

**TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

January 6, 2020

SUPERVISORS MEETING

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Irene Reed, Chairman
Brian Eveland, Supervisor
Jeff Thompson, Supervisor
Daniel Tobias, Supervisor
Dr. Boyd Wagner III, Supervisor

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

CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Bern Township Municipal Building.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Wagner moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, which included the minutes of the December 3, 2019 Supervisors Meeting and to accept the finance report, subject to audit and approve payment of bills on the list, seconded by Mr. Thompson. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Balances as of January 6, 2020: General Fund: \$1,629,543.90, State Account: \$251,163.69, PLGIT: \$77,250.67, Certificate of Deposits: \$531,010.78, Expenses: \$81,933.68. Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Claudia Radle asked about her sewer bill and was referred to BTMA.

Gregg Bogia, from Bogia Engineering, asked the Board for input on the G & T Industries Subdivision and Land Development plan. Mr. Bogia wanted to know if the Township would look to permanently vacate the portion of Van Reed Road inside the development with a proposed cul-de-sac and also allow less parking spaces or put ghost parking spaces with a notation on the plan that those spaces would be fulfilled if needed. After discussion the Supervisors agreed they need more time to think about things, but that their general consensus is no cul-de-sac and keeping it a private road.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

Discussion/ Approval of the 2020 Tax Rate Resolution- Mr. Potts stated that this Resolution is to reflect the new tax for the 2020 budget. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the 2020 Tax Rate Resolution; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

A copy of the report was given to the Supervisors. Mr. Potts informed the Board that a potential developer would like to put in a Dunkin Donuts across from the CVS and was wondering if the Board was going to be against a variance for a drive-thru. The Supervisors stated they will need more information.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND SERVICES

Fire Company

Greenfields – Mahlon Auker gave the report.

Mt. Pleasant – A report was submitted.

Union Fire Co. – No report.

Emergency Medical Services

Western Berks- No report.

Northern Berks EMS – A report was submitted.

Emergency Management

Mr. Kevin Hinkle submitted his 2019 report and his monthly report to the Board.

Police Department

Chief Waugh gave his report to the Board. The Bern Township Police Department responded to 546 events and requests for service during December 2019.

Discussion/ Approval of Officer Reclassification- Chief Waugh requested a motion to approve the reclassification of Officer Michael D. Archutowski to Patrolman Class II effective February 1, 2020. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the reclassification of Officer Michael D.

Archutowski to Patrolman Class II effective February 1, 2020; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of Officer Wireless and Electronic Surveillance Training- Chief Waugh requested a motion for approval to send Officer Joshua O. Santos to Legal and Technical Aspects of Wiretapping and Electronics training at the Pennsylvania State Police, Bureau of Emergency and Special Operations, in Hershey February 3 through 7th, 2020 which will be paid for by the District Attorney's Office. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve sending Officer Joshua O. Santos to Legal and Technical Aspects of Wiretapping and Electronics training; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of TV Donation- Chief Waugh requested a motion for approval to accept a 75" flat screen television donation from Officer Larry Kutz which will replace the current television in the police department and be utilized for purposes such as training. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the television donation; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Kelly Wickersham, Bern Township resident, asked Chief Waugh if DUI check points are a good deterrent for drinking and driving and Chief Waugh stated they are.

Discussion/ Approval of New Car Purchase- Chief Waugh requested a motion for approval to purchase a 2020 Dodge Durango instead of the two previously approved Dodge Chargers because Dodge over sold them and they are unavailable for 2020 from the manufacturer. Chief Waugh informed the Board that the 2020 Durango with all necessary cages, equipment and stealth decals would cost \$42,047.00. Mr. Thompson asked how much the budget amount had been for the two vehicles and Mr. Potts stated \$60,415.00. Mr. Tobias asked if this meant there would not need to be a vehicle purchase next year and Chief Waugh stated that there would still need to be a vehicle purchase due to the cost of repairs to the older vehicles. Mrs. Reed asked about the cost of the cage for the Durango and Chief Waugh explained that the cage for an SUV is more expensive because it requires two parts versus one. Mr. Thompson asked how much the cost to repair the older vehicle would be. Chief Waugh explained that it was having major engine problems and is at a point it cannot be repaired. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2020 Dodge Durango; Mr. Eveland seconded. After discussion Dr. Wagner rescinded the previous motion from last year to purchase the two 2020 Dodge Chargers and instead made a motion to approve the purchase of a 2020 Dodge Durango; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Engineer - A copy of the report was given to the Supervisors by Mr. Kent Morey.

Planning Commission

Mr. Potts stated that the Planning Commission did meet in December and took action on two plans, but the Scott Perfetto Subdivision is not on the agenda due to failing DEP waiver requests.

Discussion/ Approval of the Peacock Bridge Kennels Sketch Plan for Record- Mr. Potts explained that the Planning Commission recommended approval subject to the December 6, 2019 SSM review letter and payment of engineering fees and escrow replenishment. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Peacock Bridge Kennels Sketch Plan for Record subject to the SSM review letter and payment of engineering fees and escrow replenishment; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried. Mr. Morey asked Atty. Dietrich about an escrow for the agreement and Atty. Dietrich stated he would look into it.

Discussion of Grandview Estates Development- Mr. Potts stated that the Planning Commission suggested that the developer's engineer and attorney present the revised plan to the Supervisors to be sure that they are on the right track. Atty. Mark Koch, attorney for the developer, informed the Board that the plan has been reconfigured into five lots all having access onto West Leesport Road. Dr. Wagner asked how much road frontage lot number five has and Mr. Chuck Frantz, engineer for the developer, stated that lot two, one and five each are the 100-foot lot minimum width requirement, but some lots do not meet the minimum lot depth to width ratio. Atty. Koch stated that all zoning issues have been resolved and that the potential land development waivers that might be requested would be for the lot width to depth ratio and the driveway access onto West Leesport Road. Dr. Wagner asked why a waiver would be needed for the driveway access and Atty. Koch referenced section 154-24 D.1 that Mr. Todd Greenawalt had mentioned in his SSM review letter about limiting the number of accesses directly to West Leesport Road. Mr. Frantz stated that lot one already has a house on it with a driveway accessing West Leesport Road so essentially it would be four more proposed driveways which would be placed according to PennDOT's requirements with safety in mind. Mrs. Reed asked about a resident's complaint of increased runoff. Mr. Frantz stated that he did meet with Mr. Fies and that he did look at the concerns that he has and that he will meet with Mr. Yocum when he returns about the issues. Dr. Wagner suggested the possibility of removing lot number four. Mrs. Reed asked about a wildlife preserve shown on the plan and Mr. Frantz stated that Mr. Yocum's vision for the property was more of a community rather than individual lots with a proposed walking path and conservation area that would be just for the lot owners and there needs to be more conversation with Mr. Yocum. Mrs. Reed asked if there is the potential for a homeowners' association and who would pay to maintain it. Mr. Frantz stated that there would need to be more conversation with Mr. Yocum and that presently it is a matter of figuring out how many lots there will be. Atty. Dietrich asked about the right-of-way and an old easement. Atty. Koch stated by removing lot number six the issue should be resolved. Atty. Koch asked if the general consensus of the Board would be to reduce the plan to four lots. Mr. Tobias asked Dr. Wagner if there was any way for driveways to be consolidated to eliminate an access point to West Leesport Road and Dr. Wagner stated that the Township doesn't like to do that because it can become a problematic situation with disputes.

Discussion/ Approval of the Enersys Stormwater Agreement- Mr. Potts stated that Atty. Mooney has prepared the agreement and suggested that approval should be contingent upon Enersys paying monies owed to the Township. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Enersys Stormwater Agreement contingent upon payment of bills to the Township; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of County Land Development Waiver for Epler School Relocation- Mr. Potts explained that normally this size project would require land development and that the County is requesting a waiver from the land development process to relocate the Epler's Schoolhouse to the Heritage Center. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the land development waiver for the County to relocate the schoolhouse; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the Stonehedge III Escrow Release- Mr. Potts stated that the developer has requested the release of their escrow and that they also owe the Township engineering fees. Mr. Potts also stated that Mr. Morey did a review of the escrow and because there is a depression in the roadway it is recommended to release \$32,550.00 which will leave a balance of \$11,238.00. Mrs. Reed asked if that will be enough remaining to fix the depression and Mr. Morey said yes. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Stonehedge III escrow release; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Time Extensions

None.

Code Enforcement

Brad Pflum provided a copy of his report to the Board and stated that citations have been filed against The Riveredge for junk cars on their parking lot again.

Discussion/ Approval to Refund Residue Stormwater Escrow for 1602 Fairview Drive- Mr. Potts stated that there is residual stormwater escrow and they have requested a refund of the remaining escrow. Dr. Wagner moved that the escrow be released, seconded by Mr. Thompson. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

MS4 Stormwater Report – Mr. Potts stated that the Tulpehocken Creek Watershed is offering free well water testing on March 21, 2020 at the Bern Township Municipal Building and you must be preregistered.

ROADS

Mr. Potts informed the Board that the drainage system to alleviate the flooding issue on Washington Road is complete and that he hopes to obtain grant funding.

SEWER/WATER/BERN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Mrs. Reed asked all present to avoid flushing trash down the toilet and grease down the drain.

Discussion/ Approval to Assign G & T Industries to BTMA- Mr. Potts stated that in order for BTMA's engineer to review the plan for sewer and water the Supervisors must approve assigning the plan to BTMA. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve assigning BTMA the G & T Industries

plan; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMISSION

Mr. Thompson stated that there was no report. Mr. Potts provided a brief update on the new trash and recycling haulers. Kathy Larue asked why there will no longer be glass collected. Mr. Potts explained that for the last contract the Township was getting paid for recycling and now the Township has to pay for recycling and that Cougle's had been contacted for recommendations on keeping costs down. Mr. Potts went on to say that because China is no longer accepting recycling from the United States the market for glass and plastics other than #1 and #2 is down and glass is mostly being used to weigh down landfills. Mr. Potts stated that for now glass may be taken to the County Recycling Center or put into the trash. Sharon Henke stated that the haulers are telling residents that they will take recycling. Mr. Thompson went over the difference between the hauler and the processor.

ADMINISTRATION

Discussion/ Approval of Proposal for Auditing Services- Mr. Potts stated that one four-year proposal was received from RKL averaging a 3% increase over the four years. Mr., Thompson made a motion to approve the RKL proposal for auditing services; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of Animal Rescue League Agreement- Mr. Potts stated that this should be ready for the February meeting.

Discussion of CD's Maturing on January 24, 2020 - Mr. Potts informed the Board that the General CD and the State CD, which are currently at Santander, would be maturing on January 24, 2020 and stated that he and Mrs. DeJesus would look for the best rate and have the Board ratify it at the February meeting. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve Mr. Potts and Mrs. DeJesus to research the best CD Rates; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was called at 8:21 PM to discuss At Will Employee Salaries and a labor issue. The regular meeting resumed at 8:50 PM.

Discussion of At Will Employee Salaries – Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve Mr. Pott's recommendation of At Will Employee Salaries for 2020; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Mrs. Reed asked Atty. Dietrich to provide the wording for the motion for the employee grievance. Atty. Dietrich stated that an employee grievance which was filed by a Teamsters Union employee on a minor matter concerning overtime. Atty. Dietrich also stated that settlement has been arrived at which will result in the withdrawal of the grievance so the motion would be to approve the

Township Manager entering into a simple settlement letter with the Teamsters providing for the withdrawal of the grievance. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve Township Manager entering into a simple settlement letter with the Teamsters providing for the withdrawal of the grievance; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Next Supervisor's meeting will be held on February 4, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 PM; Mr. Tobias seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diane DeJesus".

