

NORTH HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

January 23, 2019

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, Vice Chairman David Pool and Robert Klinger. Also in attendance were, Bethany Emkey, Township Solicitor, Ryan Rhode, Township Engineer, Jeff Fiant, Kraft Codes and Township Secretary Tanya Taatjes.

Minutes – The minutes from the December 26, 2018 BOS meeting and the January 7<sup>th</sup> Reorganization meeting were reviewed with no additions or corrections. Chairman Mitch Wolfe made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Supervisor Robert Klinger seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report – The treasurer’s report was reviewed. Chairman Wolfe made a motion that the treasurer’s report be accepted as submitted. Supervisor Klinger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comments on Agenda Items Only – There were no public comments.

Tax Collectors Report- Township Tax Collector Kloma Kalbach reviewed the December Tax Collector’s Report. Kloma reviewed the 2018 delinquent tax bills and explained the penalty value. Chairman Wolfe motioned to accept the Tax Collector’s Report. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Pool and the motion carried.

Correspondence –

- a. The Township received a letter to join the Countywide UCC Board of Appeals for 2019 for a fee of \$200. Chairman Wolfe explained that The Township is not currently a member and will continue the discussion under the Joint Planning Commission agenda item later in the meeting.
- b. The Township received correspondence that Texas Eastern will be replacing equipment at the Bernville Compressor Station. No time frame was given. A copy of the correspondence is available for review.
- c. The Township received notification from Enbridge that Texas Eastern is scheduled to repair the pipeline and casing under Hill View Rd in June 2019 or thereafter. They will meet with the Road Master to discuss the project, including the possibility of closing the road during the repairs.

Planning Commission –

- a. The January 17<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting was not properly advertised. Therefore, the PC will reorganize at their next publically advertised meeting.

- b. Chairman Wolfe made a motion to accept Jeff Schatz's resignation. Robert Klinger seconded the motion and the motion carried. No reason was provided for the resignation.

Annette Guss expressed interest in filling the PC vacancy. A discussion ensued regarding a potential conflict of interest because of her occupation as a realtor and owner of a property management company. There was also a concern over the diversity of the location of the residents serving on the PC. It was suggested that the Township website address be included on the tax bills rather than sending out a separate postcard as previously discussed. Both Chairman Wolfe and Tax Collector Kalbach will research the idea further. Chairman Wolfe made a motion to table the PC vacancy. Supervisor Pool seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Joint Planning Commission- Chairman Wolfe explained that Heidelberg Township and Womelsdorf Borough have joined together and formed their own UCC Appeals Board. Robesonia Borough and North Heidelberg Township could join. A new intermunicipal agreement approved by ordinance enactment will need to be drawn up if both Heidelberg and Womelsdorf vote to accept Robesonia and North Heidelberg. There will be a onetime fee imposed. Chairman Wolfe made a motion to authorize taking the steps necessary to join the UCC Appeals Board with Heidelberg Township, Womelsdorf Borough and Robesonia Borough. Supervisor Klinger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Solicitor Emkey further explained that if there were an appeal of a decision by the CEO of the Uniform Construction Code (UCC), it would go before the UCC Appeals Board, not the BOS.

#### Kraft Code Services-

- a. Township Engineer Ryan Rhode explained that the concerns regarding the Milestone Bridge appear to be settlement issues in the roadway on the approach to the bridge and not a structural issue. Solicitor Emkey further explained that the maintenance bond has expired. Township Engineer Rhode does not feel that there is a performance issue and recommends allowing settlement to continue for another year or two and then repaving the approach.
- b. Kraft Code Building Code Official Jeff Fiant responded to the complaint regarding the chain link fence in front of 36 Heidel Rd. He explained that the fence does appear to be in violation of section 403(d)7 of the Zoning Ordinance. However, without knowing when the fence was actually installed, both Mr. Fiant and the BOS agreed to not pursue the complaint any further at this time.

