

FERGUSON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Regular Meeting
Monday, December 9, 2019
7:00 PM

I. ATTENDANCE

The Board of Supervisors held its second regular meeting of the month on Monday, December 9, 2019, at the Ferguson Township Municipal Building. In attendance were:

Board: Steve Miller
Richard Killian
Laura Dininni
Lisa Strickland
Ford Stryker

Staff: Dave Pribulka, Township Manager
Dave Modricker, Public Works Director
Jenna Wargo, Director of Planning & Zoning
Chris Albright, Chief of Police
Eric Endresen, Director of Finance

Others in attendance included: Faith Norris, Recording Secretary; Savannah Barry; Kelly Beck; Shawn Chen; Matt Millan; Dan Milton; Jim Steff, Center Region COG; Pam Salokangas, Centre Region COG; Jim Carpenter, Centre Region COG; Robyn Froehlich, Stahl Sheaffer; and Jeremie Thompson.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Miller called the Monday, December 9, 2019, regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

III. CITIZENS INPUT

None.

Mr. Miller noted for record that this would be the last official meeting for two outgoing Board members, Messrs. Killian and Stryker. He thanked them for serving on the Board. The outgoing members' comments included that these have been the most productive sessions that he has attended and the elected officials work hard and that staff does a great job.

IV. Special Reports

- a. Bicycle Facilities Implementation Study. Mr. Pribulka introduced the report and the students that conducted the study. The study was a group effort working with Ms. Martin and Penn State. A survey conducted was reviewed. The majority of the responses were received from Ferguson Township. Over 50 respondents wanted more bike paths and noted safety concerns.
- b. Internship Program Update. Mr. Pribulka introduced the program followed by a presentation by the Township's intern, Ms. Barry. Ms. Barry presented the findings for the public service internship program for anticipated implementation in 2020. Goals, visions and benchmarking were discussed. This will be a mutually beneficial partnership between the Township and potential student interns. Community Engagement opportunities were discussed and potential projects were reviewed.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Ms. Dininni moved that the Board of Supervisors **approve** the Board of Supervisors Minutes of November 18th and December 2nd. Mr. Killian seconded the motion. Discussion followed on editorial changes on the minutes. The motion as amended passed unanimously.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH COMCAST.

Mr. Pribulka reviewed the item for authorization.

Ms. Strickland moved that the Board of Supervisors **adopt** the ordinance authorizing execution of a cable franchise agreement between the Township and Comcast of Colorado/Pennsylvania/West Virginia, LLC. Ms. Dininni seconded the motion.

Roll Call vote on Ordinance #1051: Mr. Killian – YES; Mr. Miller – YES; Ms. Strickland – YES; Mr. Stryker – YES; Ms. Dininni – YES.

2. PUBLIC HEARING RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2020 OPERATING BUDGET.

Mr. Pribulka presented the item for adoption that was provided with the agenda as well as a link to the document that is inclusive of the changes made by the Board on December 2nd. For the record, two allocations were noted for the General Fund that were not discussed at the budget meetings. One is the appropriation of a consultant to assist with the Terraced Streetscape District Ordinance and the other are funds to assist with digitizing documents in preparation for the building interior renovation project. Both were included in the advertisement. No public comments were made.

Ms. Dininni moved that the Board of Supervisors **adopt** the resolution approving the Ferguson Township Operating Budget for fiscal year 2020, beginning January 1, 2020, and ending December 31, 2020. Mr. Killian seconded the motion.

Roll Call vote on Resolution #2019-29: Mr. Miller – YES; Ms. Strickland – YES; Mr. Stryker – YES; Ms. Dininni – YES; Mr. Killian – YES.

3. PUBLIC HEARING RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING 2020 SCHEDULE OF FEES.

Mr. Pribulka reviewed the item for adoption. Discussion followed on clarification of amendments to the schedule. A detailed discussion followed that was initiated by a resident at the last meeting on visual inspections for on-lot septic systems when a waiver is requested. Mr. Pribulka noted a follow-up will be done with Code on the fees assessed.

No public comments were made.

Mr. Stryker moved that the Board of Supervisors **adopt** the resolution repealing Resolution 2018-28 and establishing a new Ferguson Township Schedule of Fees for 2020. Ms. Dininni seconded the motion.

Roll Call vote on Resolution 2019-30: Ms. Strickland – YES; Mr. Stryker – YES; Ms. Dininni – YES; Mr. Killian – YES; Mr. Miller – YES.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. 2020 Planning Commission Meeting Schedule
- b. 2020 Planning Commission Work Program
- c. 2016-C19, Corl Street Signal Upgrade Pay Application 2: \$132,267.36

Mr. Killian moved that the Board of Supervisors **approve** the Consent Agenda. Ms. Strickland seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. PUBLIC HEARING RESOLUTION LEVING TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS FOR FY 2020.

Mr. Pribulka reviewed the item for adoption. No public comments were made.

Mr. Killian moved that the Board of Supervisors **adopt** the resolution levying taxes and assessments for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2020. Ms. Dininni seconded the motion.

Roll Call vote on Resolution 2019-31: Mr. Stryker – YES; Ms. Dininni – YES; Mr. Killian – YES; Mr. Miller – YES; Ms. Strickland – YES.

3. PUBLIC HEARING RESOLUTION ADOPTING A REVISED COMPENSATION PLAN FOR NON-UNIFORMED EMPLOYEES.

Mr. Pribulka reviewed the item for adoption. The adjustment is the cost-of-living increase, which equals the Consumer Price Index numbers through September 2019. No public comments were made.