Diane DeJesus,
Secretary/Treasurer

**TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

February 4, 2020

SUPERVISORS MEETING

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Irene Reed, Chairman
Brian Eveland, Supervisor
Jeff Thompson, Supervisor
Daniel Tobias, Supervisor
Dr. Boyd Wagner III, Supervisor

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

CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Bern Township Municipal Building.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Thompson moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, which included the Re-Organization Meeting minutes and the minutes of the January 6, 2020 Supervisors Meeting and to accept the finance report, subject to audit and approve payment of bills on the list, seconded by Mr. Eveland. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Balances as of February 4, 2020: General Fund: \$1,370,815.50, State Account: \$251,326.40, PLGIT: \$77,368.91, Certificate of Deposits: \$545,887.95, Expenses: \$116,862.06. Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Tricarico, member of the Bern Township Planning Commission, gave a presentation on the Tulpehocken Creek Watershed Association. Mr. Tricarico also went over some different ways that the Township could partner with the TCWA. Mr. Tricarico also explained MS4 and that it stands for Separate Stormwater Sewer Systems. Mr. Tricarico provided information on the free

well water testing coming up as well as that the TCWA meeting is held the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Blue Marsh Canteen. Cataline Tricarico suggested that Mr. Potts send out an email blast to inform the residents and Mr. Potts agreed it is a good idea.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

Discussion/ Approval of the Stinson Drive Deed of Dedication Resolution- Mr. Potts stated that this Resolution needed to be done again because when it was done previously UGI didn't own the land. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Stinson Drive Deed of Dedication Resolution; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

A copy of the report was given to the Supervisors. Mr. Potts informed the Board that the agreement with the County for the drop off center expires September 30, 2020 and asked if the Township would be interested in renewing the agreement. The Supervisors said yes. Mr. Potts also stated that Domino's Pizza is interested in the old bank located at Route 183 and McArthur Road and wants to know if the Board will oppose them seeking a variance. The Supervisors stated the will not oppose them seeking a variance.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND SERVICES

Fire Company

Greenfields – A report was submitted.

Mt. Pleasant – A report was submitted.

Union Fire Co. – A report was submitted.

Emergency Medical Services

Western Berks- Anthony Tucci provided the report.

Northern Berks EMS – A report was submitted.

Emergency Management

Mr. Kevin Hinkle submitted his monthly report to the Board.

Police Department

Chief Waugh gave his report to the Board. The Bern Township Police Department responded to 543 events and requests for service during January 2020.

Discussion/ Approval of Sergeant Financial Crime Training- Chief Waugh requested a motion for approval to send Det. Sgt. Brett Forry to Financial Crime training which is being paid for by VIST Bank and the cost to the Township will be for lodging for two nights which will cost \$350.74.

Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the financial crime training; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to assign Fire Police to World War II Weekend on June 5, 6 & 7, 2020- Chief Waugh also requested a motion for approval to provide local fire police assistance during the WWII Weekend Event being held June 5, 6 and 7, 2020 at the Reading Regional Airport and to be able to solicit assistance from other municipalities. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve assigning local fire police to World War II Weekend on June 5, 6 & 7, 2020 and the solicitation of fire police from other municipalities; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Engineer - A copy of the report was given to the Supervisors by Mr. Kent Morey.

Planning Commission

Mrs. Reed stated that the Reitenouer Land Development Plan has been withdrawn. Mr. Potts asked Atty. Dietrich if the Board needed to vote on accepting the letter and Atty. Dietrich stated no.

Mr. Potts stated that the Planning Commission did meet in January.

Discussion/ Approval of the Rohrer Sketch Plan for Record- Mr. Potts stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval subject to the January 10, 2020 SSM review letter. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Rohrer Sketch Plan for Record subject to the January 10, 2020 SSM review letter; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the UGI Municipal Improvements Agreement- Mr. Potts stated that Atty. Mooney prepared the agreement and Mr. Morey did an escrow analysis. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the UGI Municipal Improvements Agreement; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the UGI Stormwater Agreement- Mr. Potts stated that Atty. Mooney prepared the agreement. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the UGI Stormwater Agreement; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the Peacock Kennel Stormwater Agreement- Mr. Potts stated that Atty. Mooney has prepared the agreement. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Peacock Stormwater Agreement; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of LTL Reviewing Gring's Mill Stormwater Plan- Mr. Potts explained that previously SSM helped the County with a design for a grant application for a project at the trailhead at the Gring's Mill Bridge and they can't review a plan they helped design and that both parties agree to allow LTL to review the plan. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve LTL

reviewing the Gring's Mill Stormwater Plan; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Time Extensions

Perfetto Sketch Plan for Record- Mr. Potts stated that the plan expires March 2, 2020. Dr. Wagner moved that if an extension of time has not been granted by the applicant, prior to the expiration date of March 2, 2020, that the plan shall be rejected for the reasons set forth in the latest engineering review letter. Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Code Enforcement

Brad Pflum provided a copy of his report to the Board and stated that he and Mr. Potts are scheduled to meet with the homeowner from Washington Road and that a hearing has been set for February 20, 2020 and the Riveredge Hearing is scheduled for February 15, 2020 and it will most likely be continued in order to combine two court hearings into one.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

MS4 Stormwater Report – Mr. Potts stated that an illicit discharge inspection was done in January and no violations were found. Mr. Potts also stated that the MS4 Steering Committee is working on a stormwater educational sign to be placed at the Berks County Recycling Center and that the committee also approved the purchase of 2,000 educational magnets and that each municipality will receive forty magnets to distribute.

ROADS

Mr. Potts informed the Board that a DEP permit is required for the Washington Road drainage project and that the Schuylkill River is considered a scenic river so an outfall cannot be put into the river and must be kept 100 feet away from the river. Mr. Potts went over his plan of action and also stated that SSM provided a quote of \$7,500.00 for the engineering costs for the GP-4 permit, but it was received too late to make the agenda and asked if the Supervisors would like to wait until March to discuss it. Mr. Potts also informed the Board that the Palisades Bridge Project will cost over \$70,000.00 and went over the plan for that project as well as options for funding the project. Mr. Thompson asked if approval of the quote from SSM for the GP-4 permit is the first step needed to get going and Mr. Potts stated yes. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the SSM quote for engineering costs for the GP-4 permit; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Mr. Potts informed the Board that the paving machine is not in good shape and could possibly cost \$30,000 to repair and more information needs to be obtained on costs.

Mr. Potts stated that Enersys is investigating the cost to switch the power supply for the traffic light from their building to the street to meet one of the conditions for the Township to take over the light.

Discussion/ Approval to Hire Road Department Candidate- Mr. Potts informed the Board that a candidate for the road department, Alex Stonefelt, has been chosen and that he recommends him for hiring. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve hiring Alex Stonefelt for the road crew; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to Release Road Crew Member from Probation- Mr. Potts stated that Jason Kercher was done with his ninety-day probation and recommended that he be released from probation. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve releasing Jason Kercher from probation; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried

SEWER/WATER/BERN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Mrs. Reed informed the Board that the BTMA has received a new photocopy machine to print the cards since the previous one was broken.

Discussion/ Approval of the Keller Temporary Holding Tank Maintenance Agreement- Mr. Potts explained that this is for an on-site system and that Allen Madeira has prepared the agreement and Atty. Mooney has reviewed it. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Keller Temporary Holding Tank Maintenance Agreement; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMISSION

No report.

ADMINISTRATION

Discussion/ Approval of Animal Rescue League Agreement- Mr. Potts stated that the agreement is for \$1.00 per Capita and that the only change is that the animals would have to be transported to the Animal Rescue League because they will no longer pick them up. Mr. Eveland asked who would be responsible for the transporting. Mr. Potts stated the police department. Chief Waugh stated that is not a good idea because of time constraints, possible problems with officers and the dogs biting them and damage to the patrol vehicles. Dr. Wagner stated that he would look into it. Mr. Potts stated that the resident could also take the animal down. Dr. Wagner stated that the whole reason for the contract is for the police not to have to be involved. The Supervisors will discuss it next month.

Discussion/ Approval of the Engagement Agreement for the Comcast Cable Franchise- Mr. Potts explained that Dan Cohen negotiated the Comcast Cable Franchise for the Township ten years ago and he has prepared a new agreement that is similar to a cooperative purchasing agreement involving six municipalities currently, which brings the cost to \$9,265.00 and if more municipalities join the price could be as low as \$8,175.00. Mr. Potts also stated that the new agreement includes auditing Comcast to make sure they have been remitting the proper funds to the Township over the last ten years. Atty. Dietrich and Mr. Potts spoke briefly and FCC changes and how the possible effects it could have on cable franchises particularly pertaining to in-kind services. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Engagement Agreement for the Comcast

Cable Franchise; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Ratification of the CD Investments - Mr. Potts informed the Board that the CD's were withdrawn from Santander and that the \$24,529.81 CD was placed with Riverfront Credit Union for twenty months at a rate of 2.17% and the \$521,358.14 CD was placed with VIST Bank for fourteen months at a rate of 1.75%. Mr. Potts also stated that Riverfront is not ACT 72 compliant so that is why only the smaller CD could be placed there. Mr. Thompson made a motion to ratify the CD investment; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Next Supervisor's meeting will be held on March 3, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 PM; Mr. Eveland seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane DeJesus,
Secretary/Treasurer

**TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

March 3, 2020

SUPERVISORS MEETING

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

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

CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Bern Township Municipal Building.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Thompson moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, which included the minutes of the February 4, 2020 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 March 3, 2020: General Fund: \$1,391,822.80 State Account: \$575,725.29, PLGIT: \$66,521.24, Certificate of Deposits: \$545,887.95, Expenses: \$53,590.83. Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

A copy of the report was given to the Supervisors. Mr. Potts informed the Board that Paul Janssen has requested \$3,000.00 additional reimbursement for the fire company study because it is becoming more involved than originally thought and that Mr. Janssen is working on a budget for the fire company and the social club. Mr. Potts also stated that the additional amount could be paid out of the fire protection fund. Mrs. Reed asked if the budgets were included in the originally quote and Mr. Potts stated they weren't. Mr. Thompson asked if Mr. Potts felt Mr. Janssen was doing a good job and Mr. Potts stated yes and then he asked Mahlon Auker, Chief of Greenfields Fire

Company, if he felt Mr. Janssen was doing a good job and Chief Auker said yes. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve providing \$3,000.00 extra to Mr. Paul Janseen for the fire study; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Mr. Potts also provided a brief update on precautions being taken by the Township against Coronavirus.

PUBLIC COMMENT

David Hoshaua from 405 S. Tulpehocken Road complained about speeding on the road and also stated that he had been told that Greenfields Fire Co. had not shown up for the call at 411 S. Tulpehocken Road. Chief Auker stated that was incorrect and that they were actually on another call at Phillips Van Heusen when the call for 411 S. Tulpehocken Road. Chief Waugh responded to the speeding complaint by telling Mr. Hoshaua not to wait until a meeting to inform him of a situation because the department will spend spare time in areas that residents' express concerns about.

