

NORTH HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

August 26, 2020

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 David Pool and Supervisor Robert Klinger. Also in attendance were Chris Hartman, Township Solicitor, Ryan Rhode, Township Engineer, Jeff Fiant, Kraft Code Services and Township Secretary Tanya Taatjes.

Minutes – The minutes from the July 22, 2020 BOS meeting were reviewed with no additions or corrections. Chairman Wolfe made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Klinger 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 – There were no public comments.

Tax Collectors Report- The monthly Tax Collector Report was reviewed by Kloma Kalbach. The flat rate for county tax bills has been extended until September 30, 2020. The discount period for per capital and school real estate bills ends August 31, 2020. Third installments are due November 30, 2020. The remaining sitting hours were reviewed.

Correspondence

- a. Chairman Wolfe made a motion to donate \$25.00 to the BCCD’s Affiliate Membership program. Supervisor Pool seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- b. Chairman Wolfe reviewed how to properly identify a census taker. The census can also be completed online, by phone, or by mail. For more information, you can visit 2020CENSUS.GOV
- c. The Conrad Weiser Community Pool sent a thank you letter for the Township’s donation. A free one day guest pass was included if anyone is interested.
- d. The Western Berks PC is scheduled to meet Thursday, September 17th at 7PM at the Robesonia Borough Hall to discuss the inclusion of Marion Township in the Joint Zoning. The BOS had previously voted to allow Marion Township to join. Jeff Schatz noted that if Marion Township were to request any changes to the JZO, it would require a review by both the Township engineer and solicitor and suggested that Marion Township incur all fees associated with any potential changes. Solicitor Hartman explained that if there are any changes to the current JZ regulations in addition to the boundary changes, a review would be required. He further explained that a public hearing would be required for each municipality as well as advertising for the ordinance to enact the amendment to the JZO. It’s Solicitor Hartman’s recommendation to have a joint public hearing and a joint advertisement to save money. Chairman Wolfe will be attending the meeting.

- e. The Bernville Community Fire Company will be holding a 100th anniversary open house celebration on Saturday, September 12, 2020 from 12:00-3:00 P.M. It was noted that at the June 24, 2020 BOS meeting that Justin Kiebach was representing the Bernville Community Fire Company and not the Berks County 911 Center.
- f. A request was received by the CW National Honor Society for donations. The request was denied.
- g. The estimated Liquid Fuels allocation for 2021 is \$103,907.78.
- h. The Township received an email from a resident about a possible mail scam. If you receive any mail from the PA Treasury Dept that is not addressed to you, please visit www.uc.pa.gov and follow the proper procedures for reporting fraud and identity theft.

Planning Commission –. The PC meeting scheduled for August 20, 2020 was canceled.

Kraft Code Services Report- 1 electrical permit and 1 mechanical permit were issued.

- a. Building Code Official Jeff Fiant met with Robin Hoch regarding the missing Peaceful Valley Lane sign. The sign is Township property, but the location of the sign is unknown. Mr. Hoch stated that he did not know where the sign is and he did not take the sign down. It was determined that an HOP was never issued for the lane and it is therefore not a legal lane. Chairman Wolfe made a motion to purchase and install a new sign. The sign will need to be placed on the appropriate homeowner's property. Supervisor Klinger seconded the motion and the motion carried. The Township will not have any further involvement in the complaint after the sign has been replaced.

Township resident May Blatt had questions regarding solar panels that are being installed adjacent to her property on Old Church Road. She is concerned that they are not meeting the setback requirements and have encroached on her property. Jeff Fiant met with the contractor, but did not have the permit or sketch plan in hand. He explained that he does not perform surveys, but would be willing to meet with May to determine the property lines.

Road Report- The road crew has been busy mowing grass and patching holes. Township Engineer Rhode recommend only using a PennDOT approved material to remove grass from the cracks in the pavement.

Township resident David Hopkins provided pictures of a section of Charming Forge Road that has been washed out from recent storms. It was explained that it is a state road and PennDOT should be contacted.

New Business- None

Solicitor- None

Old Business-

- a. A draft Zoning Overlay Ordinance was presented at the August 26, 2020 BOS meeting. Solicitor Hartman explained that the existing zoning options aren't reduced by the proposed zoning overlay amendment. It would provide an additional option. The overlay would be an amendment to the current Joint Zoning Ordinance and would need

to be adopted by all the participating Townships. There was a discussion regarding the costs involved to include the overlay as opposed to just rezoning the property. Solicitor Hartman explained that when you amend the zoning map, you must adopt an ordinance amending the zoning map portion of the zoning ordinance. There was also a lengthy discussion about the intent of the overlay district including tax revenue, density, potential subsidized housing and spot zoning. A question was raised over the way that the overlay was drafted and if it could apply to any other places in the Township. The PC has not reviewed the overlay. The PC had previously voted to recommend to the BOS to change the existing zoning to MDR. It was suggested that the PC be given a copy of the draft overlay to review and meet as scheduled on September 17, 2020.

Public Comment- The BCCD is scheduled to meet August 26, 2020 to discuss grant applications. Minor changes were made to the run cards. The EMS list must match. A dive team must be added to the run card that includes Blue Marsh Lake. Two stations were added for liability purposes. A copy of the new run cards were provided. A motion was made by Chairman Wolfe to accept the changes and seconded by Supervisor Klinger. Motion carried.

Next Regular Meeting, Wednesday, September 23, 2020 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 8:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya Taatjes, Secretary

People in attendance:

1. Harold Hoch
2. Walter Stewart
3. LuAnn Wolfe
4. Ken Kiebach
5. John Kissling
6. Donna Terefenko
7. Jeff Schatz
8. John Kalbach
9. Chris Evans
10. Kloma Kalbach
11. Russell Getz
12. Jeff Schlaybach
13. Laura Anne Scheetz
14. May Blatt
15. Dave Hopkins

