater Report

No report.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Discussion/ Approval to Purchase Trailer- Mr. Potts stated the current trailer will not hold the new paving machine and the cost to purchase a new trailer is \$31,900.00 which would be paid for from the road department escrow fund. Mr. Thompson and Mr. Tobias asked questions on trailer sizes and if the Township will keep the current trailer. Mr. Potts stated that the current trailer will be kept. Mr. Eveland asked if the new trailer runs the risk of being outgrown and Mr. Potts stated no. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the purchase of a trailer for \$31,900.00; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed.

Discussion/ Approval to Purchase Cage- Mr. Potts stated that the forks on the new loader are not in the same orientation as the old loader and that the road crew has been renting a lift for tree trimming. Mr. Potts stated the cost of \$5,950.00 to purchase a new cage for the loader is practical because it would actually cost more to retro-fit the current cage. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the purchase of a new cage for \$5,950.00; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed.

Discussion/ Approval to Sell Magnesium Chloride Equipment- Mr. Potts stated that this equipment had been purchased in 2005 and has not been used since 2009 and requested a motion to approve selling the equipment on Municibid. Mr. Thompson asked if there is a market for this equipment and Mr. Potts stated yes. Mrs. Reed asked if there will be a minimum bid. Mr. Potts stated that a minimum bid will be set. Mr. Thompson made a motion to sell the Magnesium Chloride Equipment on Municibid; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed.

SEWER/ WATER/ BERN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

No report.

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMISSION

No report.

ADMINISTRATION

Discussion/ Approval of Appointment to Zoning Hearing Board- Mr. Potts stated that Mr. Donald Ottaviani resigned from the Zoning Hearing Board and alternate member Mr. Edward Anewalt said he would be interested in the position. Mr. Tobias made a motion to accept Mr. Ottaviani's resignation; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried. Mr. Tobias made a motion to appoint Mr. Edward Anewalt to replace Mr. Ottaviani's position on the Zoning Hearing Board; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Next Supervisor's meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

Mr. Tobias made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 PM; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane DeJesus,
Secretary/Treasurer