Sharon Henke from 10 Heather Lane expressed concern regarding the signs at Acadia.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND SERVICES

Fire Company

Greenfields – Chief Mahlon Auker gave the report.

Mt. Pleasant – A report was submitted.

Union Fire Co. – A report was submitted.

Emergency Medical Services

Western Berks- A report was submitted.

Northern Berks EMS –No report was submitted.

Emergency Management

Mr. Kevin Hinkle submitted his monthly report to the Board.

Police Department

Chief Waugh gave his report to the Board. The Bern Township Police Department responded to 606 events and requests for service during February 2020 and informed the Board about some local scams and drug arrests and also that residents have asked why the department has been spending a lot of time at the roundabout on Route 183. Chief Waugh explained that it is not due to the roundabout, but rather a busy traffic location for officers to utilize the tag reader.

Claudia Radle expressed concerns about the roundabout on Route 183 and lighting. Mr. Potts stated it is not complete and it will have a light in the center.

Discussion/ Approval of Sergeant Financial Crime Training- Chief Waugh requested a motion for approval to send Officer Joshua Santos to a free 40-hour evidence technician training course provided by the Berks County District Attorney's Office. Mr. Thompson asked if there will be any overtime expenses and Chief Waugh said no. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve sending Officer Joshua Santos to the evidence technician training course; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried. Mr. Eveland asked why there needed to be Board approval if the training is free. Mr. Potts explained it has to do with length of time the officer would be away and if there are hotel expenses or travel expenses.

PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Engineer - A copy of the report was given to the Supervisors by Mr. Kent Morey. Mr. Morey apologized for the late notice, but he informed the Board that the Enersys Stormwater Agreement for the new driveway was ready for approval and that nothing on the plan was changed except the walkway was being eliminated. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Enersys Stormwater Agreement; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Planning Commission

Discussion/ Approval of the Reading Behavioral Health Signage- Mr. Denny Boyer from Signature Signs provided papers depicting the signs and went over the details of all the signs including a mistake on the one sign which depicts the address, which will be removed. Ms. Claudia Radle asked questions about the difference in wording on the signs and the usage of the word hospital and Mr. Tobias stated that it was not supposed to be called a hospital. Atty. Dietrich stated that the Township only has the right to approve a sign under the specifications of the ordinance and that he is not sure legally the Township has a right to tell a business what can be worded on a sign with the exception of something offensive. Ms. Radle feels the signs are confusing to consumers. Mr. Boyer suggested that if the issue is the word hospital than there is a possibility of just removing that word. Ms. Kelley Wickersham expressed her concerns with the word hospital being used. Chief Waugh stated he appreciated the sizing of the letters on the signs because they make it easier for emergency personnel to see. Mr. Thompson expressed his opinion and stated that he felt that the signs could be approved with the exception of the word hospital and that another word would need to be chosen for the description or not at all. Mr. Thompson stated that if there were no objections he was going to make the motion based on his statement. Mr. Boyer stated he wanted to say something and Mr. Thompson temporarily withdrew his motion. Mr. Boyer stated that he would suggest the directional sign should say Tower Behavioral Health with the elimination of the word hospital. Mr. Thompson made a motion the approve the signs contingent on the removal of the word hospital; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of Berks Park 183 Municipal Improvements Agreement- Mr. Potts stated that Atty. Mooney has prepared the agreement for the Supervisors' consideration. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Berks Park 183 Municipal Improvements Agreement; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of Berks Park 183 Stormwater Agreement- Mr. Potts explained that this agreement states that BCIDA is responsible for the care of their storm drainage facilities and provides an easement for the Township to access them if needed. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Berks Park 183 Stormwater Agreement; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of G&T Driveway Width Resolution 152-8.T(7)(c)- Mr. Potts stated that the driveway width requirement is less than what G&T is proposing and that they would like the driveway width to be wider so that trucks can get into the entrance of the facility easier. Mr. Potts stated that the planning commission recommended approval of the resolution. Atty. Dietrich suggested that the Board approve the resolution subject to it being written. Mr. Thompson made a motion for approval of the G&T Driveway Width Resolution 152-8.T(7)(c) subject to it being written by the township solicitor; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of G&T Sidewalk Waiver 152-8.K- Mr. Potts stated that there is no sidewalk network and that it wouldn't make sense to require sidewalks on a dead-end street. Mr. Tobias asked if there were any other plans to require anyone else nearby to put sidewalks in. Mr. Potts stated no. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the G&T Sidewalk Waiver 152-8.K; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion of the Carriage House- Karen Kreider from Hoffert Land Surveying explained that the client would like to proceed with a scaled back version of the original land development plan from 2015. Ms. Kreider went over the changes to the plan and also stated that The Carriage House's application to the Historic Places Registry has been accepted. Mrs. Reed asked if the original land development plan has been withdrawn and Ms. Kreider stated that the new plan would supersede the old plan. Atty. Dietrich stated that the old plan has to be withdrawn. Mrs. Reed stated the township needs a formal letter of withdrawal. Atty. Dietrich stated that a letter could be submitted with the new plan. Mr. Potts stated that the gravel parking lot does not conform to township zoning code or the SALDO and that a variance had been applied for to not pave the parking lot and it was denied by the Zoning Hearing Board. Ms. Kreider stated that Mr. Morey had stated that the stormwater facility at the parking area needs to be addressed and proof that it is built correctly. Ms. Kreider stated that the premise of tonight's meeting was for the client to be able to move ahead with the simplified land development plan and that they do intend to pave an area from the road to the gravel to keep gravel off of the road. Atty. Dietrich stated that Township ordinance must be followed. Mr. Morey stated that as it stands the parking lot does not meet ADA Compliance with a gravel parking lot. Brad Pflum stated that an ADA space cannot be more than a 2% slope in any direction. Atty. Dietrich stated that Township Ordinances must be followed and that there are two choices, use the current plan or submit a letter and a new plan because as it stands at least one of the pages of the original plan shows things that may have become facts on the ground, but were not legally authorized and if the original plan is used there needs to be a note on the plan stating that part of the drawing is reflective of physical conditions, but doesn't reflect approved conditions. Ms. Genduso stated that there are ADA parking spaces on the new plan closer to the barn.

Discussion of Parking Requirements for Industrial, Wholesaling or Warehousing Uses- Mr. Potts stated the Township parking requirements were compared to those of Maidencreek, Ontelaunee and Spring Township and that it does seem as though the Township's parking requirements are a little heavy. Mr. Potts stated that the recommendation would be for one parking space per employee for the two largest shifts, ten spaces for visitors for the first 10,000 square foot of floor space and one visitor space per each additional 20,000 square foot of floor space. Mr. Potts also stated that if the use of the building changes or if the building is expanded the parking would have to be revisited for compliance. Mr. Thompson stated that it also needs to take into account an expanding workforce. Mr. Tobias asked if any of the current plans have been compared to the possible new numbers to see how they compare. Mr. Potts said no, but he felt that was a good idea. The Board will discuss the topic again later.

Time Extensions

G&T Industries Preliminary Plan- Mr. Thompson moved that if an extension of time has not been granted by the applicant, prior to the expiration date of March 9, 2020, that the plan shall be rejected for the reasons set forth in the latest engineering review letter. Mr. Tobias asked for clarification of what the statement means. Atty. Dietrich explained that it means the Township will reject the plan if the developer does not provide us an extension of time. Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Code Enforcement

Brad Pflum provided a copy of his report to the Board and stated that the Riveredge hearing scheduled for March 5, 2020 has been moved.

Discussion/ Approval to Refund Residue Stormwater Escrow for 14 Homestead Drive- Mr. Pflum stated that this is for a pole barn that has been completed. Mr. Potts stated that there is residual stormwater escrow of \$258.47 and they have requested a refund of the remaining escrow. Mr. Thompson moved that the escrow be released, seconded by Mr. Tobias. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

MS4 Stormwater Report – Mr. Potts stated that Steve Tricarico is volunteering in the Township and is locating and mapping the Township stormwater pipes.

ROADS

Mr. Potts informed the Board that the 2020 Road Project will be advertised in March and went over the roads in the project. Mr. Potts also stated that he spoke with a representative from PennDOT that informed him that Liquid Fuels Money could be used for the Palisade Bridge Project. Mr. Potts also informed the Board of an upcoming road resurfacing project starting May 1, 2020 with an approximate completion date of Aug 21, 2020 and that the project would include Main Street in Leesport from Route 61 to Grange Road in Bern Township and that there are no anticipated road closures.

Discussion/ Approval to Hire Part-Time Road Department Candidate- Mr. Potts informed the Board that a part time candidate for the road department, David Mersinger, has been chosen and that he recommends him for hiring. Mrs. Reed asked if he had his CDL. Mr. Potts stated yes. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve hiring David Mersinger for the road crew; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of Washington Road Easement Agreement- Mr. Potts stated that the farmer had asked that the manholes in the cornfield be 12 inches below the soil and that no one comes into access the area while crops are in place and if that happens he would like reimbursement for crop damage. Mr. Potts stated that these were added to the agreement. Mr. Potts also stated that the farmer expressed concerns over a wetland developing in the woods and that unfortunately there not much that can be done to prevent that since the pipe cannot lead to the river. Mr. Potts stated that he is applying for a Low Volume Dirt and Gravel Road Grant and that the Conservation District would pay for the materials through the grant and the Township would provide the labor and equipment. Mr. Potts stated that the deadline to apply for the grant is April 1st and that the easement is needed in order to finish the application submittal. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Washington Road Easement Agreement; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

SEWER/WATER/BERN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Mrs. Reed asked the public to please stop putting grease and trash down drains and toilets and asked if anyone has any ideas on how to get the word out to please let BTMA know. Ms. Radle suggested that maybe this could be taught in school.

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMISSION

No report.

Discussion/ Approval of the Recycling Drop Off Center Three Year Extension Agreement with Berks County- Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Recycling Drop Off Center Three Year Extension Agreement with Berks County; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION

Discussion/ Approval of Animal Rescue League Agreement- Mr. Potts informed the board that he spoke with the executive director of the ARL about the agreement. Mr. Potts was informed that aggressive dogs would be covered and qualify for pick up under the agreement and that the ARL would still come out to collect the animal in a true emergency situation if the police department contacted them, but otherwise residents should be instructed to transport stray dogs to the ARL themselves. Mr. Potts recommended approving the agreement with the conditions for \$1.00 per Capita. Chief Waugh stated that the police department will not be responsible for transporting animals to the ARL. Mr. Tobias expressed concerns about the ARL's definition of vicious animal and Mrs. Reed asked who would be responsible for the determination of a vicious animal. Mr. Potts stated the police department would be responsible for the determination of a vicious animal and Chief Waugh agreed. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve Animal Rescue League

Agreement; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Next Supervisor's meeting will be held on April 7, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

Sharon Henke, Bern Township resident, spoke about The Friends of the Epler's One Room School House Organization.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Reed temporarily adjourned the meeting at 8:30PM for an executive session to discuss a personnel matter. The meeting reconvened at 9:13PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 PM; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane DeJesus,
Secretary/Treasurer

**TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

April 7, 2020

SUPERVISORS MEETING

SUPERVISORS PRESENT:

Irene Reed, Chairman
Brian Eveland, Supervisor
Jeff Thompson, Supervisor
Daniel Tobias, Supervisor
Boyd Wagner, Supervisor

STAFF PRESENT:

Brian Potts, Township Manager
Diane DeJesus, Secretary/Treasurer
Wesley Waugh, Chief of Police
Keith Mooney, Esquire
Kent Morey, Engineer
Bradley Pflum, Code Enforcement

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM by teleconference, which was advertised in the Reading Eagle.

