

DARBY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2022

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE DARBY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WAS HELD ON FEBRUARY 9, 2022, AT 7:00PM AT 21 BARTRAM AVENUE (DARBY TOWNSHIP), PENNSYLVANIA, 19036.

COMMISSIONER LACEY, PRESIDENT CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AND ASKED FOR A MOMENT OF SILENCE AND THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.

ROLL CALL:

<u>COMMISSIONERS</u>	<u>OFFICIALS</u>
MR. LACEY, COMMISSIONER	MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER
MR. SMITH, COMMISSIONER	MR. SOUSA, CHIEF OF POLICE
MS. TALIAFERRO, COMMISSIONER	MS. POE, SECRETARY
MR. FITZ, COMMISSIONER-REMOTE PHONE	MR. PIERCE, SOLICITOR
MR. GOUGLER, COMMISSIONER-EXCUSED	MS. CATANIA, ENGINEER

COMMISSIONER LACEY OPENED THE FLOOR UP FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

RACQUEL HOLMAN-1106 TRIBBETT AVENUE

MS. HOLMAN-QUESTION, SO ALL THE PARKING THAT'S OUT BACK, WHY ARE WE NOT OPENING THE DOOR IN THE BACK TO COME INTO THE BUILDING.

COMMISSIONER LACEY-NICOLE, DO WE NORMALLY HAVE THAT... IT'S AN ENTRANCE DOOR THERE.

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-THERE'S A WALKWAY. YOU CAN COME DOWN AND AROUND. THAT DOOR IS FOR EMPLOYEES ONLY.

MS. HOLMAN-NO, THERE'S AN ENTRANCE DOOR TO GET INTO THE BUILDING, THAT SAYS ENTRANCE. THE MIDDLE DOOR. THE ONE IN THE HALLWAY. IT SAYS ENTRANCE.

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-I DON'T KNOW IF WE HAD IT OPEN BEFORE BUT SINCE COVID. I KNOW WE LOCKED IT TO THE PUBLIC.

MS. HOLMAN-I THINK IT'S A COVID THING.

COMMISSIONER LACEY CLOSED PUBLIC COMMENT AND ASKED COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO TO READ THE BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROCLAMATION.

COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO READ THE BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROCLAMATION.

COMMISSIONER SMITH MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 12, 2022. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO. FOUR APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO MOVED TO APPROVE THE BILL LIST FOR JANUARY 2022. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FITZ. THREE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER SMITH MOVED TO APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORTS FOR DECEMBER OF 2021. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO. FOUR APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER FITZ MOVED APPROVE THE TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORTS FOR JANUARY 2022. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO. THREE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2022-748 FIXING THE TAX RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2022. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMITH. THREE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER FITZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE PML & PSATC MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$594.40. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO. THREE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER FITZ MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #2022-04 FOR COUNTY LIQUID FUELS TAX FUND IN 2022. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMITH. FOUR APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER FITZ MOVED TO APPROVE WAWA PLAN REVISION FOR NEW LAND DEVELOPMENT/RESOLUTION 2022-05. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMITH. FOUR APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER FITZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE SETTLEMENT OF THE MATTER OF STEPHON JOHNSON V. THE TOWNSHIP OF DARBY. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO. FOUR APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER FITZ MOVED TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF JOHN LALOUP, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 13, 2022. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMITH. FOUR APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO MOVED TO AWARD CONWAY PARK/MADISON AVENUE CDBG IMPROVEMENTS BID AWARD TO ERNEL CONSTRUCTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$79,540.00. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FITZ. THREE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO MOVED TO APPROVE 608 CLIFTON AVENUE DEMOLITION PAYMENT NUMBER ONE VOUCHER (OHCD WILL PAY) \$14,400.00 TO BUCK FRANK EXCAVATION, INC. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMITH. FOUR APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO MOVED TO APPLY FOR GRANT UNDER THE COMMONWEALTH FINANCING AUTHORITY TO FUND THE BUILDING OF A NEW LIBRARY ON AN APPROPRIATE TOWNSHIP PROPERTY. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMITH WITH A QUESTION.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-COMMISSIONER DO YOU HAVE A LOCATION IN MIND FOR THE LIBRARY?
COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO-NO, NOT REALLY. I JUST WANT AN APPROPRIATE PROPERTY IN THE SECOND WARD.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-DO YOU KNOW IF WE'LL BE USING THE PRESENT LOCATION?

COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO-I DON'T KNOW. WE WILL HAVE TO SEE WHAT THE ENGINEER IS SAYING AND HOW WE CAN GO ABOUT IT. AT THIS TIME I JUST WANT TO FIND AN APPROPRIATE PROPERTY. THERE ARE A COUPLE IN THE TOWNSHIP THAT WOULD HOLD THE SITE.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-WE CAN'T REALLY ATTAIN FUNDING OR APPLY FOR FUNDING IF YOU DON'T HAVE THE LOCATION TO DECIDE WHERE WE'RE GOING TO PUT A LIBRARY. WE HAVE A LIBRARY IN THIS BUILDING HERE. WE HAVE A PROPERTY ON HOOK ROAD THAT NEEDS TO BE REEVALUATED BECAUSE IT WAS CUT DOWN FOR SOME REASON OR OTHER. SO, I CAN'T SEE HOW IT'S GOING TO WORK TO TRY TO GET FUNDING. YOU'RE NOT SURE IF WE EVEN HAVE THE PROPERTY TO PUT A LIBRARY IN.

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-SO, THE APPLICATION WOULD BE TO... IF YOU APPROVE THE APPLICATION, WE WOULD DO THE RESEARCH. RIGHT, BEFORE BECAUSE WHEN YOU APPLY ALL THAT INFORMATION HAS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE APPLICATION. SO, WE WOULD LOOK FOR A LOCATION AS A PART OF THE APPLICATION AND INCLUDE THAT IN THE APPLICATION FOR THE SITE. ADDITIONALLY, WE HAVE TWO APPLICATIONS THAT I'M WORKING ON NOW AND ONE OF THEM IS THE DEMOLITION OF THE OLD LIBRARY. THE COUNTY HAS MONEY IN A DEMOLITION FUND. THEY ARE ENCOURAGING MUNICIPALITIES TO APPLY SO I AM IN THE PROCESS OF APPLYING FOR THAT BUILDING TO BE DEMOLISHED.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-LASTLY, PRIOR TO US, THERE WAS DISCUSSION IN REGARD TO TEARING DOWN THE FORMER LIBRARY ON HOOK ROAD TO RECONSTRUCT IT, SO, OF COURSE WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE MORE RESOURCES IN THE COMMUNITY. IN 2022 I WOULD THINK LIBRARIES AREN'T AS EFFICIENT AS MULTIMEDIA CENTERS. SO, IF WE HAVE THE PROPERTY TO DO IT AND IF WE CAN GET THE FREE FUNDING TO DO IT, I'M ALL FOR IT AS LONG AS IT DOESN'T COST THE RESIDENTS ANYTHING. OR THE TOWNSHIP ANYTHING. LET'S MAKE SURE THAT WE HAVE GOOD PROPERTY. MS. ENGINEER. MS. CATANIA, YOU KNOW IF THAT PROPERTY IS SIZEABLE ENOUGH ON HOOK ROAD.

MS. CATANIA, ENGINEER-I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING WITH THIS AS OF YET. THERE'S TWO WAYS TO LOOK AT IT. YOU CAN LOOK AT THE PROPERTY AND SAY, WE CAN PUT A BUILDING X SIZE ON THIS AND DETERMINE WHETHER THAT'S SUFFICIENT. OR WE CAN DO IT THE OPPOSITE WAY AND YOU WOULD ACTUALLY DO A PLAN WHERE YOU WOULD HAVE A GROUP GET TOGETHER TO DETERMINE WHAT THE SIZE SHOULD BE. SO, ONE WAY OR THE OTHER, YOU COULD DO IT AND THEN DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT IT WOULD FIT ON THAT OR SOME OTHER PIECE OF PROPERTY. WE HAVEN'T LOOKED AT EITHER ONE OF THOSE AT THIS POINT.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-DO WE KNOW OF ANY PROPERTY WE HAVE AVAILABLE IN THE TOWNSHIP THAT WE COULD USE FOR THE LIBRARY? MS. WHITAKER DO YOU KNOW...

