Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors
April 8, 2021
7 P.M.

Attending: Claude Beaver, Heidi Fiedler, David Franke, Tom Unger, SDE, Eugene Orlando, Jr., and Diane Hollenbach

Guests: Josh Meck, Richard Wick, Eric Bauman, Brad Congelio, Heather Schoener, Keith Shuman, Dean Moyer, Jim Schoellkopf

Zoom Guests: Debbie Didyoung, Cody Rhoads, Bob Wood, Katelyn Gruber, James Patterson, Sean Showalter

Claude Beaver called the regular meeting to order at 7 p.m. and asked everyone to rise for the Pledge to the Flag.

MINUTES AND TREASURERS REPORT

A motion was made by David Franke to waive the reading of the March 11, 2021 meeting minutes and approve them as presented. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

A motion was made by David Franke to waive the reading of the March 22, 2021 audit closeout meeting minutes and approve them as presented. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

A motion was made by David Franke to approve the March 2021 Treasurer's Report and Bill List. Heidi Fiedler stated that she did not have time to review the extra information she had requested and abstained from the vote. Claude Beaver seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, Claude Beaver and David Franke voted, 'Aye." Heidi Fiedler abstained. Motion passed.

A motion was made by David Franke to accept the 2020 Audit by Herbein and Company. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion and asked David Franke to amend his motion to include the revised audit management letter. David Franke amended his motion to accept the 2020 Audit by Herbein and Company and include a revised management letter dated April 8, 2021. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Josh Meck of East Wesner Road, Blandon stated that he is the Vice President of the Fleetwood Area Baseball Association. He was attending tonight about the repair of the batting cage and stated that the kids are looking forward to being able to use it again.

Dean Moyer of Colonial Court, Blandon was concerned about vehicles speeding on Colonial Court. Children do not always pay attention and he was afraid for everyone's safety. Mr. Moyer requested a speed bump like one that is in use in Boyertown. Mr. Moyer also appreciated the preservation of the police protection. The Board will ask the police department to install the speed sign to determine the times of day that the speeding is occurring.

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REPORTS

Engineer – Tom Unger of Systems Design Engineering, Inc. reported that all land development and subdivision plans are current. The Planning Commission acted on two plans the previous evening and they will be presented at the May meeting.

2021 Road Work – Core samples were taken in TreeTops Subdivision and there is less than 3 inches of paving making full depth reclamation impossible. Penn DOT is using a geo textile material adhered to the road and then putting a 1 ½ inch wearing course on top. Mr. Unger would like to try this method. Penn DOT has been using it for about ten years with success. The geo textile is a heavy black fabric that will mill up without wrapping around the mill head. It could also be used in the crack repair before paving.

A motion was made by David Franke to authorize the advertisement of the 2021 road work for bid including Option #1 with the geotextile material. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

W Walnut Tree Drive Stream – Mr. Unger stated that he is continuing with permitting the culvert and stream relocation. His firm does have historical pictures from 2004.

Parking Study – The study is underway, and staff is in discussions with Penn DOT on some items required in the study that the Township will need relief from.

Solicitor – Nothing to report.

Manager

Donation Increase Request – The Board did not increase the donation for the Center for Excellence in Local Government.

Fleetwood Library – The Board was not available to participate in the Fleetwood Library's Community Conversation Project.

59 W Bertolet Place – Diane Hollenbach stated that the property at 59 W Bertolet Place had been cited numerous times by the Code Enforcement Officer and taken to the District Justice. Little effort had been made to clean up and repair the property which has been empty since 2013. The owner had appealed the last District Justice fine in the Court of Common Pleas and then not shown up for the hearing. The Township has spent money on trying to get this property owner to make the property safe but has failed. Mrs. Hollenbach recommended submitting the property to the Berks County Blighted Property Board. Claude Beaver stated he did not like taking property.

A motion was made by David Franke authorizing the manager to submit 59 W Bertolet Place, Reading to the Berks County Blighted Property Board. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Mower Rental – The trees planted along the Willow Creek need to be mowed around. This helps with keeping small animals from damaging the bark. Keith Shuman had initially thought to rent

a brush hog for $629 a day but Stoney Creek Rentals recommended a larger lawn mower described as a lawn mower on steroids for $300.

A motion was made by David Frank to authorize the rental of the lawn mower on steroids at a cost of $300 per week. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

BUSINESS

Primary Election Day

A motion was made by David Franke to authorize a paid holiday on May 18, 2021 for all full-time employees. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Computer Purchase

A motion was made by David Franke to authorize the purchase of a desktop computer and battery back up for the receptionist at a cost of $1,237.00. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

TreeTops Drain Repair – Keith Shuman explained that there are two drains on Sycamore Lane and Hill Road that are deeper than ten feet. The road crew feels that this is a safety issue and is asking the Board to hire an outside contractor to repair these two drains.

A motion was made by David Franke to authorize the hiring of an outside contractor to repair two drains on Sycamore Lane and Hill Road with the cost not to exceed $7,400 after the solicitation of two more bids. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Park and Recreation

Batting Cage Repair – Josh Meck assured the Board that the batting cage was needed, and that Fleetwood Area Association of Baseball planned on using the fields for a long time.

A motion was made by David Franke to authorize the repair of the Community Park Batting Cage at a cost not to exceed $1,374. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Ehrlich Spraying of Ballfield and Dog Park Fences and Dirt Infields – Tabled

Pavilion Roof Repair

A motion was made by David Franke to authorize the repair of the Community Park pavilion roof at a cost not to exceed $4,686.20. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Cornerstone Tot Lot Pole and Timbers

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A motion was made by David Franke to authorize the purchase of a pole and seven timbers from Little Tykes for the repair of the Cornerstone Drive Tot Lot at a cost not to exceed $1,152.70. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Cornerstone Tot Lot Sign and Hardware

A motion was made by David Franke to authorize the purchase of hardware and sign panel from Little Tykes at a cost not to exceed $1,255.68. Claude Beaver suggested putting a clear material over the sign like a Lexan polycarbonate sheet that can be removed when graffiti is put on it. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Sealmaster Resealing of Cornerstone Tot Lot Hockey/Soccer Court

A motion was made by David Franke to authorize the resealing of the Cornerstone Tot Lot at a cost not to exceed $4,323.50 with Sealmaster providing the machine and sealant and the road crew doing the work. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Police Update – Dave Franke updated the Board on the progress by the Northern Berks Regional Police Commission. The Commissioners will be interviewing some interim chiefs that might turn into full time chiefs. Claude Beaver asked if all candidates would be asked the same questions. Dave Franke stated they would be and that the questions had been submitted to counsel for review. Out of five candidates chosen, two have asked to be removed from the list. Bob Wood remains Officer in Charge.

The Board broke for executive session for personnel from 7:49 p.m. to 8:11 p.m.

Claude Beaver asked the Manager to provide the Board information on longevity pay.

Having no further business, a motion was made by David Franke to adjourn the April 8, 2021 meeting of the Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Hollenbach