Mrs. Reed thanked everyone for their services during this time.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Thompson moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, which included the minutes of the March 3, 2020 Supervisors Meeting and to accept the finance report, subject to audit and approve the payment of bills on the list, seconded by Dr. Wagner. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Balances as of April 7, 2020: General Fund: \$1,561,525.76, State Account: \$575,943.92, PLGIT: \$66,8484.62, Certificate of Deposits: \$545,887.95, Expenses: \$95,704.67. Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Discussion/Approval to Declare State of Emergency Due to CCovid-19 Virus Pandemic -Mr. Potts explained the resolution and how it was structured.

Dr. Wagner moved that the Supervisors approve the resolution as written, seconded Mr. Thompson.
YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval to Appoint Kevin Hinkle as Applicant's Agent for Bern Township to PEMA/FEMA for the Covid-19 Virus Pandemic – Dr. Wagner moved that Kevin Hinkle be appointed as the Applicant's Agent for Bern Township, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

POLICE

Fire Police Assistance for May 5, 2020 – Mr. Thompson moved that the Supervisors approve Fire Police Assistance for the Motor Carrier Inspection to be held on May 5, 2020 subject to a possible cancellation, seconded by Mr. Eveland. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ROADS

Discussion/Approval to Accept Road Department Resignation – Mr. Thompson moved that the Supervisors accept the resignation of Alex Stonefelt, seconded by Dr. Wagner. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval to Begin Hiring Process for the Road Department – Mr. Thompson moved that the Supervisors approve to begin the hiring process for the Road Department, seconded by Dr. Wagner. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval to Hire a Part Time Road Department Candidate – Mr. Thompson move that the Supervisors approve the hiring of Alex Stonefelt to the Part Time Road Department position, seconded by Dr. Wagner. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Ratification of Road Department Side Agreement for the Covid-19 Virus Pandemic – Mr. Thompson moved that the Supervisors ratify the Road Department Side Agreement for the Covid-19 Virus Pandemic, seconded by Dr. Wagner. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Dr. Wagner asked Atty. Mooney if it was legal to have a meeting and not let the public inside. Atty. Mooney stated that as long as you set up a conference call for the public to participate that it would be fine. Mr. Potts noted that he placed the advertised meeting notice on the door for the public if they should show up. It was also noted that the ad contained the phone number and access code if they wanted to listen or ask questions.

ENGINEER

Mr. Potts reported that he and Kent Morey discussed using the teleconference for the Planning Commission Meeting that is scheduled for April 14, 2020, but decided that this wouldn't work because there would be no visual access. They were leaning toward canceling the meeting for April. Dr. Wagner suggested contacting G&T Industries to see if they would agree to holding off until May. Atty. Mooney suggested if the Planning Commission does not meet; issue the plan review letter to the developer and

authorize the Engineer to work with the developer to resolve as many issues and items that they can administratively before the next Planning Commission meeting. The deadline for their plan is June 30, 2020.

There was discussion regarding holding the Planning Commission meeting at the outside of the Township Building, the Ag. Center or the 4H Building.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Thompson moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:30 PM, seconded by Dr. Wagner. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane DeJesus, Secretary/Treasurer

**TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

May 5, 2020

SUPERVISORS MEETING

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Irene Reed, Chairman
Brian Eveland, Supervisor
Jeff Thompson, Supervisor
Dr. Boyd Wagner III, Supervisor

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

CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM by teleconference, which was advertised in the Reading Eagle.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Thompson moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, which included the minutes of the April 7, 2020 Supervisors Meeting and to accept the finance report, subject to audit and approve payment of bills on the list, seconded by Dr. Wagner. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Balances as of May 5, 2020: General Fund: \$2,342,685.47, State Account: \$576,023.41, PLGIT: \$77,686.31, Certificate of Deposits: \$545,887.95, Expenses: \$28,098.09. Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

ORDINANCES/ RESOLUTIONS

Discussion/ Approval of the Tax Payment Schedule Resolution- Mr. Potts explained that this is to change the Township's flat rate tax payment period to September 30, 2020 to coincide with the County's. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Tax Payment Schedule Resolution; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Discussion of Solar Panel Re-Zoning Request- Mr. Potts explained that a developer had inquired about the Ontelanuee Orchards property and asked if the Supervisors would be willing to re-zone the area to allow a solar farm. The Supervisors expressed their opinions and decided that it is not the right location. Mr. Potts will send the developers a letter to inform them that the board is not favorable to re-zoning the land.

Discussion/ Approval of Exhibit "A" to the BCIDA Memorandum of Understanding Agreement- Mr. Potts explained that this is an attachment to the agreement with BCIDA referring to the schedule of the phased land development plan. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the exhibit "A" to the BCIDA Memorandum of Understanding Agreement; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION

Discussion of the Southgate Bond Financing for Facility Renovations- Mr. Potts informed the Board that the Lancaster Redevelopment Authority will need approval from Bern Township to issue bonds in the Township for tax free financing for renovations inside the Southgate Apartments and that in order for that to occur a public hearing must be held either in Bern Township or at a location within 100 miles. The Supervisors discussed the possibilities and the subject will most likely be placed on the June agenda.

Discussion of the Berks County Conservation District Office Space Search- Mr. Potts explained that the Berks County Conservation District is looking to possibly purchase land in the Township to construct a new facility and inquired about partnering with the Township. The Supervisors are open to discussions.

Discussion of Next Meeting Date- Mrs. Reed stated that the June 2, 2020 meeting would need to be rescheduled due to the change in the election date and suggested June 1, 2020. All agreed.

Next Supervisor's meeting will be held on June 1, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 PM; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane DeJesus,
Secretary/Treasurer

**TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

June 1, 2020

SUPERVISORS MEETING

SUPERVISORS PRESENT:

Irene Reed, Chairman
Brian Eveland, Supervisor
Jeff Thompson, Supervisor
Daniel Tobias, Supervisor
Boyd Wagner, Supervisor

STAFF PRESENT:

Brian Potts, Township Manager
Diane DeJesus, Secretary/Treasurer
Wesley Waugh, Chief of Police
Keith Mooney, Esquire
Kent Morey, Engineer
Bradley Pflum, Code Enforcement
Kevin Hinkle, Emergency Management Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM by teleconference, which was advertised in the Reading Eagle.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Thompson moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, which included the minutes of the May 5, 2020 Supervisors Meeting and to accept the finance report, subject to audit and approve the 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 June 1, 2020: General Fund: \$2,326,667.37, State Account: \$576,104.38, PLGIT: \$66,902.47, Certificate of Deposits: \$545,887.95, Expenses: \$47,035.51. Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTIONS

Discussion/Approval of Disaster Emergency Extension Resolution – This resolution will extend the Disaster Emergency until September 30, 2020. Mr. Thompson moved that the Disaster Emergency Extension Resolution be approved, seconded by Mr. Eveland. **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval to Appoint a Pandemic Safety Officer – Mr. Thompson moved that Kevin Hinkle be appointed as Pandemic Safety Officer, seconded by Mr. Eveland. **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

POLICE

Discussion/Approval to Dispose of Property – Chief Waugh requested approval to dispose of a Dell Laptop from 2006. The Hard Drive will be removed. Mr. Thompson moved that the Supervisors approve the disposal of the Laptop, seconded by Mr. Eveland. **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Fire Police Assistance for June 4, 2020– Mr. Thompson moved that the Supervisors approve Fire Police Assistance for the vehicle procession in honor of the 2020 graduates from Schuylkill Valley School District, seconded by Mr. Eveland. **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Discussion/Approval of Berks Heim Boiler Room Groundwater Recharge Waiver, Section 149-16 – Mr. Thompson moved that the Supervisor approve the Waiver of Section 149-16, seconded by Mr. Tobias. **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/approval of Berks Heim Boiler Room Detention Basin Waiver, Sections 149-22.A.4.a; 149-22.A.4.c; 149-22..5; 149-22.A .6.a and b – Mr. Thompson moved that the Supervisors approve the Waiver of Sections 149-22.A.4.a; 149-22.A.4.c; 149-22-.A.5; 149-22.A.6.a and b, seconded by Mr. Tobias. **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried

Discussion/Approval of Berks Heim Boiler Room Preliminary Land Development Plan – Mr. Thompson moved that the Supervisors approve the Berks Heim Boiler Room Preliminary Land Development Plan, seconded by Mr. Eveland. **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval to Refund Pool Permit for 1007 Chestnut Street – Mr. Thompson moved that the Supervisors approve the refund of \$534.00 to the resident at 1007 Chestnut Street, seconded by Mr. Eveland. Mr. Pflum noted that LTL will give the township a refund for payment made to them, since the permit was withdrawn. **YES:** Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ROADS

Discussion/Approval to Allow Closure of Stinson Road – Mr. Potts explained that this was a request from UGI for improvements within the Stinson Road right-of-way for approximately 1,600 LF of proposed curb and road widening, a sanitary sewer connection and road crossing, storm sewer road crossing and two proposed storm inlets. Mr. Thompson moved that the Supervisors approve the closure of Stinson Road for the road work described, seconded by Mr. Eveland. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion of Road Department Equipment – Mr. Potts stated that it would cost \$30,000.00 to repair the paver. Mr. Potts noted that he and Atty. Mooney would put together a bid for used equipment and that our PennDOT rep. Would also look it over.

It was also noted that the 2020 Road Project was cancelled until 2021 and that we could, if approved by PennDOT, to use Liquid Fuels Funds to purchase the equipment being requested.

The Road Department would also like a milling machine. They found a used mill head for \$7,000.00 which would fit onto the skid loader. There was discussion stating that if they could get the two pieces of equipment for \$30,000.00, that this would be discussed with the Supervisors.

Mr. Thompson moved that Brian Potts and Keith Mooney work together to put the bid specifications together for a milling machine and a mill head, not to exceed \$30,000.00, seconded by Mr. Tobias. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of Teamsters Healthcare Renewal Rates – Mr. Potts reported that the Single rate went up 2% and Family rate up 4%. Dr. Wagner moved that the Supervisors approve the Component Rate Structure, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompkins and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Municipal Field – Mr. Potts reported that he received a request from a Lacrosse group to use the field on a Tuesday and Thursday from 6-8 PM. They would follow the CDC Guidelines and the US Lacrosse Guidelines for return to play, along with a waiver that follows /supports their insurance needs for COVID 19. No parents or other children will be allowed on the fields, playground or basketball court. A safety/hygiene role will be setup to ensure all measures are met. Bern Township will also be on the parent waiver from all responsibility that parents will sign for participants.

Mr. Potts will send a response stating that they are approved to use the field with two conditions. That they check with Reading Rage to make sure there are no potential scheduling conflicts and that they adhere and follow governor Wolfe's restrictions with respond to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Police Bargaining – Dr. Wagner and Mr. Thompson will be on the committee. Atty. Mooney stated that he will be back in the office next week and will set up a time to get together.