MS. WHITAKER-NO. NO. NO, I DON'T, AGAIN...

RESIDENT-EXCUSE ME, I'M SORRY TO INTERRUPT BUT NOBODY BACK HERE CAN HEAR. SO, IF THERE IS A MICROPHONE THAT WORKS. THIS IS AN OPEN MEETING. EVERYBODY THAT'S PRESENT DESERVES TO HEAR WHAT'S GOING ON AND OTHER MUNICIPALITIES USE THEIR MICROPHONES SO THAT EVERYBODY CAN BE HEARD.

COMMISSIONER LACEY-CAN YOU HEAR ME? IN THE BACK, CAN YOU HEAR ME?

COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO-ARE THERE ANY MORE QUESTIONS ON THE MOTION?

COMMISSIONER SMITH-SO, BASICALLY, I WAS JUST RECOMMENDING THAT WE SEARCH FIRST FOR THE PROPERTY. WHY ARE WE APPLYING FOR ANYTHING WHEN WE KNOW THAT LIBRARIES AREN'T REALLY BEING USED AS SUCH? IT'S LIKE WASTING VALUABLE TIME. THAT'S WHERE I'M AT WITH THAT. SO, THERE WAS A MOTION. IT WAS SECONDED AND IT WAS QUESTIONED, ARE WE GOING TO TRY TO SEEK FUNDING FOR SOMETHING THAT WE DON'T EVEN HAVE A PROPERTY TO PUT A LIBRARY ON?

MS. CATANIA-THERE IS ELIGIBILITY IN THIS PARTICULAR GRANT. I WENT THROUGH IT AFTER NICOLE SENT IT OVER. CAN YOU HEAR ME BACK THERE? ANYWAY, THERE IS AN ELIGIBLE ACTIVITY IN THIS PARTICULAR GRANT. THE GRANT IS UP TO ONE MILLION DOLLAR LIMIT FOR ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY. SO, IF WE FOUND SOMETHING THAT WAS CONTINUOUS, WE MAY BE ABLE TO UTILIZE IT OR SOME

PIECE OF PROPERTY THAT WOULD BE COMPARABLE TO WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR, WE CERTAINLY COULD USE PART OF THAT GRANT FOR ACQUISITION.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-COULD THOSE FUNDS BE USED FOR AN EXISTING FUND THAT YOU ALREADY OWN?

MS. CATANIA-YES, FOR ANY OF THE IMPROVEMENTS. YOU COULD USE IT FOR ENGINEERING FEES. YOU CAN USE IT FOR ANY IMPROVEMENT ON THAT PROPERTY.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-THANK YOU SO LASTLY, I WOULD LIKE TO RESCIND THE SECOND AH WITH AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION IF YOU'RE GOING TO CHANGE THE MOTION TO TAKE IN CONSIDERATION 601 CLIFTON AVENUE WHICH IS A PRESENT FIXTURE BUILDING IN THE TOWNSHIP OF DARBY THAT WE COULD APPLY FOR A GRANT TO MAKE IT A MULTI-PURPOSE RESOURCE CENTER WITH A LIBRARY AND SO FORTH. THE BUILDING IS ALREADY UP. IF THERE IS FREE MONEY AND THE COUNTY CAN HELP US OUT, THAT SEEMS (INAUDIBLE). I WANT TO SECOND THE MOTION IF YOU RESCIND IT AND USE 601 AS...

COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO-NO. I'M NOT GOING TO RESCIND MY MOTION.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-OKAY, I'M GOING TO TAKE BACK MY SECOND.

