

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING - VIRTUAL

OCTOBER 5, 2020 | 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT (ZOOM)

MICHAEL KSIAZEK, CHAIRPERSON }
AMY STROUSE, VICE CHAIRPERSON }
TOM TOSTI, SECRETARY } Board of Supervisors
ANNA PAYNE }
DAWN QUIRPLE }
STEPHANIE TEOLI KUHL, TOWNSHIP MANAGER
JAMES ESPOSITO, ESQ., TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call.

Mr. Ksiazek called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Tosti called the roll and all Supervisors were in attendance along with the Township Manager, Stephanie Teoli Kuhls, Township Solicitor, James Esposito, along with several Department Directors.

2. Announcements and Special Items.

- a. Next Board of Supervisors Meeting – November 16, 2020 @ 7:00 p.m.
- b. Budget Workshop - Monday, October 19, 2019 @7:00 p.m.
- c. Budget Workshop – Monday, October 26, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.
- d. Fire Prevention Month Proclamation
Mr. Ksiazek read the Fire Prevention Month Proclamation into the record.
- e. Veteran’s Park – Volunteer Recognition

Mr. Ksiazek expressed the Board’s thanks to **Hot Shot Power Washing** for donating its time and expertise to make the Township more beautiful. The father and son team of Roger and Kyle Corbet from Highland Park have donated about thirty (30) hours to power wash and scrub the walking areas around Veterans’ Memorial Park and the Chris Jones Memorial Area at the Municipal Center. The areas look terrific and the Board thanks Hot Shot Power Washing for giving back to their community.

Mr. Ksiazek recognized the birthday of an original Levittown homeowner, Sophia Tusina, who is celebrating her 90th year. Sophia and her husband Michael moved to Levittown in 1957 when US Steel opened. Michael was a disabled WW2 veteran who received the Purple Heart when he was shot in both legs at the Battle of Remagen in Germany. Sophia retired from the New Jersey Department of Labor in 1993 and is currently an active member of the Middletown Chorus and is a dedicated poll worker.

3. Consent Agenda Items.

- a. Consideration of authorizing payment of October 5, 2020 Bill List in the amount of \$387,267.56.
- b. Consideration of approving the September 21, 2020 Minutes of the Public

Meeting of the Middletown Township Board of Supervisors.

- c. Consideration of authorizing Final Escrow Release for the Marketplace at Oxford Valley Land Development.
- d. Consideration of authorizing approval of Payment Request #1 for 2020 Road Improvement Program to General Asphalt in the amount of \$455,306.49.

Action: Mr. Tosti moved to approve Consent Agenda Items A-D as listed above. Ms. Quirple seconded. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

4. Consideration of rejecting all bids for the 2020 Middletown Township Handicap Ramp Program Bid.

Patrick Ennis, Director of Building & Zoning advised that the bidding process for the 2020 ADA Ramp Program was completed with seven (7) bids received and opened on August 28, 2020. The bids were reviewed for compliance with the bid requirements and the Township's Responsible Contractor Ordinance (RCO).

The apparent low bidder did not meet the minimum bid requirements and the next qualified bidder was significantly over the budgeted amount for the project. As a result, township staff is recommending that all bids be rejected.

Mr. Tosti discussed with Isaac Kessler, Township Engineer looking into tying the Handicap Ramp Program into the 2021-2022 Road Paving Program which will include the Georgetown Development.

Action: Ms. Strouse moved to reject all bids for the 2020 Middletown Township Handicap Ramp Program Bid. Ms. Payne seconded. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

5. Consideration of authorizing contract with Burns Mechanical for replacement of Chiller

Patrick Ennis, Director of Building & Zoning said the existing 20-year old chiller has been failing and requiring maintenance on a progressively increasing interval as various failures keep occurring. He noted that there are issues with both compressors in the system, with one being non-operational and the control panel and circuit board continue to malfunction with connections needing repair frequently.

Mr. Ennis stated that typically, the chiller is off between the end of November through the beginning of March, which would provide an opportunity for replacement without much interruption or need for temporary cooling.

Action: Mr. Tosti moved to award a contract to Burns Mechanical, Inc. in the amount of \$227,260 for the Replacement of the Chiller for the Municipal Building. Ms. Payne seconded. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

6. 3rd Quarter Financial Report

Mega Bhandary, Finance Director presented the Third Quarter Financial Report. Ms. Bhandary reported on Expenses by Category, provided an Investments Overview and a Pension Update.

Ms. Teoli Kuhls presented an overview of key revenue sources in the General Fund, noting that both Earned Income Tax and Real Estate Tax are tracking on budget for the year. She explained that it is anticipated that there will be approximately \$3 million less in revenues than budgeted, primarily due to Amusement and Mercantile Taxes.

Mr. Tosti asked if the revenue in Public Safety Police, Fire Protection Permits and Building and Zoning Permits is down due to COVID-19 and asked if the Township will be getting reimbursed for expenses tied to the pandemic.

Ms. Teoli Kuhls said that the staff has applied to both PEMA and FEMA for emergency management funding and also Bucks County for CARES Act funding.

Mr. Ksiazek commended all of the Department Directors for all of the hard work they have been doing in keeping expenses under control.

7. Discussion of 2020-2021 Capital Plan

Ms. Teoli Kuhls opened the presentation by stating that the 2020 Capital Program was originally budgeted at \$6,607,060. Due to the pandemic, many projects were deferred or delayed resulting in a projected expenditure total of \$4,084,700 for end of year 2020. She added that \$860,000 in grant revenue is anticipated to offset that \$4 million in expenditures.

Individual department directors then presented departmental requests for the 2021 Capital Plan totaling \$5,865,900.

Ms. Teoli Kuhls concluded the presentation explaining that detailed discussion of all requests would take place at the scheduled 2021 Budget Workshops.

Mr. Ksiazek thanked the staff for their efforts.

8. Public Comment

Donna Salvucci, 144 Pine Glen Road, Swan Pointe expressed her concerns with the traffic issues at the intersection at Swift Road and Woodbourne Road.

Staci O'Brien, Langhorne commented on the traffic problem at Swift Road and Woodbourne Road. She has been a resident in the same home since she was 9 and the intersection is getting more and more dangerous.

After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Ksiazek explained that funding for this project would be discussed during the 2021 Budget process.

9. Other Business.

Mr. Tosti reminded everyone to please wear masks and stay safe.

Ms. Payne wished Sophia Tusina Happy 90th Birthday. She also thanked Hot Shot Power Washing for the great job they did at the parks.

Ms. Quirple said Halloween is coming up and asked that everyone wear masks, social distance and have a great time.

Jim Esposito announced that an Executive Session was held prior to the meeting to discuss ongoing litigation. No action was taken.

Mr. Esposito then reported on the upcoming Zoning Hearing Board application of McCafferty Hyundai Sales and The Kenneth F. Plunto Family Trust that appeals the issuance of zoning permit by the Zoning Officer for the Premier Media sign at the northeast corner of East Lincoln Highway and South Flowers Mill Road. Mr. Esposito recommended that the Township oppose the appeal before the Zoning Hearing Board.

Action: Mr. Tosti moved to send Mr. Esposito to represent the Township at the Hearing on October 14th. Ms. Payne seconded. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Ms. Strouse thanked the Township staff for all the work put into the Township Budget. She also reminded the public that they are welcome to attend the Budget Work Session meetings scheduled for October 19th and October 26th at 7:00 p.m.

10. Adjournment.

Action: Mr. Tosti moved to adjourn the Public Meeting of the Middletown Township Board of Supervisors at 8:14 p.m. Ms. Quirple seconded. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.