The next meeting is scheduled from July 7, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Wagner moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:30 PM, seconded by Mr. Thompson. **YES:** Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,


Diane DeJesus, Secretary/Treasurer

**TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

July 7, 2020

SUPERVISORS MEETING

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Irene Reed, Chairman
Brian Eveland, Supervisor
Jeff Thompson, Supervisor
Daniel Tobias, Supervisor
Dr. Boyd Wagner III, Supervisor

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

CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM by teleconference, which was advertised in the Reading Eagle.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Wagner moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, which included the minutes of the June 1, 2020 Supervisors Meeting and to accept the finance report, subject to audit and approve payment of bills on the list, seconded by Mr. Thompson. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Balances as of July 7, 2020: General Fund: \$2,515,483.27, State Account: \$576,226.24, PLGIT: \$66,965.03, Certificate of Deposits: \$545,887.95, Expenses: \$43,411.09. Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

PUBLIC HEARING

Discussion of the Transportation Capital Improvement Plan- Atty. Dietrich stated that the hearing has been advertised and that the Planning Commission recommended it for adoption. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the adoption of the Transportation Capital Improvement Plan; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES/ RESOLUTIONS

Discussion/ Approval of the Southgate Financing Resolution- Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Southgate Financing Resolution; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SAFETY & SERVICES

Discussion/ Approval to Accept Monetary Donation- Chief Waugh requested a motion for approval to accept a monetary donation from a resident in the amount of \$1990.00 for the Police Equipment Fund to purchase two more Watchguard VISTA body cameras. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve accepting the donation; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried

Discussion/ Approval to Purchase Body Cameras- Chief Waugh requested a motion for approval to purchase four Watchguard VISTA body cameras, two using the donation and two more using monies from the Police Equipment Fun for a total of \$4,580.00 which includes \$600.00 for the web library software licensing. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the body camera purchase; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried

Chief Waugh also requested a motion for approval to reimburse Officer Joshua Santos under Article 19 in the Police contract for courses he is taking at Albright College for a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the education reimbursement; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Planning Commission

Discussion/ Approval of the TopStar Land Development Waiver Request- Mr. Potts stated that the Planning Commission did recommend approval of the land development waiver request for an existing indoor cooler that will be moved outdoor on to an existing concrete pad with no new impervious surface created. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the TopStar Land Development waiver request; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the Stonehedge Farm III Escrow Release- Mr. Potts stated that Kent Morey did an analysis and recommended the release in the amount of \$11,238.00 which would bring the escrow balance to zero. Mr. Potts requested Board approval of the escrow release subject to all outstanding engineering and legal bills being paid in full. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Stonehedge Farm III Escrow Release; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the Reading Behavioral Health Escrow Release-Mr. Potts stated that Kent Morey did an analysis and recommended the release in the amount of \$7,371,942.60 which would bring the escrow balance to \$55,000.00. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the

Reading Behavioral Health Escrow Release; Mr. Thompson seconded. Atty. Dietrich asked about light issues in the roundabout and Mr. Potts stated that they have repaired it. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the 1540 Fairview Drive Stormwater Agreement- Mr. Potts stated that this is for a pole barn on the property and that Atty. Mooney had prepared the agreement. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the 1540 Fairview Drive Stormwater Agreement; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion of the G&T Industries parking Lot Requirements- Atty. Joseph Fitzpatrick, representing G&T Industries, briefed the board on G&T Industries' s request for reduced parking on their Preliminary Land Development Plan. Atty. Fitzpatrick stated that G&T Industries employs approximately 70 employees and would not utilize the full 200 required parking spaces and rather than have a lot full of macadam they would like to have an agreement with the Township to have the excess 70-77 spaces depicted as to be constructed at a later date with a note on the plan stating that these spaces would be built if the Township so directs or if the property is sold and that all stormwater facilities would be built to handle the full 200 spaces. After Supervisor discussion and Atty. Dietrich's recommendation that Supervisor consent shall be subject to arriving at a suitable agreement and a plan note with binding language Mr. Eveland made a motion for approval of the reduced parking requirements; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to Advertise the Van Reed Road Vacation Ordinance- Mr. Potts explained that this is for the section of Van Reed Road that runs from Leisz's Bridge Road to the Schuylkill River and is associated with the G&T Industries project. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the advertising of the Van Reed Road Vacation Ordinance; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the UGI Stormwater Agreement- Mr. Potts explained that this stormwater agreement is for the UGI Leesport Station on White Oak Lane and that Atty. Mooney had prepared the agreement. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the UGI Stormwater Agreement; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Code Enforcement

Discussion/ Approval to Refund Residue Building Permit Escrow to the Reading Behavioral Health Medical Office Building- Mr. Potts stated that the residue amount from their building permit costs is \$25,777.98. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve refunding the residue building permit escrow to the Reading Behavioral Health Medical Office Building; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to refund Permit Cost to 1043 Snyder Drive- Mr. Potts explained that this was for the installation of a pool and that the residents are cancelling it and that the refund amount is \$100.00. Mr. Thompson asked if the township incurred any costs and Mr. Pflum stated no. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve refunding the \$100.00 building permit application fee; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ROADS

Public Opening of the Cold Planer Bids- Mr. Potts stated that one bid was received from Plaster Equipment in the amount of \$6,990.00 and that the bid is \$10.00 under budget. Mr. Potts stated that all bid requirements were met and that Atty. Mooney will review it for completeness.

Discussion/ Approval to Award the Cold Planer Bid- Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve accepting the Cold Planer bid contingent on Atty. Mooney's review; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Public Opening of the Asphalt Paving Machine Bids- Mr. Potts stated that one bid was received from Stephenson Equipment in the amount of \$22,900.00 and that the bid amount is exactly the budget. Mr. Potts stated that all bid requirements were met and that Atty. Mooney will review it for completeness.

Discussion/ Approval to Award the Asphalt Paving Machine Bid- Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve accepting the Asphalt Paving Machine bid contingent on Atty. Mooney's review; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION

Discussion/ Approval to Refund the Special Event Permit to Large Car magazine- Mr. Potts stated that the cost of the permit is \$50.00 and that this is for an event that was supposed to take place at the fairgrounds and is cancelled and no costs were incurred by the Township. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve refunding the \$50.00 permit fee to Large Car Magazine; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to Accept Planning Commission Member Resignation- Mr. Potts stated that Matt Hood is moving out of the Township and had resigned from the Planning Commission as of June 30, 2020. Mrs. Reed asked that a thank you note be sent. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve accepting the planning commission member resignation; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Mrs. Reed stated that the next meeting will be held August 4, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 PM; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane DeJesus,
Secretary/Treasurer

**TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

August 4, 2020

SUPERVISORS MEETING

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Irene Reed, Chairman
Brian Eveland, Supervisor
Jeff Thompson, Supervisor
Daniel Tobias, Supervisor
Dr. Boyd Wagner III, Supervisor

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Potts, Township Manager
Diane DeJesus, Secretary/Treasurer
Wesley Waugh, Chief of Police
Keith Mooney, Esquire
Darryl Jenkins, Engineer
Bradley Pflum, Code Enforcement

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was held at 6:30PM.

CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM by teleconference, which was advertised in the Reading Eagle.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Wagner moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, which included the minutes of the July 7, 2020 Supervisors Meeting and to accept the finance report, subject to audit and approve payment of bills on the list, seconded by Mr. Thompson. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Balances as of August 4, 2020: General Fund: \$2,412,111.25, State Account: \$576,339.17, PLGIT: \$66,965.03, Certificate of Deposits: \$545,887.95, Expenses: \$55,001.27. Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

ORDINANCES/ RESOLUTIONS

Discussion/ Approval of the Van Reed Road Vacation Ordinance- Mr. Potts stated that the ordinance has been advertised and is ready for consideration. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Van Reed Road Vacation Ordinance; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SAFETY & SERVICES

Discussion/ Approval of Officer Training- Chief Waugh requested a motion for approval to send Officer Vincent Mazza to annual training on accident reconstruction in Gettysburg, November 3-5, 2020, with the only cost being three nights of lodging for a total cost of \$316.35. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the officer training; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried

Discussion of Hiring Partnership with Northern Berks- Chief Waugh explained that there is another opportunity to form a hiring partnership with the Northern Berks Police Department where the \$8,000.00 costs would be split and it would provide a hiring list since the police department does not currently have one. Mr. Tobias asked if this had been discussed before and what was the result? Chief Waugh stated that it was decided that it shouldn't take place at that time. Mr. Thompson expressed concerns over finances and passing up the opportunity. Mrs. Reed asked if there was room in the budget. Chief Waugh responded that it was not budgeted for. Dr. Wagner said it shouldn't be done and Mr. Thompson agreed. Mrs. Reed asked if it could be done later in the year. Chief Waugh stated that the opportunity to split it with Northern Berks would be missed. Mrs. Reed asked if the police department would be hiring this year. Chief Waugh stated only if there is a vacancy.

PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Code Enforcement

Discussion/ Approval to Refund Residue Building Permit Escrow to the Reading Behavioral Health- Mr. Potts stated that the residue amount from their building permit costs is \$21,757.14. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve refunding the residue building permit escrow to Reading Behavioral Health; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion of the Econo Lodge Hotel- Mr. Potts informed the board that the Fire Alarm System for the Econo Lodge, which also covers the Riveredge, is not connected to a central station or working properly and that this is required in order for the facility to operate. LTL will send a letter to the Econo Lodge owner, Econo Lodge corporate headquarters and the Riveredge requiring the situation to be fixed within a certain period of time or the facilities will have to be evacuated. The Supervisors agreed that the situation needs to be taken care of and Atty. Mooney stated that there needs to be proper notice and opportunity to fix the problem.

Discussion of City of Reading Zoning Variance Application- Mr. Potts explained that the City of Reading has submitted a zoning variance application for a property in the city that abuts the walking trail with a stone driveway that leads onto South Tulpehocken Road and that the hearing is set for September. Mr. Potts also stated that this would be for a 300 seat church with various buildings and parking spaces and that he is concerned about the significant traffic impact that South Tulpehocken Road would incur. Mrs. Reed asked who would represent the Township and Mr. Potts stated that it would be either Atty. Mooney or himself or possibly both of them. Atty. Mooney stated that he should be available. The possibility of the township receiving money for traffic impact or storm water will be looked into by Atty. Mooney and Mr. Potts.

Planning Commission

Discussion/ Approval of the Berks Heim Boiler Room Final Plan-Mr. Potts stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the plan subject to the SSM July 10, 2020 review letter. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Berks Heim Boiler Room Final Plan; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion of Commercial Parking Space Requirements- Mr. Potts went over the commercial parking space requirements of Spring Township and Maiden creek Township and see how they compare to Bern Township. The discussion will be tabled until next month.

Discussion/ Approval of the G&T Industries 2 Year Storm Waiver 149-18- Mr. Potts stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the waiver. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the G&T Industries 2 Year Storm Waiver 149-18; Mr. Thompson seconded. Mr. Tobias asked for clarification. Mr. Jenkins explained that it would be technically infeasible to meet the requirements on the sight and that is why the waiver is recommended. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Mr. Tobias asked about the waivers in general. Atty. Mooney explained that it is already known what the underlying characteristics for these waivers are because they have already taken place for other development in this area before.