COMMISSIONER LACEY-COMMISSIONER FITZ, I DON'T KNOW IF YOU WERE ABLE TO HEAR THAT. WE HAD A MOTION AND A SECOND. THERE WAS SOME QUESTION ON THE MOTION BASED ON THE RESPONSES THAT WAS RECEIVED, COMMISSIONER SMITH HAS RESCINDED HIS SECOND. SO, WE NOW HAVE A MOTION, WE'RE LOOKING FOR A SECOND AND THAT WOULD BE FOR APPLYING FOR A GRANT UNDER COMMONWEALTH FINANCE AUTHORITY TO FUND THE BUILDING OF A NEW LIBRARY ON AN APPROPRIATE TOWNSHIP PROPERTY THAT HAS NOT BEEN IDENTIFIED YET.

COMMISSIONER FITZ-I'LL SECOND THE MOTION. AS FAR AS I CAN TELL WE ARE JUST APPLYING FOR THE GRANT AS IT IS ANY HOW AND GOD KNOWS HOW LONG THAT WILL TAKE TO COME THROUGH. SO, I SECOND THE MOTION.

MR..PIERCE, SOLICITOR-SO, WE HAVE A SECOND ON THE MOTION. ARE THERE ANY OTHER QUESTIONS ON THE MOTION?

THREE APPROVED. I OPPOSE BY COMMISSIONER SMITH. MOTION CARRIED.

PROFESSIONAL REPORTS

ENGINEER REPORT, LISA CATANIA

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PROPOSAL IS READY. CURRENTLY UPDATING THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND SHE WILL GET THEM OVER TO THE HOUSING OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SO THEY CAN APPROVE THEM AND ONCE AUTHORIZED, THEY WILL COME BACK AND THOSE TWO PROJECTS CAN BE STARTED. THE DCNR GRANT'S DEADLINE IS APRIL 7, 2022. A RESOLUTION IS NEEDED FOR THAT. SHE IS PLANNING ON THE IMPROVEMENTS FOR STUDEVAN PLAZA INCLUDING REGRADING THE BASEBALL FIELD, FOOTBALL FIELD, PUTTING UP SOME NEW EQUIPMENT, NEW BLEACHERS AND A WALKWAY ALL THE WAY AROUND SO RESIDENTS CAN UTILIZE THAT AS AN EXERCISE AREA. WE WOULD BE LOOKING AT DOING SOME LANDSCAPING THAT WOULD INCLUDE SOME OF OUR MS4 REQUIREMENTS.

COMMISSIONER LACEY-DOES THAT RESOLUTION NEED TO BE VOTED ON THIS EVENING OR CAN THAT WAIT...

MS CATANIA, ENGINEER-NO, WE'RE GOING TO DO THAT IN MARCH.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-QUESTION. MS. CATANIA, DID YOU HAVE A CHANCE TO TALK TO THE CHRIS ARNOLD ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION IN REGARD TO WHAT THAT FIELD WILL BE LOOKING AT FOR THE FUTURE? THE BASEBALL FIELD THAT'S THERE IS AN ADULT BASEBALL FIELD AND IT'S NOT FOR LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL AND I UNDERSTAND YOU'D LIKE TO HAVE THE BASEBALL DIAMOND MOVED TO THE OTHER END OF THE FIELD AND WITH THE CONSIDERATION THAT THESE MEETINGS INCLUDED RECREATION AND CHRIS ARNOLD ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

MS. CATANIA-COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO AND I ARE WORKING ON PUTTING THAT MEETING TOGETHER. LAST MONTH WE TRIED TO DO THAT AND I WAS SIDELINED WITH THE RESIDENTS AND DID NOT GET THAT DONE BUT IT IS (INAUDIBLE).

COMMISSIONER SMITH-TWO MONTHS AGO, THREE MONTHS AGO A QUESTION WAS ASKED HAS THE RECREATION COMMITTEE MET AND THE ANSWER WAS NO. HERE WE ARE AGAIN TODAY AND YOU'RE TELLING OR SUGGESTING TO US, AND IT'S NOTHING PERSONAL WHEN I SAY YOU'RE TELLING US, I'M SAYING IT WAS RECOMMENDED. THINGS NEED TO BE DONE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY AND THE INPUT IS NOT COMING FROM THE COMMUNITY. SO, WHEN WE TALK ABOUT DECISIONS, ABOUT MAKING WALK AROUND TRACKS AND SO FORTH, IT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BY THE ASSOCIATION AND THE RESIDENTS OF THE AREA. SO, WE THANK YOU FOR THE INPUT IN DOING THE WORK BUT THERE'S GOT TO BE SOME TYPE OF COMMUNICATION. WHAT THE FIELD LOOKS LIKE.

