

TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

January 4, 2021

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, Codes 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 December 1, 2020 Supervisors Meeting and the December 17, 2020 Special Meeting 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 January I, 2021: General Fund: \$1,815,646.24, State Account: \$546,996.61, PLGIT: \$67,019.86, Certificate of Deposits: \$545,887.95, Expenses: \$30,854.29. Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mrs. Reed opened the public hearing on the Wayne Street Vacation Ordinance. Mr. Potts stated that Atty. Mooney has prepared the ordinance for Wayne Street that connects Tully Lane and South Tulpehocken Road to Mercer Street in the City of Reading. Mr. Potts also stated that Atty. Mooney sent out letters to the residents affected by the ordinance and advertised the public hearing and it

has also been posted on the Township front door. Mrs. Reed opened the floor for public comment. No public comment. Mrs. Reed closed the public hearing.

ORDINANCES / RESOLUTIONS

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

Discussion / Approval of Subdivision and Land Development Plan Review Fee Resolution- Mr. Potts explained that the fee and escrow fee has not changed since 2002 and costs have increased for legal and engineering charges. Mr. Potts also informed the Board that the fee would be 10% of the escrow amount and that it will be used to cover administration costs exclusively and it will not be replenished when the developer is asked to replenish their escrow account. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Subdivision and Land Development Plan Review Fee Resolution; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried

Discussion / Approval of Police Pension Resolution- Mr. Potts stated that this is for a 5% contribution per their contract. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Police Pension Resolution; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried

Discussion / Approval of Keystone Communities Enterprise Zone Resolution- Mr. Potts informed the Board that the Keystone Communities Enterprise Zone provides opportunities for businesses without impacting the Township. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Keystone Communities Enterprise Zone; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried

Discussion / Approval of Zoning and Building Permit Fee Resolution- Mr. Potts went over the changes. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Zoning and Building Permit Fee Resolution; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SAFETY & SERVICES

Emergency Management

Discussion / Approval to Ratify Snow Emergency Declaration- Mr. Potts informed the Board that a snow emergency had been declared December 15, 2020 and requested that the Board approve a motion to ratify the Snow Emergency Declaration. Dr. Wagner made a motion to ratify the Snow Emergency Declaration; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Police Department

Discussion of Creating an Ordinance to Regulate Vehicles Parked on Public Streets- Chief Waugh informed the Board that Officer Mazza suggested an ordinance to make it unlawful for a motor vehicle to be parked on a street or highway unless it has a current registration and inspection

and that a \$25.00 parking ticket would be issued. Chief Waugh stated that he will create a first draft and Atty. Mooney will finalize it. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve an Ordinance to Regulate Vehicles Parked on Public Streets; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion / Approval to Appoint Officer to BCERT Negotiations Team- Chief Waugh requested a motion to approve appointed Officer Joshua Santos to the Berks County Emergency Response (BCERT) Negotiations Team. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve appointing Officer Joshua Santos BCERT Negotiations Team; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

PLANNING/ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT

Discussion / Approval of Willow Hollow Golf Course Land Development Waiver- Mr. Potts informed the Board that the Willow Hollow Golf Course is requesting a land development waiver and the Planning Commission recommended a limited sketch plan with stormwater calculations. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Willow Hollow Golf Course Land Development Waiver; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion / Approval of the Eagle Brass Escrow Release- Mr. Potts stated that Mr. Morey did an escrow analysis and recommends a release of \$16,036.00 with a remaining balance of \$54,001.53. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve releasing \$16,036.00 from the Eagle Brass Escrow; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion / Approval of 1508 Fairview Drive Stormwater Agreement- Mr. Potts informed the Board that Mr. Morey did a review and Atty. Mooney prepared the agreement, but the developer asked for three waivers. Mr. Potts informed the Board waivers were requested for Section 149-12. B, Section 149-22. A(5)(a) and Section 149-22. A(5)(b). Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Stormwater Waiver Requests; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the 1508 Fairview Drive Stormwater Agreement; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion of Commercial Parking Requirements- The Supervisors discussed the topic and decided to delay a decision until the Planning Commission can provide feedback.