Discussion/ Approval of the G&T Industries Utility Impact Study Waiver 154.-30.I(2)(b) & 154-30.I(2)(e)- Mr. Potts stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the waiver. Mr. Jenkins stated that there would be no additional impact to utilities because G&T Industries was already using utilities in the Township. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the G&T Industries Utility Impact Study Waiver 154.-30.I(2)(b) & 154-30.I(2)(e); Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the G&T Industries Fiscal Impact Study Waiver 154.-30.I(2)(d)- Mr. Potts stated the Planning Commission recommended approval. Mr. Jenkins stated that there would be no additional fiscal impact because G&T Industries was already in the Township. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the G&T Industries Fiscal Impact Study Waiver 154.-30.I(2)(d); Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the G&T Industries Hydrogeological Impact Study Waiver 154.-30.I(2)(f)- Mr. Eveland asked if it could be assumed that the waiver request are all the same situation because G&T Industries is just moving across the street. The supervisors said yes and Dr. Wagner said they have to be done individually by law. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the G&T Industries Hydrogeological Impact Study Waiver 154.-30.I(2)(f); Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the G&T Industries Historic & Archeological Resources Impact Study Waiver 154.-30.I(2)(h)- Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the G&T Industries Historic & Archeological Resources Impact Study Waiver 154.-30.I(2)(h); Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the G&T Industries Preliminary Land Development Plan- Mr. Potts stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval subject to the July 13, 2020 SSM review letter. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve the G&T Industries Preliminary Land Development Plan; Mr. Thompson seconded. Dr. Wagner asked how many points on the Preliminary Plan review letter were left open yet. Mr. Jenkins stated that there were some clean up items, but that they were not items that they felt that there would be an issue completing. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION

Discussion/ Approval to Accept Planning Commission Member Resignation- Mr. Potts stated that Don Ballou has resigned from the Planning Commission effective December 31, 2020. Mrs. Reed asked that a thank you note be sent. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve accepting the planning commission member resignation; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion of Planning Commission Member Appointment- Mr. Potts informed the Board the Glen Sweigert is interested in being a member of the planning commission and he would replace Matt Hood if approved. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve accepting Glen Sweigert to the planning commission; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to Advertise a Public Hearing for the Comcast Cable Franchise Renewal- Mr. Potts stated that this is for advertisement of a public hearing for the negotiation of the Comcast franchise fee renewal. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the advertising of the public hearing for the Comcast Franchise fee renewal; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Mr. Potts stated that the Board had discussed an agreement with respect to Officer Lengel during executive session. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the agreement with Officer Lengel; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Mrs. Reed stated that the next meeting will be held September 1, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Robert Auchenbach from Leisz's Bridge Road expressed concerns about tractor trailer truck traffic on Leisz's Bridge Road from two different CDL training centers and also the truck traffic in general. Mr. Potts suggested that the police department could contact the CDL training center from Fifth Street highway and see if they could train someplace else.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 PM; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane DeJesus,
Secretary/Treasurer

**TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

September 1, 2020

SUPERVISORS MEETING

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Irene Reed, Chairman
Brian Eveland, Supervisor
Jeff Thompson, Supervisor
Daniel Tobias, Supervisor
Dr. Boyd Wagner III, Supervisor

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

CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM by teleconference, which was advertised in the Reading Eagle.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Wagner moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, which included the minutes of the August 4, 2020 Supervisors Meeting and to accept the finance report, subject to audit and approve payment of bills on the list, seconded by Mr. Thompson. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Balances as of September 1, 2020: General Fund: \$2,222,906.65, State Account: \$546,564.64, PLGIT: \$66,985.04, Certificate of Deposits: \$545,887.95, Expenses: \$103,915.25. Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was held on the Comcast Cable Franchise Renewal. The public hearing was advertised in the Reading Eagle on August 24, 2020. Mr. Potts read the opening remarks on the Comcast Cable Franchise Renewal and a copy is attached to the minutes.

PUBLIC SAFETY & SERVICES

Chief Waugh reported that he had contacted the truck training companies who advised him that they do not use the same routes over and over again. He also reported that Officer Vincent Mazza did a truck study on Leisch's Bridge Road and that the average truck speed is 30-32mph. Mrs. Reed requested that he reach out to Mr. Auchenbach and provide him that information.

Discussion/ Approval to Assign Fire Police to Township Truck Detail September 15, 2020- Chief Waugh requested a motion for approval for fire police for a truck detail on September 15, 2020 from 7:00AM-12PM. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve the fire police request; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried

Discussion/ Approval of Disposition of 2010 Ford Crown Victoria Sedan- Chief Waugh stated that it is actually a 2009, not a 2010, with approximately 135,000 miles and that the odometer does not work and the vehicle also needs very expensive repairs. Chief Waugh requested a motion for approval to list the vehicle on Municibid. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve listing the 2009 Ford Crown Victoria Sedan on Municibid, Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried

Discussion/ Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Berks Career and Technology Center- Chief Waugh explained that this is an annual document between the BTPD and the BCTC explaining what types of incidents that the school will contact the police department for assistance. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with Berks Career and Technology Center; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried

Discussion/ Approval of Monetary Donation- Chief Waugh requested a motion for approval to accept a \$1,000.00 donation from Justina Campell for deposit to the police equipment fund and to utilize some for refreshments for the officers at the range. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve accepting the donation; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried

PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Planning Commission

Discussion/ Approval of the Grandview Estates Lot Depth to Width Ratio Waiver 154-26.A(4)- Mr. Potts stated that the plan has been reduced to four lots and this is now the only waiver that is needed for this project and that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the waiver. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Grandview Estates Lot Depth to Width

Ratio Waiver 154-26.A(4); Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the Berks Heim Boiler Room Stormwater Agreement- Mr. Potts stated that Atty. Mooney had prepared the agreement. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Berks Heim Boiler Room Stormwater Agreement; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to Re-Affirm the Rohrer Plan- Mr. Potts stated that this plan needed to be re-affirmed because it had been approved, but had gone over the allotted 90 days. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the reaffirmation of the Rohrer Plan; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion of the Eagle Brass Right of Way Acceptance- Mr. Potts informed the Board that the Township had Eagle Brass widen a section of Old Bernville Road and put in a storm sewer as part of their project and Eagle Brass wants to know if the Township is going to accept the area of the road. Mr. Morey stated that it would be a good idea because the Township would have a hard time doing work on the storm sewer without encroaching onto Eagle Brass's property. Dr. Wagner asked if it was built to the Township's specifications and Mr. Morey said yes. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve accepting the ROW; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the Wilson Street Stormwater Agreement- Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve accepting the Wilson Street Stormwater Agreement; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ROADS

Discussion/ Approval of the PennDOT Winter Maintenance Agreement- Mr. Potts stated that this agreement is a five-year maintenance agreement with PennDOT for the Township to be able to plow and salt all state roads in the Township except Routes 183 and 222 and that the Township would be compensated \$17,418.00 the first year increasing to \$19,604.68 in the fifth year. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the PennDOT Winter Maintenance Agreement; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to Purchase Leaf Vacuum on DEP Equipment Grant- Mr. Potts requested a motion for approval to purchase a new leaf vacuum for \$88,500.00. DEP approved a grant and it will provide 100% reimbursement. Mr. Tobias made a motion to approve purchasing the leaf vacuum; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of Temporary Road Closures on Palisades Drive- Mr. Potts informed the Board that Sunoco Pipeline has requested to temporarily close part of Palisades Drive from September 4, 2020 to September 30, 2020, Monday through Friday from 7:00AM-5:00PM, for

pipeline maintenance under Palisades Drive. Mr. Potts also stated that the closure would only be for employee parking and materials and that there would be no actual road work. Mr. Tobias made a motion to approve the temporary road closure on Palisades Drive; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion of Leesport Borough Truck Study Request- Mr. Potts informed the Board that Leesport Borough is conducting a truck study that may affect traffic into Bern Township and that they would like the Township's support on the study. Mr. Potts stated that Leesport wishes to restrict 53' or greater trucks from using Wall Street and West Main Street and that the study would look at truck traffic from Route 61 to Grange Road. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve supporting the truck study; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION

Acknowledgement of Ag Security Applications for 2020- None have been received.

Discussion/Approval of the Non-Uniformed 2021 MMO Worksheets – Mr. Potts explained that the Non-Uniformed Pension Plan calculations were given to the pension administrator to review and that the contribution for next year will be \$95,821.00 which is \$11,643.00 more than this year's contribution. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve the Non-Uniformed 2021 MMO Worksheets; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of the Uniformed 2021 MMO Worksheets – Mr. Potts explained that the Police Pension Plan calculations were reviewed by the plan administrator and that the contribution for next year will be \$386,482.00 which is \$59,208.00 over this year's contribution. Mr. Tobias made a motion to approve the Uniformed 2021 MMO Worksheets; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval to Assist Payments for gate Closings at Recycling Center- Mr. Potts stated that the County has asked Judge Strand to close the gates at the County Recycling Center for \$100 per month for six months and that they asked Bern Township to pay the rest of the year with them so they did not have to place Judge Strand on payroll. Mr. Pflum asked how this might affect appearing before Judge Strand with cases for the Township. Atty. Dietrich stated that he will look into it. Mrs. Reed said it will be tabled until next month.

Mrs. Reed stated that the next meeting will be held October 6, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Mr. Thompson asked for an update on the potential church in the City of Reading wanting to utilize Township roads for access to the property. Mr. Potts stated that the Township would probably be vacating Wayne Street so the road could not be used by the church.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Wagner made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane DeJesus,
Secretary/Treasurer



**BERN TOWNSHIP
OPENING REMARKS FOR CHAIR OF PUBLIC
HEARING ON CABLE FRANCHISE RENEWAL**

Good evening. This is a public hearing regarding cable franchise renewal for Bern Township. The hearing is held pursuant to Section 626 of the federal Cable Act, which sets forth the process for franchise renewal. Our current franchise agreement with Comcast is expiring soon and we have begun the process of negotiating a new franchise agreement. This public hearing is an important part of franchise negotiations, in which the Township seeks public comment on Comcast's past performance and our community's future cable-related community needs.

The purpose of this public hearing is to hear from citizens regarding the following:

1. The past performance of the cable operator; and
2. The Township's future cable-related needs.

Franchise renewal is the best opportunity for municipalities to assert their rights with respect to their cable operator and to obtain important benefits in return for granting the cable operator the right to use its public rights-of-way. These benefits include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Strong and enforceable customer service standards;

2. A state-of-the-art cable system;
3. Protections of the public rights-of-way;
4. Franchise fees for the cable operator's use of the public rights-of-way and improved franchise fee accountability;
5. Reporting requirements on the cable operator;
6. Legal protections for the Township; and
7. Better mechanisms to enforce the franchise agreement.

These are just some of the potential benefits available through franchise renewal.

Citizens may address these items or any other cable-related items that are important to them. We will now open the hearing up to citizen comments. Thank you.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Hearing Regarding Comcast Cable Franchise Renewal for Bern Township.

Notice is hereby given that Bern Township will hold a public hearing regarding cable franchise renewal. The public hearing will take place on September, 2020 at 7 p.m. at the Bern Township Municipal Building, 1069 Old Bernville Rd, Reading, PA 19605. Citizens are invited to testify. The purpose of the public hearing is to review the past performance of the cable operator, Comcast, and to identify the future cable-related community needs of the Township. Questions may be directed to Brian Potts, Township Manager, at 610-926-2267.

**TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

October 6, 2020

SUPERVISORS MEETING

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Irene Reed, Chairman
Brian Eveland, Supervisor
Jeff Thompson, Supervisor
Daniel Tobias, Supervisor
Dr. Boyd Wagner III, Supervisor

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

CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM by teleconference, which was advertised in the Reading Eagle.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Eveland moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, which included the minutes of the September 1, 2020 Supervisors Meeting and to accept the finance report, subject to audit and approve payment of bills on the list, seconded by Dr. Wagner. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Balances as of October 6, 2020: General Fund: \$2,006,544.19, State Account: \$546,704.55, PLGIT: \$66,999.82, Certificate of Deposits: \$545,887.95, Expenses: \$515,218.83. Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

ORDINANCES/ RESOLUTIONS

Discussion/ Approval to Advertise Vacation of Wayne Street- Mr. Potts explained that this is to vacate a section of roadway between South Tulpehocken Road, Golf Road and Tully Lane due to potential development in the City of Reading. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve advertising the vacation of Wayne Street; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SAFETY & SERVICES

Fire Department

Discussion of Turn Out Gear Grant Issue- Mr. Potts explained that the Greenfields Fire Company applied for a federal grant to replace a turnout gear and the grant award is short approximately \$16,000. The fire company contacted the Social Quarters, who never got back to them. Mr. Potts also stated that a financial analysis of the Fire Protection Fund was completed and there are funds available. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve providing Greenfields Fire Company \$16,000.00 from the Fire Protection Fund for the replacement of the Turn Out Gear; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Police Department

Discussion/ Approval to Accept \$100 Donation to the Police Equipment Fund- Chief Waugh requested a motion to approve accepting a \$100.00 donation for the Police Equipment Fund. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve accepting the donation; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to Assign Fire Police to Township Truck Detail October 10, 2020- Chief Waugh requested a motion for approval for fire police for a truck detail on October 10, 2020. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the fire police request; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Planning Commission

Discussion/ Approval of Berks Park 183: Building E Final Plan- Mr. Potts explained that this is for the addition to IMP and the Planning Commission recommended approval conditioned on the September 3, 2020 SSM review letter. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Berks Park 183: Building E Final Plan; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of G&T Industries Final Plan- Mr. Potts stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval conditioned on the September 4, 2020 SSM review letter. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the G&T Industries Final Plan; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the Chestnut Street Stormwater Agreement- Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve accepting the Chestnut Street Stormwater Agreement; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of BCTC Welding Building Escrow Release- Mr. Potts stated that BCTC made a request to have their letter of credit released from escrow. Mr. Morey has done an analysis and site visit and recommends that \$113,135.00 be released from the escrow account. Mr. Potts also stated that the release would be contingent upon receipt of NPDS notice of termination from the Berks County Conservation District and payment of all legal and engineering bills. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the BCTC Welding Building Escrow Release; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the Poplar Road Stormwater Side Agreement- Mr. Potts stated that this agreement is to help resolve a stormwater issue. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve accepting the Poplar Road Stormwater Side Agreement; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ROADS

Discussion of Petition to Limit Truck Traffic on Leisz's Bridge Road- Mr. Potts expressed his reservations to the Board. Chief Waugh spoke about some recent enforcement on one of the trucks, and that he could send letters to the trucking schools, but that he can only ask for voluntary compliance because it is a public road and that it is not a violation for the trucks to stop in the roadway, unless it impedes traffic, because it isn't posted No Stopping or Standing. Atty. Dietrich provided some details on what would have to be done if the Supervisors chose to not allow trucks to use the road. Mr. Auchenbach expressed his concerns. Mr. Potts stated that he will have a discussion with the Airport Manager. Mr. Auchenbach will attend the next Reading Regional Airport meeting.

Discussion/ Approval of Palisades Bridge Scour Project Bid- Mr. Potts informed the Board that the low bidder is Farhat Construction with a bid amount of \$23,457.25. Atty. Mooney has reviewed the bid. Mr. Tobias made a motion to approve accepting the Farhat Construction bid; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of 2003 Ford F550 Truck Disposition- Mr. Potts stated that the road crew would like to sell the old 2003 Ford 5-ton dump truck on Municibid. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the selling of the dump truck on Municibid; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of 1986 Leeboy Box Paver Disposition- Mr. Potts stated that the road crew would like to sell the old 1986 Leeboy Box Paver on Municibid. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the selling of the paver on Municibid; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Mr. Potts also informed the Board that he is ready to begin the previously approved hiring process for a road crew employee.

ADMINISTRATION

Discussion/ Approval to Remove Future Recycling Fees from 861A Van Reed Road- Mr. Potts stated that there is no longer a home there. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve removing future recycling fees from 861A Van Reed Road; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to Remove Future Recycling Fees from 800 Van Reed Road- Mr. Potts stated that there is no longer a home there. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve removing future recycling fees from 800 Van Reed Road; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of Police Department One Year Contract Extension- Mr. Potts informed the Board that nothing has changed in the contract. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Police Department one-year contract extension; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion of Reading Fair Request for Relay for Life Event in 2021- Mr. Potts informed the Board that the Reading Fair would like to host this overnight event and the current ordinance doesn't allow for overnight stays except during the Reading Fair for animal care and security purposes. The Reading Fair would like to have a side agreement with the Township for this event only. The Supervisors expressed their opinions as to why this shouldn't be allowed.

Discussion of 2020 Trick or Treat Night- The Supervisors and Kevin Hinkle expressed their opinions about not endorsing Trick or Treat Night for 2020. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Township not endorsing Trick or Treat night for 2020; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. NO: Mr. Tobias. Motion carried.

Discussion of Leesport Boundary Relocation Request- Marty Goetz from the Leesport Borough Council stated that the Borough would like to have the Schuylkill Valley Library back in their Borough and provided reasons for this request. Atty. Dietrich explained the process and that it would take considerable time and expense. Mr. Morey also stated there would be engineering costs as well. Mrs. Reed asked if a committee had been formed and was told no. Solomon Lausch expressed his opinion. Mr. Potts suggested a committee be formed for further discussion.

Discussion of the 2021 Budget Draft- After discussion it was decided that the Supervisors will have a budget draft workshop to discuss the budget. Mrs. Reed requested that the Board members send their available dates to Mr. Potts.

Mr. Eveland asked what was happening with the gate closures at the recycling center. Mr. Potts stated that Atty. Mooney recommended not entering into the agreement. The Solid Waste Authority was looking into finding another person. Mr. Eveland also asked if there was going to

be any discussion on the parking space requirements and Mr. Potts said it will occur when the meeting return to in-person format.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Solomon Lausch from the Schuylkill Valley Library thanked the Township for their continued support.

Sharon Henke questioned the Wayne Street vacation due to not being able to hear the meeting correctly. Mr. Potts explained why this is being done.

Mrs. Reed stated that the next meeting will be held Monday, November 2, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Eveland made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane DeJesus,
Secretary/Treasurer

**TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

November 2, 2020

SUPERVISORS MEETING

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Irene Reed, Chairman
Brian Eveland, Supervisor
Jeff Thompson, Supervisor
Daniel Tobias, Supervisor
Dr. Boyd Wagner III, Supervisor

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

CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM by teleconference, which was advertised in the Reading Eagle.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Eveland moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, which included the minutes of the October 6, 2020 Supervisors Meeting and to accept the finance report, subject to audit and approve payment of bills on the list, seconded by Dr. Wagner. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Balances as of November 2, 2020: General Fund: \$1,971,811.73, State Account: \$546,842.30, PLGIT: \$67,012.04, Certificate of Deposits: \$545,887.95, Expenses: \$48,289.38. Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

PUBLIC SAFETY & SERVICES

Emergency Management

Discussion/ Approval to Accept Berks County Care Act Grant Contract- Mr. Potts informed the Board the grant is for items related to COVID-19 and the Township will be reimbursed \$3,152.24. Mr. Potts requested a motion for approval to allow him to sign the contract. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve Mr. Potts signing the Berks County Care Act Grant Contract; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Police Department

Discussion/ Approval to Assign Fire Police to the Kris Kringle Run December 27, 2020- Mrs. Reed requested a motion for approval for fire police for the Kris Kringle Run on December 27, 2020. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve the fire police request; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Planning Commission

Discussion/ Approval of Grandview Estates Preliminary Plan- Mr. Potts stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval conditioned on the October 1, 2020 SSM review letter. Mr. Potts also informed the Board that there had been some confusion at the Planning Commission meeting because Mr. Morey's letter stated that a deed restriction on the plan will prohibit further subdivision of the lots. Mr. Potts explained that, after reviewing the minutes, it was determined that the Supervisors had approved the Lot Width to Depth Ratio Waiver for the plan at the October 6, 2020 meeting without the contingency of deed restrictions so the restriction could not be put in place as Mr. Morey had recommended. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Grandview Estates Preliminary Plan without the recommendation of a note being added to the plan on deed restriction; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of Reading Behavioral Health Escrow Release- Mr. Potts informed the Board that Reading Behavioral Health requested the remainder of their escrow be released. Mr. Morey did an analysis and recommended an amount of \$55,000.00 be released leaving a remaining balance of \$0.00. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Reading Behavioral Health Escrow Release; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of Holiday Village Revision to the Final Plan Waiver Request- Mr. Potts stated that this request involves a small revision to the Holiday Village Phase 2 Final Plan because the developer would like to relocate buildings 4 and 5 slightly. Mr. Potts also stated that an As-Built plan will be recorded with the Final Plan if the Supervisors approve the waiver request. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve the Holiday Village Revision to the Final Plan Waiver Request; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the G&T Industries Stormwater Agreement- Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the G&T Industries Stormwater Agreement; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the G&T Industries Traffic Impact Fee Agreement- Mr. Potts informed the Board that since G&T Industries is essentially moving across the street that there is a possibility there will be no change in traffic. Atty. Mooney explained that the agreement states that G&T Industries will pay a traffic impact fee based upon the approximate volumes at the existing Township facility and that after the building is fully operational they will have another traffic study done to determine if there needs to be a change to the current traffic impact fee. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the G&T Industries Traffic Impact Fee Agreement; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of G&T Industries Municipal Improvements Agreement- Mr. Potts stated that Mr. Morey had not reviewed the escrow analysis yet and requested a motion for approval of the agreement subject to the engineer and solicitor reviews. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the G&T Industries Municipal Improvements Agreement subject to the engineer and solicitor reviews; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion of Trinity Church of God Mercer Street Access Request- Atty. Mark Koch spoke on behalf of the Trinity Church of God. Atty. Koch stated that the Church is re-evaluating a smaller place of worship with less than 300 people and is requesting to use Mercer Street as a limited emergency access. Atty. Mooney stated that the Township did not have any right to say that the Church could utilize Mercer Street because it has never been improved and dedicated to the Township or maintained by the Township. Atty. Mooney stated that the Church would have to pursue an easement with the adjoining property owners.

Time Extensions

Grandview Estates Preliminary Plan- Not needed.

