Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors
January 13, 2022
7 P.M.

Attending: Heidi Fiedler, Joseph Farley, David Franke, Eric Frey and Nicole Manley of E. Kenneth Nyce, Tom Unger of Systems Design Engineering, Inc., and Diane Hollenbach

Guests: Mike and Kris Schittler, Anthony Spero, Claude Beaver, Jen Shick, Eric Bauman, Donna Culp, Jarrett Gibboney, Scott Zimmerman, Robin Fink, Dennis Fink, Josh Meck, Heather Schoener, Vickie Solberg, Sharon Novakovich, Dan Novakovich, Thomas Borrelli, Chris Weller, Anthony Onimus, Kyle Gehret, Joe Rudderow III, Albert Young

Heidi Fiedler called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 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 December 9, 2021 meeting minutes and approve the minutes without the letter from Sal Folino attached. David Franke 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 December 2021 Treasurer's Report and Bill List. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Albert Young of Harvest Drive, Blandon commented on the controversy that the Township was embroiled in and asked how soon the residents would know the results of the investigation into the accusations against the township manager making unauthorized disbursement of money. The investigation should be done in a speedy and timely manner.

Donna Culp of historical Blandon asked if public comment could be moved to later in the evening. She also asked if there had been any other bids from other law firms. There were not.

REPORTS

Police Report

Chief Keiser reported that in Maidencreek Township there were 275 calls for service in the month of December 2021. Fifty-one citations were written. There were forty-six traffic warnings, seventy-five vehicle contacts, no arrests, twenty-four crashes (eight reportable with one fatality). The mileage for December was 4316 miles and officers patrolled the township 647.32 month hours, which translated to 20.88 day hours of patrol. There was $1,388.86 of fines collected for the month. The new police secretary will start January 24, 2022. Commissioners agreed to purchase body and in car cameras for the officers.

Engineer

W Walnut Tree Drive Culvert – Tom Unger reported that the manager had found the original permit from 1989 for the installation of the W Walnut Tree Drive culvert. He had been in contact with the DEP Waterway Division, and the Township may proceed with two different general permits. No work is allowed in the stream until June.

Zoning Overlay District – A draft ordinance for a C1 zoning overlay district will be presented to Planning Commission in February.

Berkshire Builders Letter of Credit Release - The final inspection is completed and release should be made conditional upon all outstanding invoices being paid.

A motion was made by David Franke to return the original letter of credit for Berkshire Property Management Company conditional upon payment of all outstanding invoices. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Solicitor

Appoint Solicitor by Resolution

A motion was made by David Franke to adopt resolution 12-2022 appointing the law firm of E. Kenneth Nyce to serve as Township Solicitor. 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 rescind the request for proposals for township solicitor. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Manager

A motion was made by David Franke to authorize the purchase of 150 tons of salt under state contract for $10,144.50. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Diane Hollenbach reported on the change to the final rule for the American Recovery Plan Act funds. Any funds under ten million dollars could be counted as lost revenue, transferred to the General Fund and spent on general township expenditures. Mrs. Hollenbach also noted that the PA DEP had reviewed the township's MS4 report and determined it to be complete.

BUSINESS

Survey of 324 Main Street

A motion was made by David Franke to approve the quote from Systems Design Engineering for surveying the property at 324 Main Street for a cost of $1,800 with police protection. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Part Time Equipment Operator

A motion was made by David Franke to hire three individuals with one being offered the permanent part time position and the other two offered relief driver positions. Joseph Farley seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Budget Revision – Heidi Fiedler suggested including a Public Works Director in the 2022 budget. The Board discussed the rate of pay ($33.61) and if the position was a union position.

Heidi Fiedler stated that the position would be higher than the current foreman and would be responsible for surveying the roads. David Franke was not in favor of another full-time salary and asked if this person would be working or sitting in the office.

A motion was made by Heidi Fiedler to amend the budget to include a Public Works Director position. Joseph Farley seconded the motion. Discussion on the motion:

Ken Schittler of S. View Road, Fleetwood thought Keith Shuman was doing a fantastic job. He asked if hiring a Public Works Director would cancel out one of the part time and two on call employees hired earlier in the meeting.

Joseph Rudderow of Longleaf Drive, Blandon asked if the Board knew what $33.61 translated to in an annual salary and if the position would include benefits.

Dan Novakovich of Golden Drive, Blandon asked if we didn't already have a public works foreman and what this new position would do.

Hearing no further questions on the motion, Heidi Fiedler and Joseph Farley voted, "Aye." David Franke voted, "Nay." Motion passed.

Executive Session on Personnel Issues from 8:35 p.m. to 8:41 p.m.

A motion was made by David Franke to amend the agenda to include adjusting Katelyn Gruber's rate of pay while working as acting manager. Joseph Farley seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

A motion was made by David Franke to pay Katelyn Gruber, on a separate check, $4 per hour for all hours spent working as acting manager. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Hearing no questions on the motion, all members voted, "Aye." Motion passed.

Having no further business, a motion was made by David Franke to adjourn the January 13, 2022 meeting of the Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors. Heidi Fiedler seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Diane Hollenbach