Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors
September 9, 2021
7 P.M.

Attending: Heidi Fiedler, David Franke, Tom Unger of Systems Design Engineering, Eugene Orlando, Jr. of Orlando Law Offices, and Diane Hollenbach

Absent: Claude Beaver

Guests: Donna Culp, Eric Bauman, Jim Keiser, Anthony Spero, Josh Meck, Jean Odenweller, Dan Miller, Jim Schoellkopf, Jr., Keith Shuman

Zoom Guests: Katelyn Gruber, Debbie Didyoung, Jim Cecchini

David Franke 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 Heidi Fiedler to waive the reading of the August 12, 2021 meeting minutes and approve them as presented. David Franke seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members present voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

A motion was made by Heidi Fiedler to approve the August 2021 Treasurer's Report and Bill List. David Franke seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Diane Hollenbach presented a handout from the Fleetwood Area Public Library. No one from the Library was able to attend to make their request for additional funding. The handout explained the funding formula. The library is looking for an increase to $2.50 or $5 per capita to maximize the County's match. Heidi Fiedler asked what most municipalities give to their libraries. Diane Hollenbach responded that most give $1 per capita with Exeter, Sinking Spring, Spring and Womelsdorf giving the $5 per capita. David Franke asked if the bookmobiles were still used. Diane Hollenbach did not think those are in service anymore.

REPORTS

Engineer

Jojaz Preliminary Land Development Plan

A motion was made by Heidi Fiedler to accept the developer's letter extending the review period for the Jojaz Preliminary Land Development Plan until January 5, 2022. David Franke seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members present voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Re Approve Schwab Final Plan

A motion was made by Heidi Fiedler to reaffirm final plan approval to the Schwab Proposed Addition conditioned upon satisfaction of the June 2, 2021 Systems Design Engineering, Inc. review letter, which is incorporated by reference. David Franke seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members present voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Street Project – The paving project has started. The base repair was completed in TreeTops and the swale is being paved on Gulden Road.

Questions from the Board – Heidi Fiedler asked for an update on the GIS mapping of the storm drains. Tom Unger stated that the software was purchased, and it will be received in October. Heidi Fiedler noticed that roads had cracks in them and if the roads had been identified that needed crack sealing. Keith Shuman stated that they usually crack seal by development. Heidi Fiedler asked if Mr. Shuman was aware of how many roads needed crack sealing right know. Mr. Shuman stated they will probably start in Willow Gardens then go over the main roads like East Wesner, West Wesner and Hoch Road when there are cooler temperatures.

Solicitor
Eugene Orlando reported that we are waiting for comments on the yard waste drop off agreement from the land owner.

Melrose Place Homeowners Association – Heidi Fiedler asked for a brief summary of the research on the Melrose Place Homeowners. Eugene Orlando stated that it is up to the Board if they want to discuss it. Heidi Fiedler stated that the township does not have the authority to adjudicate a Homeowners Association agreement, and there are issues with the HOA agreement that is in place and how it is set up currently. Mr. Orlando agreed that Townships do not adjudicate private property rights as part of the land development process or zoning process. Gene Orlando cautioned that the newly passed Act requires matters to be discussed to be on the meeting agenda prior to the meeting.

Manager – The manager provided a written report. Diane Hollenbach updated the Board on the calibration of the gas pumps. The diesel pump is accurate but the gas pump is off a half gallon for every five gallons pumped. Costs for the pump repair, a card system and update will be obtained for the budget. JP Mascaro returned the last addendum to the current recycling contract with a five percent increase for 2022. This will be on the October agenda.

A motion was made by Heidi Fiedler to authorize the manager to submit the annual MS4 report. David Franke seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members present voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

A motion was made by Heidi Fiedler to authorize the manager to submit the PA DEP grant for a new brush drop off site. David Franke seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members present voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

BUSINESS

Sale of Bleachers

A motion was made by Heidi Fiedler to award the bleachers to Terry Kromer in the amount of $700. David Franke seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members present voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Pension Minimum Municipal Obligation

A motion was made by Heidi Fiedler to adopt Resolution 28-2021 setting the 2022 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the non-uniformed employee pension plan at $12,000. David Franke seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, all members present voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Zoning Hearing Board Resignation

A motion was made by Heidi Fiedler to accept William Riedel's resignation from the Zoning Hearing Board and send him a letter of appreciation for his service. David Franke seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, all members present voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Fire Truck Purchase – Dan Miller, Chief of the Blandon Volunteer Fire Company told the Board about the new ladder truck the Fire Company is purchasing. The new ladder truck will be a multi-purpose truck capable of holding 500 gallons of water and have a pump. The current 2007 ladder truck will be sold. The Fire Company is requesting that the Supervisors pass a resolution to allow the loan to be converted to a tax-exempt loan with 3.11% interest.

A motion was made by Heidi Fiedler to authorize the solicitor to review Section 147f of the Internal Revenue Code. David Franke seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, all members present voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Trick or Treat

A motion was made by Heidi Fiedler to set Trick or Treat Night as October 31, 2021 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. David Franke seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, all members present voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Purchase of Intimidator 15XPC Chipper

A motion was made by Heidi Fiedler to purchase the Intimidator 15XPC Chipper for $50,499.76 under the PA DEP 902 Grant. David Franke seconded the motion and hearing no questions on the motion, all members present voted, "Aye." Motion passed. $47,734 of the cost will be covered by the grant.

Comments from the Board

The latest treasurer's report for Northern Berks Regional Police shows a balance of $745,000. Heidi Fiedler stated that this is taxpayer money and money all the municipalities can use. She asked if any effort had been made to return the excess funds held by the police department. David Franke stated that the Commission is working on the budget and the amount to return to the municipalities will be addressed during the budget process and disbursed at the end of the year. It would not make sense to return the money now and then ask for some of it back in January. Heidi Fiedler stated that there is this excess and about $200,000 worth of expenses above the regular monthly expenses have been identified as needing to be paid before the end of the year. The municipalities continue to pay monthly to Northern Berks, and you do not have the cash flow issues another type of organization might have. This money could be put

to better use by the municipalities. It would be good business practice to return $200,000 to $300,000 so the municipalities could put it to good use. The budget is due for the police in October so we should know what is needed then. Heidi Fiedler added that we have better management of the police department so we should be seeing much better results and not have the litigation costs.

Having no further business, a motion was made by Heidi Fiedler to adjourn the September 9, 2021 meeting of the Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors. David Franke seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Hollenbach