Discussion / Approval to Send Solicitor to Zoning Hearing on January 19, 2021- Mr. Potts stated that Misco is seeking variances for the minimum lot open space requirement and off street parking requirements. Mr. Morey recommended another .4 acres be added into the proposed stormwater management system which will force them to have more volume capacity. Mr. Potts suggested an agreement be proposed based upon Mr. Morey's recommendation. Atty. Mooney stated that he will seek a condition with the developer with regards to stormwater and if the developer is agreeable the Township would not oppose their variance request. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve sending the Solicitor to the Zoning Hearing if necessary; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion / Approval to Send Solicitor to Burkey Development Zoning Hearing on January 19, 2021- Atty. Mooney informed the Board that the lot is split naturally by Stinson Drive and that the developer is only proposing to develop the portion of the property in the Limited Industrial zone. Mr. Potts stated that Burkey is seeking a variance from parking space requirements and also from building height restrictions on the commercial property only. Atty. Mooney stated that the developer is calculating based on warehouse usage and is requesting to reduce the parking spaces from 1360 to 720 spaces. The Supervisors asked questions and expressed their concerns. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve sending the solicitor to the Burkey Development Zoning Hearing; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Discussion / Approval to Hire Road Department Members- Mr. Potts recommended the Board make a motion to approve hiring Kevin Cogan for the full-time road crew position with a tentative start date of January 25, 2021 with a six-month probationary period. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve hiring Kevin Cogan for the full-time road crew position; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Mr. Potts recommended the Board make a motion to approve hiring Dennis La Faver for the part-time road crew position. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve hiring Dennis La Faver for the part-time road crew position; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION

Discussion of At Will Employee Salaries- Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve giving the At-Will Employees a 3% Salary Increase; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

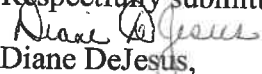
Next Supervisor's meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane DeJesus,
Secretary/Treasurer

Bern Township Reorganization Meeting

January 4, 2021

Mrs. Reed called the Bern Township Board of Supervisors Reorganization Meeting to order at 6:30 PM via Microsoft Teams Virtual Meetings and Mrs. Diane Dejesus, Secretary/ Treasurer called for nominations for Chairperson. Dr. Wagner nominated Irene Reed as Chairperson; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Vice Chairperson – Dr. Wagner nominated Mr. Thompson for the position of Vice Chairman; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Secretary/Treasurer - Dr. Wagner nominated Mrs. DeJesus for the position of Secretary/Treasurer; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer - Dr. Wagner nominated Mr. Potts for the position of Assistant Secretary/Treasurer; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Solicitor - Dr. Wagner nominated Barley Snyder for the position of Solicitor; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Engineer - Dr. Wagner nominated SSM Group for the position of Engineer; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Manager – Dr. Wagner nominated Mr. Potts for the position of Manager; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Road Master - Dr. Wagner nominated Mr. Potts for the position of Road Master; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Assistant Road Foreman - Dr. Wagner nominated Steve Edwards for the position of Assistant Road Foreman; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Building Inspector/Zoning Officer/Code Enforcement Officer - Dr. Wagner nominated LTL Consultants for the position of Building Inspector/Zoning Officer/Code Enforcement Officer; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Sewage Enforcement Officer - Dr. Wagner nominated Berks Envirotech for the position of Sewage Enforcement Officer; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Vacancy Board Chairman - Dr. Wagner nominated Mr. Craig Priebe for the position of Vacancy Board Chairman; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Emergency Management Coordinator - Dr. Wagner nominated Mr. Kevin Hinkle for the position of Emergency Management Coordinator; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator - Dr. Wagner nominated Megan Young for the position of Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Delegate for the State Convention - Dr. Wagner nominated Mr. Jeff Thompson for the position of Delegate for the State Convention; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

