Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisor Meeting
November 10, 2016

Present: Claude Beaver, David Franke, Joseph Rudderow III, Eugene Orlando, Jr. – Orlando Law Offices, Thomas Unger – Systems Design Engineering, Inc., Diane Hollenbach – Township Manager

Guests: Karen Chandler, Linda Epler, Jim Schoellkopf, Jr., Cody Rhoads, Carin Mileshosky, Lois and Larry Geist, Donald A Schmale

A conditional use hearing was continued at 6:55 p.m. and closed at 7:02 p.m. Joseph Rudderow opened the regularly scheduled meeting of the Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors at 7:03 p.m. in the Maidencreek Township Municipal Building, 1 Quarry Road, Reading, PA 19605 and asked everyone to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MINUTES & FINANCES

Approval of the Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Claude Beaver to waive the reading of the minutes and approve the minutes for the October 13, 2016 regular meeting. David Franke seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report and Bill List

A motion was made by Claude Beaver to approve the October 2016 Treasurer's Report and Bill List. David Franke seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lois Geist, chairperson of the Fleetwood Area Library Board thanked the Township for the contributions. The Library had 30,000 visitors this year so far. Mrs. Geist introduced the new library director, Carin Mileshosky.

Carin Mileshosky, 148 Millennium Drive, Blandon stated that she is excited to serve the community and looks forward to a great 2017.

Dane Miller stated that he is interested in purchasing the building at 8832 Allentown Pike and use it for a training facility. The property is zoned Agriculture but is being used for a business. Mr. Miller suggested that since he is looking at a lessor use that he be allowed to move forward with a change of use without zoning relief. Mr. Miller quoted Section 220-82 C. (2) of the Code of Ordinances of Maidencreek Township that "As a use by special exception, a nonconforming use may be changed to another nonconforming use of a more restrictive nature…" Eugene Orlando, township solicitor advised Mr. Miller to consult with an attorney familiar with land use. If the zoning ordinance requires going to the Zoning Hearing Board, the supervisors cannot waive that requirement. Mr. Rudderow stated that getting the Zoning Officer's determination was a starting point. Mr. Rudderow added that the supervisors want to attract and locate business in the township.

Linda Epler, 628 Guldin Road, Blandon stated that the traffic and speeding is worse than ever on Guldin Road. She reported that tractor trailers are using the road and it is marked no trucks. Chairman Rudderow stated that the township can write a letter for Monday's police meeting. He

encouraged Mrs. Epler to call the police when she sees tractor trailers and to write her state representative and senator to allow local police to have radar. David Franke added that just because the police are notified of the problem that they can always be there at the moment trucks are on the road. Jim Schoellkopf cautioned the Board that the tail race from the old mill crossed Guldin Road and it could not withstand the weight of tractor trailers.

REPORTS

ENGINEER'S REPORT – The engineer presented his written report and added that he is working on setting up a meeting with the Chief of Police about W Shore Drive.

MUNICIPAL SOLICITOR REPORT

Zoning Ordinance and Map – The solicitor reported that Systems Design Engineering has almost completed the codification of the zoning amendments. Diane Hollenbach, manager, asked the Board to consider the zoning along Route 222 between Genesis Drive and Schaeffer Road. Properties were going up for sale and buyers are interested in the properties for commercial uses. These properties are zoned residential and in the area of the proposed round about. By rezoning them commercial, the Supervisors would be giving the residents another option if they wanted to sell their properties. The Board referred the matter back to Planning Commission. Jim Schoellkopf, Planning Commission Chairman stated that the Commission should look over the whole corridor. Mr. Orlando stated that the completed ordinance and map should be recirculated again to the Berks County Planning Commission and adjacent municipalities.

457 Plan – Diane Hollenbach stated that the Township participates in the PSATS 457 Plan, which is like a 401K plan for public employees. The PSATS Trust restated the plan and the plan now has to be adopted by ordinance where before it was entered by agreement. Joseph Rudderow asked if the township contributes to the employees' plans. Mrs. Hollenbach stated they do not. The township only pays a $200 yearly maintenance fee.

A motion was made by Claude Beaver to authorize the advertisement of a public hearing for the adoption of an ordinance authorizing the township's participation in the PSATS Trust 457 Plan. David Franke seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Road Crew - Diane Hollenbach asked the Board if they would be willing to sell the plow blade purchased for the Case loader. The blade has never been used and is difficult to attach to the loader.

A motion was made by David Franke authorizing the sale of the loader blade on municibid. Claude Beaver seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

Pictures of the W Walnut Tree Drive stream cleaning were passed out. Diane Hollenbach advised that the willow trees that have been undercut by the stream that are in the road right of way will be removed.

