

**TOWNSHIP OF BERN
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

March 2, 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
Emma Rose Boyle, 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

Dr. Wagner moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, which included the minutes of the February 2, 2021 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 March 2, 2021: General Fund: \$1,507,373.86, State Account: \$573,054.05, PLGIT: \$67,034.07, Certificate of Deposits: \$545,887.95, Expenses: \$89,118.19. Treasurer's Report accepted subject to audit.

ORDINANCES / RESOLUTIONS

Discussion/ Approval to Advertise Traffic Regulation Ordinance- Mr. Potts explained that the ordinance would prevent parking, stopping or standing on Leiszcz's Bridge Road, between Van Reed Road and Arnold Road, U-turns on Route 183, between the Route 222 southbound ramp and the northern entrance to Suburban Road and allow the police department to issue tickets for unregistered or uninspected vehicles parked on public streets. Mr. Tobias made a motion to

approve advertising Traffic Regulation Ordinance; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of Price Adjustment Resolution for 2021 Road Project Contract #1- Mr. Potts informed the Board that this resolution will restrict contractors from increasing the Seal Coat Contract price if the cost of liquid asphalt increases. Dr. Wagner made a motion to approve Price Adjustment Resolution for 2021 Road Project Contract #1; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

PUBLIC SAFETY & SERVICES

Emergency Management

Discussion / Approval of the Pandemic Response Plan- Bern Township Pandemic Officer, Kevin Hinkle, prepared the document. Mr. Hinkle stated that the plan can be modified as needed. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Pandemic Response Plan; Dr. Wagner seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of the Points Distribution Standard Operating Procedures- Mr. Potts informed the Board that Mr. Hinkle developed a procedural plan in case the Township had to distribute vaccines or commodities. Mr. Hinkle stated that the plan is a scalable foundation that can be modified depending on the situation. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Pandemic Response Plan; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion / Approval to Ratify Snow Emergency Proclamation- Mr. Potts requested that the Board approve a motion to ratify the Snow Emergency Declaration declared February 18, 2021. 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 to Purchase Second Police Car- Chief Waugh informed the Board that the deadline to purchase a second police car would occur on April 1, 2021 for Durango's and May 1, 2021 for Chargers. Chief Waugh also expressed concerns over the possibility that orders will stop being accepted prior to those dates and requested approval to purchase a new Dodge Charger. Mr. Potts stated that the budget was done with the possibility that real estate tax may not be available due to mortgage payment deferrals and that the budget had been approved with delaying the purchase of a second police car. After Supervisor discussion, Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the purchase of a second police car; 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 Willow Hollow Lot Line Waiver-Section 154-18.B(4)- Mr. Potts informed the Board that the planning commission recommended approval of the waiver. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Willow Hollow Lot Line Waiver-Section 154-18.B(4);

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

Discussion / Approval of Willow Hollow Environmental and Historic Resource Studies Waiver-Section 154-18.C(1)(a) through (d)- Mr. Potts informed the Board that the planning commission recommended approval of the Willow Hollow Environmental and Historic Resource Studies Waiver-Section 154-18.C(1)(a) through (d) conditioned upon a note being added to the plan stating that if evidence of archaeological resources is discovered during construction, the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission will be notified and given the opportunity to photograph and remove them. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Willow Hollow Environmental and Historic Resource Studies Waiver-Section 154-18.C(1)(a) through (d) conditioned upon the recommendations of the planning commission; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion / Approval of Willow Hollow Plan Scale Waiver-Section 154-19.A- Mr. Potts informed the Board that the planning commission recommended approval of the waiver. Mr. Tobias made a motion to approve the Willow Hollow Plan Scale Waiver-Section 154-19.A; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion / Approval of Willow Hollow Storm Sewer Waiver-Section 149-22.C(2)- Mr. Potts informed the Board that the planning commission recommended approval of the waiver. Mr. Tobias made a motion to approve the Willow Hollow Storm Sewer Waiver-Section 149-22.C(2); Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion / Approval of Willow Hollow Sketch Plan for Record- Mr. Potts informed the Board that the planning commission recommended approval of Willow Hollow Sketch Plan for Record conditioned on the February 5, 2021 SSM review letter. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the Willow Hollow Sketch Plan for Record conditioned on the February 5, 2021 SSM review letter; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion / Approval of SUNCAP Plan Scale Waiver-Section 154-19.A- Mr. Potts informed the Board that the planning commission recommended approval of the waiver except the scale of 1" = 120 feet. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the SUNCAP Plan Scale Waiver-Section 154-19.A except for the 1" = 120 feet; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion / Approval of SUNCAP Location Map Scale Waiver-Section 154-19.C(6)- Mr. Potts informed the Board that the planning commission recommended approval of the waiver. Mr. Tobias make a motion to approve the SUNCAP Location Map Scale Waiver-Section 154-19.C(6); Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion of BCIDA Proposed Commercial Parking Regulation Ordinance- Mr. Jeremy Zaborowski from BCIDA spoke about the Township's current commercial parking ordinance and presented a recommendation that was developed by BCIDA, GBDF and Burkey Development

Group. Mr. Potts recommended that the planning commission and consultants should review the recommendations before a decision is made.

Time Extensions

Perfetto Sketch Plan for Record (3/16/2021)- Mr. Potts stated that a letter has been received from John Hoffert wishing to formally withdraw the plan from review. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the withdrawal of the Perfetto Sketch Plan for Record; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Discussion/ Approval to Hire Road Department Candidate- Mr. Potts recommended Gary Bechtel for the full-time road crew position conditioned upon him obtaining his Class A license during his six-month probationary period. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve hiring Gary Bechtel for the full-time road crew position conditioned upon him obtaining his Class A license during his six-month probationary period; Mr. Thompson seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval to Purchase Electric Post Driver- Mr. Potts requested a motion to approve the purchase of an electric post driver at the cost of \$2,345.00 for the road crew to install street signs safely. Mr. Eveland made a motion to approve the purchase of the electric post driver; Mr. Tobias seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION

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

Discussion / Approval to Support BCIDA's Grant Application to DCED for the Industrial Sites Reuse Program- Mr. Potts informed the Board that this is a letter of supporting BCIDA's clean-up of the former gun range. Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve supporting BCIDA's grant application to DCED for the Industrial Sites Reuse Program; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Dr. Wagner, Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

Discussion/ Approval of Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with Leesport Borough- Mr. Potts informed the Board that he and Atty. Mooney reviewed the Agreement and part of the agreement states the possibility of asking the Township for amendments to the zoning ordinance. Mr. Potts recommended waiting to allow Att. Mooney time to resolve the issues with the Leesport Borough solicitor.

Next Supervisor's meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 PM; Mr. Eveland seconded. YES: Mr. Eveland, Mr. Tobias, Mr. Thompson and Mrs. Reed. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Respectfully submitted,

Diane DeJesus,
Secretary/Treasurer