

**West Vincent Township
Board of Supervisors**

Virtual Meeting

January 19, 2021 7:00 PM

Attendance: Mike Schneider, Chairman, Bernie Couris, Vice Chairman, Sara Shick, Member, Joe McGrory, Township Solicitor, John Granger, Township Manager, Kathy Shillenn, Township Secretary, Michele Hogrelius, Township Treasurer

Chairman Schneider called the Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Schneider announced that there was an Executive Session on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 prior to the Board of Supervisors meeting to discuss Real Estate.

MOTION by Ms. Shick to approve the January 4, 2021 Reorganization Meeting minutes and the Regular Business Meeting minutes; second by Mr. Couris.

There being no comments or questions, *Motion carries unanimously.*

Reports:

Police Report – Chief Swinger gave his report. Report acknowledged as received. Report on file.

Bills List - **MOTION** by Ms. Shick to approve the Bills List in the amount of \$183,774.12; second by Mr. Couris.

There being no comments or questions, *Motion carries unanimously.*

Treasurer's Report – Ms. Hogrelius gave the report. Report acknowledged as received. Report on file.

Manager's Report – Mr. Granger discussed his manager's report. Mr. Granger worked on an orientation program for the new volunteers on the various committees. He also worked on the final draft of Personnel Manual, worked on updating the website and worked with the Road Master on the 2021 Road Program. Report acknowledge as received. Report on file.

Announcements:

Zoning Hearing Board Appointment of Jim Tupitza as Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor - Acknowledge Appointment – Ms. Shick stated that the Board of Supervisors does not appoint the Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor, the Zoning Hearing Board appoints. The Board of Supervisors acknowledged the appointment of Jim Tupitza as the Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor. Solicitor McGrory stated that the Board of Supervisors does establish the hourly rate.

New Business:

Storm Water Management Ordinance Waiver Request - 1804 Saint Matthews Road - Mr. Granger discussed this waiver request. The township engineer has been working with this property owner for some time; they can not infiltrate any storm water on this site. The ground water is about 11" below top of the grade. The property owner would like a waiver from the storm water management requirements in order to move forward with construction. The engineers will work onsite to mitigate the storm water as best they can given the site conditions. James Haigney, engineer for the property owner is present to answer any questions or background information. Arro Consulting agreed with the site limitations and recommends the waiver. As part of the waiver, the property will be required to place another .5 acres in the greenway. More discussion on this waiver followed.

MOTION by Ms. Shick to approve the Storm Water Management Waiver Request for 1804 Saint Matthews Road; second by Mr. Couris.

Julie Foster, 1682 Hilltop Road asked if adding more acres to the greenway would reduce water run-off that cannot be remediated. Ms. Shick answered no. Mr. Schneider stated he is not crazy about waivers. Mr. Schneider asked what the size of the addition was. Mr. Haigney stated that the addition is 1825 sq. ft. The existing farmhouse is 765 sq. ft. Total amount of additional impervious coverage is 5640 sq. ft.

Julie Foster, 1682 Hilltop Road stated that those are helpful points on water quality. Will the rain garden be installed if the variance is granted? Mr. Schneider asked if the rain garden is part of the plan. Mr. Haigney answered yes to both questions.

There being no additional comments or questions, *Motion carries unanimously.*

Zoning Hearing Board Fees Waiver Request - 1030 Linden Road - **MOTION** by Ms. Shick to approve a Zoning Hearing Board Fee Waiver Request; seconded by Mr. Couris.

Ms. Shick stated that the rationale for this is being presented to the Planning Commission as something that the township needs to fix. This is the fourth person in the Weatherstone Subdivision that was turned down. This is due to too much impervious coverage as built. A discussion on this zoning ordinance followed.

There being no questions or comments, *Motion carries unanimously.*

Authorization to Advertise an Ordinance for a \$500,000, 5-year loan to purchase equipment for Public Works, which is a budgeted item - **MOTION** by Ms. Shick to authorize the advertisement of an Ordinance for a \$500,000, 5-year loan to purchase equipment for Public Works, which is a budgeted item; second by Mr. Couris.

Mr. Schneider stated that he has a problem with this one; with the township having close to \$8 million in the bank, the township borrowing \$500,000 seems irresponsible to him.

Barry DiLibero, Business Owner commented that he agrees with Mr. Schneider. You do not borrow money if you have it. It is a waste of taxpayer's money.

Jim Bergey, 1433 Birch Run Road asked what the rate of return on our investments is? If it is greater than 1% it makes sense.

There being no further questions or comments, *Motion carries 2-1 with Mr. Schneider voting no.*

Authorization to Purchase two (2) tires for the Public Works Backhoe, in the amount of \$1,287, which is a Budgeted Item - MOTION by Ms. Shick to authorize the purchase two (2) tires for the Public Works Backhoe, in the amount of \$1,287 which is a budgeted item; second by Mr. Couris.

There being no comments or questions, *Motion carries unanimously.*

Authorization to Purchase six (6) tires for the Public Works Grader, in the amount of \$9,745.40, which is a Budgeted Item - MOTION by Ms. Shick to authorize the purchase of six (6) tires for the Public Works Grader, in the amount of \$9,745.40, which is a budgeted item; second by Mr. Couris.

There being no comments or questions, *Motion carries unanimously.*

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Julie Foster, 1682 Hilltop Road had submitted a question earlier asking if there was an origination fee for the loan. Mr. Granger stated that there is not.

Jim Bergey, 1433 Birch Run Road asked for an update on the Jaine Lane drainage problem and interactions with PennDOT to help resolve the decade old problem of water crossing Birch Run Road. Mr. Granger met with the township engineer last week and gave him the information with respect to the county work; also asked him to check with PennDOT to find out who the project manager is and to set up a meeting with PennDOT. Mr. Granger will be setting up a meeting with the engineer this week; this is a project that he and the engineer will be working on this year.

There being no further discussion, the MOTION to adjourn was brought forward by Ms. Shick; second by Mr. Couris. *Motion carries unanimously.*

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Shillenn
Township Secretary