

NORTH HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

March 24, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors of North Heidelberg Township was called to order at 7:00 P.M. The pledge of allegiance to the flag followed. Supervisors present were Chairman Mitch Wolfe, Supervisor Pool, and Supervisor Robert Klinger. Also in attendance were Jeff Fiant, Kraft Code Services and Township Secretary Tanya Taatjes.

Minutes – The minutes from the February 24, 2021 BOS meeting and the March 18, 2021 BOS Special meeting were reviewed with no additions or corrections. Chairman Wolfe made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Pool and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – The treasurer's report was provided for review. Chairman Wolfe made a motion that the treasurer's report be accepted as submitted subject to audit. Supervisor Klinger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comments on Agenda Items Only – Supervisor Klinger expressed his opinion about the upcoming roadwork scheduled for North Hill Rd. He does not believe that the Township should be spending the money that is necessary for the proposed repairs. Other residents wanted clarification on the work being done as well as the total overall cost. It was explained that the project has been broken down into three phases, the first of which is scheduled to start in the coming weeks. Bids were opened for phase 1 at the March 18 Special BOS meeting. The lowest bid was \$29,961.00 from Bertolet Construction. The Township has received a grant from BCCD for approximately \$19,000.00. Phase 2 will address improving the driving surface. The lowest estimate received for the phase 2 work was approximately \$67,000. If the township receives a grant from BCCD, using the estimate provided, the cost to the township would be approximately \$18,000. Phase 3 would involve adding a 50 foot cul-de-sac. However, phase 3 is a line item that can be removed. Attorney Haws who represents Supervisor Klinger and recently submitted a RTK request stated that the township has paid over \$33,000 in the last six years on legal and consulting fees. These are fees generated from an ongoing dispute between Supervisor Klinger and Walter Stewart over water runoff from Supervisor Klinger's property purportedly causing damage to North Hill Rd. Zoning Officer Jeff Fiant explained that the township engineer has performed 3 separate inspections on Supervisor Klinger's property along with BCCD. No violations were found, but suggestions were made to fix the clogged pipe that has been determined to be causing the water runoff. Township Solicitor Hartman further explained that there were no violations of state law, but there was a township zoning violation which is currently being addressed by Supervisor Klinger.

There was a discussion on additional upcoming roadwork for 2021, including different options for Grandview Rd. It was further noted that the job of the BOS is to improve infrastructure of the township regardless of individual people.

A motion was made by Chairman Wolfe and seconded by Supervisor Pool to accept the bid from Bertolet Construction in the amount of \$29, 961.00 to complete phase 1 of the North Hill Rd project. Supervisor Klinger opposed. Motion carried.

Tax Collectors Report- The monthly Tax Collector Report was reviewed by Kloma Kalbach. Sitting hours were reviewed. Please contact Kloma if you have not received your tax bill.

Correspondence

- a. Western Berks Ambulance is requesting a donation as part of the anticipated coronavirus relief package. It was tabled until the township actually receives the funds and is clear on how the funds can be spent.
- b. The Township tabled the donation request from the Blue Marsh EMA until more information is received as to how the money is spent by the committee.
- c. Met-Ed will begin helicopter patrol on their transmission lines in the next several days.

Planning Commission – The PC recommended approval to the BOS of the Agricultural Security Area Application submitted by Alice Ann Deanin. The Agricultural Advisory Board met on March 24, 2021 and also recommended approval to the BOS. A motion was made by Chairman Wolfe and seconded by Supervisor Pool to authorize advertising of a public hearing to be held at the April 28, 2021 BOS meeting. The motion carried.

Kraft Code Services Report- There was a complaint about someone possibly living in a camper on a piece of property. It was determined by Jeff Fiant that it was not being lived in. A new permit application was received for solar panels at 184 Old Church Rd. A survey will be required before the permit is issued.

Road Report- The Township is busy replacing delineators and patching potholes. A motion was made by Supervisor Pool and seconded by Chairman Wolfe to submit the application for Phase 2 of the North Hill Rd project. Motion carried. Supervisor Klinger suggested using materials from other roadwork toward the project.

Old Business- None

New Business- None

Solicitor- None

Action Items- A motion was made by Supervisor Pool to replace the gutters on the back on the Township building that were damaged due to ice. The motion was seconded by Chairman Wolfe and the motion carried. Resident Jim Tomanelli suggested getting an estimate for snow guards.

Public Comment- Bernville Fire Company was named the primary fire company for North Heidelberg. It was confirmed by Chief Kissling that the Bernville Fire Company picked up the additional population for workman's compensation purposes. Fire Chief Josh Babura from the Pioneer Hose Company questioned whether or not they could be reimbursed for services provided within the Township since they are not listed as primary. Solicitor Hartman explained that he will need to do further research to determine whether it's the designated primary or who actually provides the services that can seek reimbursement.

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Next Regular Meeting, Wednesday April 28, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

Bills- A motion was made by Chairman Wolfe and seconded by Supervisor Klinger to pay bills and adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:05.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya Taatjes, Secretary

People in attendance:

1. Sheila Stewart
2. Kloma Kalbach
3. Russell Getz
4. Sharon Gruber
5. Charles Haws
6. Leroy Achey
7. Ben Klinger
8. Joan Ferrero
9. George Ferrero
10. Brian Etchberger
11. Lisa Heilman
12. Richard Burkey
13. Shawn Wink
14. John Kalbach
15. LuAnnWolfe
16. Rodney Cimbalista
17. David Hopkins
18. John Kissling
19. Jim Tomanelli
20. David Gingerich
21. Roy Oxenreider
22. Annette Guss
23. Harvey Marshall
24. David Randler
25. Josh Babura
26. Josh Reifsnyder
27. Tony Oxenreider
28. Laura Anne Scheetz