ROADS

Discussion/ Approval to Accept Road Department Resignation- Mr. Potts stated that Mr. Klumpp has put in his two weeks' notice and requested a motion to approve accepting his resignation. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve accepting the road department resignation; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to Fill Vacated Road Department Position- Mr. Potts requested a motion to approve hiring a full-time road crew employee to fill the vacated position. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve hiring a full-time road department employee; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the G&T Industries Stormwater Agreement- Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the G&T Industries Stormwater Agreement; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the G&T Industries Traffic Impact Fee Agreement- Mr. Potts informed the Board that since G&T Industries is essentially moving across the street that there is a possibility there will be no change in traffic. Atty. Mooney explained that the agreement states that G&T Industries will pay a traffic impact fee based upon the approximate volumes at the existing Township facility and that after the building is fully operational they will have another traffic study done to determine if there needs to be a change to the current traffic impact fee. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the G&T Industries Traffic Impact Fee Agreement; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of G&T Industries Municipal Improvements Agreement- Mr. Potts stated that Mr. Morey had not reviewed the escrow analysis yet and requested a motion for approval of the agreement subject to the engineer and solicitor reviews. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the G&T Industries Municipal Improvements Agreement; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion of Trinity Church of God Mercer Street Access Request- Atty. Mark Koch spoke on behalf of the Trinity Church of God. Atty. Koch stated that the Church is re-evaluating a smaller place of worship with less than 300 people and is requesting to use Mercer Street as a limited emergency access. Atty. Mooney stated that the Township did not have any right to say that the Church could utilize Mercer Street because it has never been improved and dedicated to the Township or maintained by the Township. Atty. Mooney stated that the Church would have to pursue an easement with the adjoining property owners.

Time Extensions

Grandview Estates Preliminary Plan- Not needed.

ROADS

Discussion/ Approval to Accept Road Department Resignation- Mr. Potts stated that Mr. Klumpp has put in his two weeks' notice and requested a motion to approve accepting his resignation. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve accepting the road department resignation; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to Fill Vacated Road Department Position- Mr. Potts requested a motion to approve hiring a full-time road crew employee to fill the vacated position. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve hiring a full-time road department employee; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to Fill Vacated Road Department Position- Mr. Potts informed the Supervisors that Mr. Klumpp would be available for part-time employment on weekends and requested a motion to approve hiring him as a part-time employee to help with snow removal. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve hiring Mr. Klumpp part-time for the road department; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION

The next Supervisors meeting will be held December 1, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Auchenbach spoke about truck traffic on Leisz's Bridge Road and weight restrictions being put in place. Mr. Potts explained the steps it would take to restrict trucks from the road. Atty. Mooney stated that truck scales would be needed in order to prove a truck was not in compliance.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane DeJesus,
Secretary/Treasurer

**TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

December 1, 2020

SUPERVISORS MEETING

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Irene Reed, Chairman
Brian Eveland, Supervisor
Jeff Thompson, Supervisor
Daniel Tobias, Supervisor
Dr. Boyd Wagner III, Supervisor

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

CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM by teleconference, which was advertised in the Reading Eagle.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Eveland moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, which included the minutes of the November 2, 2020 Supervisors Meeting and to accept the finance report, subject to audit and approve payment of bills on the list, seconded by Mr. Thompson. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

Balances as of December 1, 2020: General Fund: \$1,663,473.22, State Account: \$546,951.21, PLGIT: \$67,019.86, Certificate of Deposits: \$545,887.95, Expenses: \$164,027.01. Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

PUBLIC SAFETY & SERVICES

Emergency Management

Discussion/ Approval of the Recovery Commission Activities- Mr. Potts informed the Board that Penn State Health would like to use the old Meridian Bank location to open up a COVID 19 testing site and later a possible vaccination site. Mr. Potts stated that the location is not zoned for that particular use, but section 13/16A of the code allows a recovery commission to allow local emergency declaration permit use. Mr. Potts also stated that LTL would need to perform a safety and fire marshal inspection and that there could not be any other type of use permitted. Mr. Thompson asked if time limits could be set so that the subject could be revisited. Atty. Hawes stated that the emergency management committee or the Board can permit use during an emergency declaration or state declaration. Mr. Tobias expressed concerns about traffic. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the zoning exemption for Penn State Health coinciding with the state emergency declaration contingent upon them working with the Township to create an acceptable traffic flow resolution; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Police Department

Discussion/ Approval of Detective Training- Chief Waugh requested a motion for approval to send Detective Sergeant Brett Forry to attend training in the Reid Technique of Investigative Interviewing and Advanced Interrogation Techniques February 2, 2021 through February 5, 2021. The cost of the training is \$575.00 and funding exists at line item 410.460. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the detective training request; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of Disposition of 2014 Dodge Charger Sedan- Chief Waugh stated that the vehicle has approximately 96,790 miles and that although the vehicle has a new engine installed it has required many recent repairs. Chief Waugh requested a motion for approval to list the vehicle on Municibid. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve listing the 2014 Dodge Charger Sedan on Municibid, Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to Accept \$200 Donation to the Police Equipment Fund- Chief Waugh requested a motion to approve accepting a \$200.00 donation for the Police Equipment Fund. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve accepting the donation; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to Hire a Police Officer- Chief Waugh informed the Board that he has received a letter of resignation from Officer Angela Seiler effective December 9, 2020. Chief Waugh went over the costs involved with the hiring process and requested a motion to hire a Police Officer. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve hiring a Police Officer; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Planning Commission

Discussion/ Approval to Refund Building Permit Fee to 1112 Fairview Drive- Mr. Potts explained that the owners requested a refund in the amount of \$75.00 because LTL determined a permit was not needed, but the check has already been deposited. Mr. Thompson made a motion to refund the \$75.00 permit application fee; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the G&T Industries Stormwater Agreement- Mr. Potts stated that the Supervisors had approved the agreement last month and that Atty. Mooney prepared it, but the Township had not received G&T's attorney's comments. Mr. Potts informed the Board that the comments have been received, Atty. Mooney has reviewed the comments and the agreement must be adjusted slightly. Mr. Tobias made a motion to approve the G&T Industries Stormwater Agreement conditioned on Atty. Mooney's new agreement; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the G&T Industries Traffic Impact Fee Agreement- Mr. Potts informed the Board that the situation is the same for the Traffic Impact Fee Agreement as the Stormwater Agreement. Mr. Tobias made a motion to approve the G&T Industries Traffic Impact Fee Agreement conditioned upon Atty. Mooney's new agreement; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ROADS

Discussion/ Approval to Accept Bid for 5 Ton Dump Truck- Mr. Potts stated that the highest bid for the dump truck was \$10,290.00 and requested a motion for approval to accept the bid. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve accepting the \$10,290.00 bid for the dump truck; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to Accept Bid for Paving Machine- Mr. Potts stated that the highest bid for the paver was \$2,050.00 and requested a motion for approval to accept the bid. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve accepting the \$2,050.00 bid for the paver; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION

Discussion/ Approval to Ratify Advertisement of 2021 Budget- Mr. Potts stated that the 2021 Budget was advertised on November 19, 2020 for the December 17, 2020 Budget Meeting at 7:30PM and requested that the Board approve a motion to ratify the advertisement. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve ratifying the advertisement of 2021 Budget; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of the Animal Rescue League Agreement for 2021- Mr. Potts explained that the new 2021 agreement with the Animal Rescue League is the same as 2020 and based on Per Capita at a cost of \$1.00 per person. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve accepting the Animal Rescue League Agreement; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval to Purchase Police Car for 2021- Mr. Potts requested a motion to approve the purchase of one new police car now and delay the approval of a second police car until later in 2021 if it is determined that revenues are coming in sufficiently. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the purchase of one police car for 2021; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of Uniformed Pension Plan COLA-Mr. Potts stated that this is for an optional 1.3% cost of living increase for the retired police officers. Mr. Eveland asked what the current status is of the pension plan and Mr. Potts stated that the plan is in Distress Level 2. The Board did not take action.

Discussion/Approval to Advertise 2021 Meeting Dates- Mr. Potts stated that Mrs. Dejesus has prepared the dates and they will be advertised as in-person or virtually to allow flexibility. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve advertising the 2021 Meeting Dates; Dr. Wagner seconded YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

2021 Re-Organization Meeting: Monday, January 4, 2021 at 6:30 PM.

Next Supervisor's meeting will be held on January 4, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Wagner made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane DeJesus,
Secretary/Treasurer



**TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

December 17, 2020

SUPERVISORS MEETING

SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Irene Reed, Chairman
Brian Eveland, Supervisor
Jeff Thompson, Supervisor
Daniel Tobias, Supervisor
Dr. Boyd Wagner III, Supervisor

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Potts, Township Manager
Diane DeJesus, Secretary/Treasurer
Kent Morey, Engineer

CALL TO ORDER-PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Reed called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM by teleconference, which was advertised in the Reading Eagle.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Wagner moved to approve the Consent Agenda, which included the payment of bills on the list as presented, subject to audit; seconded by Mr. Thompson. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Discussion/ Approval to Assign Fire Police to Funeral Services Event on December 19, 2020- Mr. Potts requested a motion for approval for fire police for funeral services for Chief Fox on December 19, 2020. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the fire police request; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to Assign Fire Police to Penn State Health Covid Testing Operation on December 21, 2020- Mr. Potts requested a motion for approval for fire police for the relocation of the Penn State Health Covid testing operation to the old Meridian Bank site on December 21, 2020.

Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the fire police request; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of Payment to Resigned Police Officer for Time After Resignation- Mr. Potts stated that during her last week of service Officer Seiler handled two serious cases that will require her to attend the hearings and that Atty. Mooney said that Officer Seiler should be paid straight time for the hearings. Dr. Wagner made a motion to pay Officer Seiler straight time for the hearings; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ZONING

Discussion/ Approval to Send Solicitor to the Misco Zoning Hearing on January 19, 2021- Mr. Steve Tricarico from the Bern Township Planning Commission expressed concerns over the zoning hearing because two out of the three variances that Misco is seeking have not been brought in front of the planning commission for discussion and that he is concerned about run off and sediment. Mr. Morey stated that he agreed that the steep slope area variance isn't really a concern, but the concerns about the open space variance and MS4 are legitimate. Mr. Morey stated that less open space could possibly be considered if additional stormwater controls are provided. Mr. Potts asked Atty. Dietrich if this request could be made by Atty. Mooney at the zoning hearing. Atty. Dietrich recommended speaking to the developer prior to the zoning hearing. Mr. Potts will speak with the developer and the topic will be revisited at the January 4, 2021 Supervisors meeting.

Discussion of Proposed Agreement with Leesport Borough for Certain Properties Within Bern Township- Mr. Potts stated that the committee for the library properties had met virtually to discuss Leesport's request that Bern Township allow Leesport to be able to regulate the properties. Atty. Mooney stated that all could be relinquished except zoning. Mr. Potts also stated that the library would be building an addition, but that it would not be on any portion of property located in Bern Township. After Supervisor discussion, Dr. Wagner made a motion to continue discussions with Leesport Borough conditioned on the grant funds being used and the properties remaining the library's properties and or the Leesport Borough; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Discussion of Hiring a Contractor for Snow Plowing- Mr. Potts informed the Board that Steve Edwards contacted a contractor about the possibility of supplementing the road crew for plowing at a rate of \$105.00 per hour. After Supervisor discussion Mr. Eveland made a motion to preauthorize Mr. Potts to hire a contractor if needed with a maximum rate of \$125.00 per hour; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION

Discussion/ Approval of 2021 General Budget- Mr. Potts stated that the 2021 Budget was complete with an amount of \$4,602,825.00 and there will not be a tax increase. Dr. Wagner made

a motion to accept the 2021 Budget; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

2021 Re-Organization Meeting: Monday, January 4, 2021 at 6:30 PM.

Next Supervisor's meeting will be held on January 4, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Eveland made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 PM; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane DeJesus,
Secretary/Treasurer