Ms. Strickland moved that the Board of Supervisors **adopt** the resolution repealing Resolution 2018-30 and adopting a revised Compensation Plan for Non-Uniformed Employees with an effective date of January 1, 2020. Ms. Dininni seconded the motion.

Roll Call vote on Resolution 2019-32: Ms. Dininni – YES; Mr. Killian – YES; Mr. Miller – YES; Ms. Strickland – YES; Mr. Stryker – YES.

4. PUBLIC HEARING RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING CONTRIBUTIONS TO POLICE PENSION FUND.

Mr. Pribulka reviewed the item for adoption in accordance with Pennsylvania Act 205. No public comments were made.

Mr. Stryker moved that the Board of Supervisors **adopt** the resolution establishing contributions to the Police Pension Fund by its members for 2020. Ms. Strickland seconded the motion.

Roll Call vote on Resolution 2019-33: Mr. Killian – YES; Mr. Miller – YES; Ms. Strickland – YES; Mr. Stryker – YES; Ms. Dininni – YES.

Mr. Miller called for a short recess.

5. WHITEHALL ROAD REGIONAL PARK LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN.

Ms. Wargo introduced the item for approval that was provided with the agenda. Ms. Froehlich presented an overview of Phase 1 of the plan and addressed question from the Board.

Discussion followed on the proposed amenities, fund raising efforts, buffers, maintenance plan and emergency management.

Mr. Stryker moved that the Board of Supervisors **approve** the Phase One Final Development Plan for Whitehall Road Regional Park last revised on November 14, 2019, subject to the conditions of approval outlined in the Community Planner memorandum dated December 3, 2019. Ms. Strickland seconded the motion.

Ms. Dininni noted for the record that her vote to approve the plan was not indicative of her agreement to appropriate additional funds for the park's development beyond what has already been committed.

The motion passed unanimously.

6. BOARD MEMBER REQUEST – PINE GROVE ROAD SPEED LIMIT STUDY.

Ms. Dininni reviewed the item as provided with the agenda. Discussion followed with a presentation from Mr. Modricker. Following some discussion, Mr. Pribulka suggested acquiring more general data on speeds in the broader geographic area to determine where the issues are to focus the study. Chief Albright reviewed currently available speed and traffic data. Ms. Strickland discussed bringing the information to TLU and Harris Township Manager for possibly a group effort to review the speed issues. Mr. Pribulka stated the Township can reach out to Harris Township. Staff will discuss this with the Township Engineer to determine what criteria makes sense for data collection. Discussion followed on the Township's Traffic Calming policy in regards to the street being a state-owned road and that the Township is limited in what it can do. The consensus was to do data collection and bring that information to the Board to determine if a speed study is warranted.

7. AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT PADOT GREEN LIGHT GO GRANT FOR DIGITAL RADAR DETECTION UPGRADES

Mr. Modricker reviewed the item for authorization of Round 6 for the Green Light-Go grant application.

Mr. Killian moved that the Board of Supervisors **authorize** a grant application to the PennDOT Green-Light-Go Grant Program to upgrade certain traffic signals to digital radar detection technology. Mr. Stryker seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously. Discussion followed on the digital radar backbone.

VIII. STAFF AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

2. OTHER REGIONAL REPORTS

- a. Centre County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Coordinating Committee. Agenda was provided with the packet.

3. STAFF REPORTS

- a. Township Manager. Mr. Pribulka updated the Board with a few items that included a meeting on Code permitting software from last week with one of the vendor candidates. The Board will be updated with new developments. Getting ready for 2020. Performing staff evaluations.

Discussion followed on the TIF and moving forward with the 2645 intersection and other route funding in reference to the MPO meeting. Mr. Modricker will follow-up on this item.

- b. Public Works Director. The report was provided with the packet. Mr. Modricker reported updates on building renovations and how well the Police Department is handling the construction in their office areas; the Public Works Maintenance Facility; general maintenance; and the Tree Commission does not meet this month.

Ms. Strickland had positive comments regarding interest in a future Tree Commission podcast that was drafted by the new communications coordinator, Nick Fugaro.

- c. Planning & Zoning Director. Ms. Wargo updated the Board on the Planning Commission Meeting; spending time on communications outreach for Zoning and SALDO ordinances and incorporating that into future outreach efforts, i.e., Coffee and Conversation.
- d. Chief of Police. Chief Albright reported on the month of November. It was a quiet month compared to last year; calls for service are down; updates on highlights; school bus violations; active investigations; and community relations.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

- a. Ms. Dininni received a communication regarding the former Houts property that is again being used as a laydown yard for a new area project and that residents are concerned with safety and whether it will impact Ferguson Township.
- b. Ms. Dininni noted a Dark Sky Observer permit letter that she may request to be placed on a future agenda in reference to the ordinance. Communication was received on the UAJA odor issue.
- c. Mr. Stryker stated that Penn State's President Barron will be hosting a local government official meeting next week at the Schreyer House on "Musser Gap to Valleylands".

X. CALENDAR ITEMS

- a. Administrative Office Hours for the holidays: open until noon on December 24th; closed December 25th; open until noon on December 31st and closed January 1, 2020.
- b. Coffee & Conversation, Baileyville Community Hall, January 25, 2020, 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
- c. PGM Small Area Plan meeting, December 11th, St. Paul Lutheran Church, 6:30 p.m.

XI. Adjournment

Mr. Miller stated and executive session would follow this meeting.

With no further business to come before the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Stryker motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David Pribulka, Township Manager
For the Board of Supervisors

Date approved by the Board: 01-06-2020