Mr. Fiant also addressed the burning complaint by adjoining homeowners on Reider Rd. It was concluded that some prohibited materials had been burned. The Township received a letter dated January 7, 2019 from the homeowner expressing a desire to resolve the ongoing issue. Mr. Fiant met with the homeowner to discuss burning only appropriate materials.

Road Report-

- a. New Tire chains have been purchased for all the trucks and additional salt has been ordered.
- b. The lower panel of the overhead garage door has been replaced.
- c. Road Master Klinger will be meeting with Penn Dot Representative Charlie Paris to discuss the upcoming road project bids which include Graeff, Grandview, and Station Rd. Township Engineer Rhodes is currently working with BCCD on the North Hill Rd project.
- d. One mailbox was hit while plowing snow during the latest storm.
- e. Supervisor Klinger explained that the loft contained Township paperwork and items that will need to be sorted through to ensure proper disposal in the coming months.

Old Business-

- a. A motion was made by Chairman Wolfe to give the Robesonia Library a donation of \$607.00, which was based on \$.50 per capita. Supervisor Klinger seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- b. Chairman Wolfe attended a meeting with BCCPC to discuss the ongoing issues with the proposed ARL contract. He made a motion to table the proposal. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Klinger. Motion carried.

Solicitor Items-

- a. Supervisor Pool made a motion to enact the Tax Collector Fee Ordinance 2019-01. Chairman Wolfe seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- b. There is no update on the Comcast Franchise Renewal Agreement.
- c. Solicitor Emkey explained the Solicitor rates. The Township is charged a reduced Municipal rate of \$165 an hour. No travel time is charged. It was suggested that the fee be included on next year's Fee Resolution.

The Solicitor's office has been contacted by Metropolitan Group with proposed language for a Zoning Ordinance Amendment. Although no response was given by the Solicitor's office, Solicitor Emkey would like to respond that Metropolitan Group follow the proper procedures The Township has in place for Zoning Ordinance Amendments. If an application fee and escrow is received, the requested ordinance amendment will be reviewed by the Township PC and the Joint Planning Commission before any recommendations are made to the BOS.

Action Items- None

Public Comment- A Township resident expressed concerns whether a single family home can be converted in to a two family home and if the proper permits were acquired. BCO Jeff Fiant will investigate at the direction of the BOS.

A question was asked regarding the application fees for the Zoning Hearing Board. Solicitor Emkey will check into comparable fees from other Townships.

John Kissling, Chief of the Bernville Fire Department discussed some of the ongoing issues at Christmas Village, including traffic and response times as well as different ways Christmas Village

has tried to minimize the traffic issues by adding parking and additional entrances. There was also a discussion regarding the proposed Metropolitan Development and the impact the additional traffic would have on the area.

Mr. Tomanelli was informed that he will need to provide a written request for the release of his escrow funds.

Jeff Fiant reiterated his findings from the burning complaint. Township resident Bob Barshinger requested to review the CD that was provided to Kraft Code Services. Solicitor Emkey explained that the CD is exempted from disclosure because it is a record of a non-criminal investigation. Mr. Barshinger explained that if another complaint is filed, he will file charges in return. It was agreed that the BOS would discuss the matter further with Mr. Fiant and Solicitor Emkey before any information is released under the Right to Know Law.

A copy of the Ordinance 2009-1 was provided to Chief Kissling.

Bills- A motion was made by Chairman Wolfe and seconded by Supervisor Klinger to pay bills and adjourn. Motion carried.

Next Regular Meeting, February 27, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanya Taatjes, Secretary

People in attendance:

1. Barry Goodhart
2. George Ferrero
3. Annette Guss
4. Marge Rumbaugh
5. Walter Stewart
6. Jim Reazor
7. LuAnn Wolfe
8. Jim Tomanelli
9. Kloma Kalbach
10. John Kalbach
11. Sharon Gruber
12. Laura Anne Scheetz
13. J David Lange Jr
14. Roy Oxenreider
15. Russ Getz
16. Jeff Schlaybach
17. Randy Lutz
18. Bob Barshinger