Maidencreek Township Authority – The Maidencreek Township Authority has been asked by PennDOT to extend sewer service to properties between Genesis Drive and Schaeffer Road. The Authority is thinking about extending the water service as well. This will put homes within 150 feet of the lines and the township mandatory connection ordinance may require homes without public water and/or sewer to connect. Mr. Rudderow asked that the Authority send letters to the affected properties explaining the reason the lines are installed and the consequences.

Park and Recreation - Diane Hollenbach reviewed the electric issues at the Blandon Fire Company. The electric lines to the tennis courts have failed and a repair will be expensive. The fire chief was not in favor of lighting the tennis courts because of the fighting and drug use that occurs when the courts are lit. The Board agreed not to repair the Blandon Fire Company tennis court lights. The electric use at the Blandon Fire Company ball field has gone from $1000 a year to over $3000 a year. After extensive investigation, it has been determined that the meter is reading actual use. Mrs. Hollenbach would like to take a four-prong approach: increase the fee to use the lights on the fee schedule, to have groups pay for lights on a per game basis, to not allow lights to be used for practice unless they are paid for like a game, and to look at incentives to upgrade the lights to LED.

Zoning – Diane Hollenbach reported that there has been no request for an extension to the issue at 330 Cornerstone and the zoning officer at her request sent the homeowner a friendly reminder.

Emergency Services - Diane Hollenbach introduced the new chief of the Blandon Ambulance, Donald A Schmale. Because of staffing changes, the executive director has requested the run card authorizations be changed.

A motion was made by David Franke to authorize the manager to send a letter to Berks County Emergency Services authorizing Stephen Bobella to be the responsible person for making changes to the ambulance run card for Blandon. Claude Beaver seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

David Franke updated the Board that Blandon Ambulance and Schuylkill Valley EMS are discussing a merger for cost savings and enhanced service. The two companies have worked together for many years. Chairman Rudderow suggested the groups contact Paul Janssen at the Center for Excellence at Albright College to see if there are grants available to help with the costs. David Franke added that Stephen Bobella is looking at all aspects. Fleetwood Ambulance is looking to merge with a hospital based service.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 19-2016 the 2017-2018 Fuel Bid

A motion was made by Claude Beaver to approve Resolution 19-2016 accepting the Berks County Purchasing Board 2017-2018 fuel bid award and contract. David Franke seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

161 Austrian Drive – The Board of Supervisors instructed that the road crew scan the areas between the curb and sidewalk in Ontelaunee Heights with a metal detector to determine if there are any break aways in the ground.

2017 Budget – The Board asked for bullet points on the budget. Diane Hollenbach stated that the $4,008,745 budget contains no tax increase. The CPI is at 1% and the Earned Income Tax is on the rise. Labor has increased 3.5%. The police budget, the Township's single largest expense will increase about 3.7%. The budget contains the road work, drain repair and the replacement of the 1999 pickup which currently has 112,000 miles on it and will need a new bed.

A motion was made by Claude Beaver to authorize the advertisement of the 2017 draft budget in the Reading Eagle and online for 20 days. David Franke seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Claude Beaver stated that he is receiving complaints about kids climbing on top of the pavilion, dugouts and batting cages. The activity happens between 3:30 and 4 p.m. He also mentioned there might be a leak in the pavilion roof. Chairman Rudderow stated a lot of tax payer money went into building and maintaining the Community Park and suggested Park and Recreation discuss the idea of surveillance cameras.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - An executive session was called for possible litigation from 8:21 to 8:37 p.m.

A motion was made by Claude Beaver to refer the damage claim for a lawn mower at 161 Austrian Drive to the township insurance carrier. David Franke seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, it passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Claude Beaver, seconded by David Franke, to adjourn the November 10, 2016 meeting of the Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members present voted "Aye". Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

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Township Secretary,

Cc: Board of Supervisors
Eugene Orlando, Solicitor
Thomas Unger, Township Engineer
Planning Commission
Park & Recreation Board
Zoning Hearing Board and Alternates
Joan London, Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor
Maidencreek Township Authority
Patrick Donovan, Maidencreek Township Authority General Manager
JoAnn Schaeffer, Maidencreek Township Authority Secretary
Daniel Becker, Authority Solicitor
Greg Unger, Authority Engineer
Barbara Hassler, Tax Collector
Daniel Miller, Blandon Fire Company Chief
Chief Scott W. Eaken, Northern Berks Regional Police