State Convention - Dr. Wagner nominated Mr. Potts for the State Convention; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Tax Claim Bureau for Collection of Delinquent Taxes - Dr. Wagner made a motion to appoint Berks County Tax Claim Bureau for Collection of Delinquent Taxes; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Earned Income Tax - Dr. Wagner made a motion to appoint Berks EIT; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Local Services Tax Collector - Dr. Wagner nominated Berks EIT for the Local Services Tax Collector; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Pension Chief Administrator - Dr. Wagner nominated Mrs. Irene Reed for the Pension Chief Administrator; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Chief Administrator Officer for the Police Pension - Dr. Wagner nominated Mr. Brian Eveland for Chief Administrator Officer for the Police Pension; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Depository - Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve Vist, PLGIT & others for the position of Depository; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Fire Marshall - Dr. Wagner nominated Officer Christian Lengel for Fire Marshall; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Assistant Fire Marshall - Dr. Wagner nominated LTL Consultants for Assistant Fire Marshall; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Garbage Collection Rate - Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Garbage Collection Rate be set at \$199.00 per residence per year; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Recycling Collection Rate - Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Recycling Collection Rate be set at \$71.00 per residence per year; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Light District Rate - Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Light District Rate be set at \$0.50 per front foot; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Wireless Facility Annual License Fee - Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Wireless Facility Annual License Fee be set at \$750.00 on a Township Pole and \$600 on their pole; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Amusement Tax Administrator - Dr. Wagner nominated Mrs. DeJesus for the Amusement Tax Administrator; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Tax Discount and Penalty Ordinance - Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve a 2% discount and 10% penalty for the Tax Discount and Penalty Ordinance; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Zoning Hearing Fees - Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve \$1,800 Residential and \$2,000 Commercial for the Zoning Hearing Fees; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Conditional Use Hearing Fees - Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve \$1,800 Residential and \$2,000 Commercial for the Conditional Use Hearing Fees; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Code Appeals Hearing Fees - Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve \$1,000 for the Code Appeals Hearing Fees; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Special Event Permit Fees - Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve \$50 for the Special Event Permit Fees; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Police Pension Fund Contribution - Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve 5% for the Police Pension Fund Contribution; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Meeting Dates and Times - Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve the Meeting Dates and Times be the first Tuesday at 7:00 PM; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Consultant Rate Schedules - Dr. Wagner made a motion that the Consultant Rate Schedules be approved as submitted; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Municipal Authority (5-year term) - Dr. Wagner nominated Mrs. Danielle Pappas for the Municipal Authority (5-year term); Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Planning Commission (4-year term) - Dr. Wagner nominated Mr. Russell Adams for Planning Commission (4-year term); Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Planning Commission (4-year term) – Tabled until next month.

Planning Commission Alternate (4-year term) – Dr. Wagner nominated Mr. James Coleflesh for the Planning Commission Alternate (4-year term); Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Zoning Hearing Board (4-year term) - Dr. Wagner nominated Mr. Barry Kauffman for Zoning Hearing Board (4-year term); Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Zoning Hearing Board Alternate (1-year term) – Dr. Wagner nominated Mr. Michael McDermott for Zoning Hearing Board Alternate (1-year term); Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Zoning Hearing Board Alternate (2-year term) – Tabled until next month.

Recreation Board (4-year term) - Dr. Wagner nominated Ms. Lisa Priebe for Recreation Board (4-year term); Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Code Appeals Board (3-year term) - Dr. Wagner nominated Mr. Antonio DeJesus for Code Appeals Board (3-year term); Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Solid Waste Advisory Commission (3-year term) - Dr. Wagner nominated Mr. Alan Taylor for the Solid Waste Advisory Commission (3-year term); Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Solid Waste Advisory Commission (3-year term) - Tabled until next month.

Solid Waste Advisory Commission (3-year term) - Tabled until next month.

Auditor (2-year term)- Tabled until next month.

The Reorganizational Meeting was adjourned at 6:53 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane DeJesus
Secretary/Treasurer