MS. CATANIA, ENGINEER-FIRST OF ALL COMMISSIONER, THE REASON THAT WE CHOOSE THIS PROJECT, IS THAT THIS IS SOMETHING THAT WE HAVE ALREADY DONE QUITE A BIT OF DESIGN ON SO THAT WE COULD PUT IT IN THE GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE GREENWAYS GRANT. SO, WE AREN'T SPENDING A LOT OF ENGINEERING TIME ON IT. WE DID MEET AND TALK ABOUT VARIOUS THINGS. A PROJECT SUCH AS THIS, YOU NEED TO SHOW SOME DIVERSITY IN ACTIVITIES. I THINK PUTTING A WALKWAY THROUGH THERE, AND THIS IS MY PROFESSIONAL OPINION, PUTTING A WALKWAY THROUGH THERE WOULD GIVE RESIDENTS THAT AREN'T PLAYING FOOTBALL OR AREN'T DOING CHEERLEADING, OR BASEBALL OR SOFTBALL THE OPPORTUNITY TO UTILIZE THAT FIELD. THAT'S JUST MY PROFESSIONAL OPINION. I'VE BEEN TO NUMEROUS PLAYGROUND TRAINING SESSIONS, I HAVE DONE ACCESSIBILITIES SESSIONS. RIGHT NOW, THAT FIELD IS NOT FULLY ADA COMPLIANT AND WE NEED TO GET IT TO THAT POINT.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-IT SEEMS THAT EVERYTIME SOMETHING HAPPENS IN THE SOUTHERN SECTION OF DARBY TOWNSHIP THE WORDS ADA COMPLIANCE COMES UP TO PLAY. NONE OF OUR STREETS ARE ADA COMPLIANT. NONE OF THEM. NONE OF OUR PARKS ARE ADA COMPLIANT. IT'S BEEN LIKE THAT FOR YEARS. AGAIN, CONSIDERATION. THE FOOTBALL FIELD COULD HAVE A WALK AROUND TRACK. IF YOU GET THE INPUT FROM THE PEOPLE, YOU CAN NOW DO TRACK, CHEERLEADING, FOOTBALL, MOVE THE BASEBALL FIELD TO THE LOWER END OF THE FIELD AND HAVE DIFFERENT GAMES GOING ON DOWN THERE, ALL AT THE SAME TIME. JUST LIKE THE NORWOOD FIELD, THE COLLINGDALE FOOTBALL FIELD, YOU HAVE A WALKAROUND TRACK AROUND IT. ALL I'M SAYING IS THAT CONSIDERATION. LET'S DO A STUDY. LET'S GET SOME INPUT FROM THE RESIDENTS. YOU CURRENTLY SAID WE AND THE WE MEANS YOU TOO.

MS. CATANIA-ABSOLUTELY NOT.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-YOU SAID WE. WELL, WHO'S THE WE?

COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO-COMMISSIONER, I THINK THAT LAST MONTH OR THE PREVIOUS MONTH THAT MEMBERS OF THE CHRIS ARNOLD ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION CAME IN AND ASKED ABOUT THE UPKEEP AND MAINTENANCE OF THE FIELD. THIS IS PART OF THE REASON WHY WE ARE TRYING TO GET GRANTS TO UPKEEP THE FIELD AND PROVIDE THE MAINTENANCE THAT THEY ASKED FOR IN A MEETING. ONE OF THE IDEAS WAS TO LOOK AT CHANGING THE DIAMOND TO A DIFFERENT AREA SO THAT IT WOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH THE FOOTBALL SO THESE ARE IDEAS THAT ARE ALREADY IN PLAY. LAST MONTH, I BELIEVE, THE PRESIDENT OF CHRIS ARNOLD ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION WAS HERE BUT BEFORE HE COULD SPEAK TO ME TO SET UP SOMETHING AFTER THE MEETING, HE HAD LEFT AND AFTER THAT THE ENGINEER WAS BUSY WRITING OTHER GRANTS. SO, I DID CONTACT HIM VIA EMAIL TO LET HIM KNOW THAT WE WOULD TRY TO SET SOMETHING UP. SO, IT'S NOT DONE IN A VACUUM.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-THANK YOU FOR YOUR RESPONSE. AGAIN, AND I'M GOING TO LET IT GO AFTER THIS, LET'S JUST MAKE SURE THAT WE CONSULT WITH THOSE THAT HAVE THE ACTIVITIES IN THE COMMUNITY AND THAT WE REALLY DESIGN THIS THING OUT. WE CLEARLY TALKED ABOUT PUTTING A WALK AROUND TRAIL AROUND THE PERIMETER OF THE FOOTBALL FIELD WHEN WE ALL KNOW, THOSE THAT HAVE BEEN DOWN THERE, THAT IT'S UNLEVEL. SO, YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT PUTTING (INAUDIBLE) THERE. SO, I'M JUST SUGGESTING THAT WE PUT IT IN WRITING. DO OUR BLUEPRINTS WHERE PEOPLE

CAN SEE AND GO FROM THERE. SO, WE'RE NOT SAYING IT'S NOT A GOOD IDEAL, WE'RE JUST SAYING LET'S MAKE IT INCLUSIVE. I HAVE NOTHING FURTHER. THANK YOU.

COMMISSIONER SMITH MOVED TO APPROVE THE ENGINEER'S REPORT. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO. THREE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED. COPY ATTACHED.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT-MR. PIERCE, SOLICITOR.

AFTER GIVING HIS REPORT, MR. PIERCE REMINDED THE PUBLIC THAT THE CONTINUED HEARING FOR WHITE'S AUTOMOBILE AND THE CEDARWOOD ROAD PROPERTIES, THE ZONING HEARING BOARD WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 17, 2022, AT 7:00 P.M. MR. VAN WHITE FROM HIS OFFICE WILL BE HANDLING THE HEARING. HE WILL BE FULLY PREPARED AND WE WILL CONTINUE ON WITH OUR WITNESSES AND I EXPECT, I WOULD HOPE THAT MOST OF THAT TESTIMONY WOULD WRAP UP THAT EVENING.

COMMISSIONER SMITH MOVED TO APPROVE THE SOLICITOR'S REPORT. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FITZ. FOUR APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED. COPY ATTACHED.

POLICE REPORT-CHIEF SOUSA

COMMISSIONER FITZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE POLICE REPORT. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMITH. FOUR APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED. COPY ATTACHED.

MANAGER'S REPORT-MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER

MS. WHITAKER HAD A FEW UPDATES. SHE ASKED ALL TO BE PATIENT AS THE TOWNSHIP IS IN THE PROCESS OF INSTALLING NEW PHONES.

HALF OF THE ARPA FUNDS WERE RECEIVED. HALF OF THE DISPERSEMENT WAS APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS AGO. THE FINAL RULING FROM THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY WAS ALSO RECEIVED. THE TOWNSHIP IS IN THE PROCESS OF EVALUATING SOME THINGS THAT NEED TO BE DONE IN TERMS OF INFRASTRUCTURE, SEWER. SO, WE ARE TRYING TO DETERMINE WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE WHICH WOULD BE LONG TERM BENEFITS FOR THE TOWNSHIP AS A WHOLE WHEN WE MAKE THOSE UPGRADES.

CONWAY PARK-WE HAVE A DCNR GRANT FOR A MASTER PLAN FOR CONWAY PARK. WE HAVE STARTED MEETING. THE FIRST PUBLIC MEETING WAS LAST MONTH. THERE WILL BE ADDITIONAL MEETINGS AND FOCUS GROUPS. SHE STATED WE ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE. SHE ENCOURAGED THE RESIDENTS TO GO TO THE TOWNSHIP'S WEBPAGE TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY AND PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLIC MEETINGS. THE PUBLIC MEETINGS WILL BE FROM NOW UNTIL JUNE.

COMMISSIONER SMITH- JUST A FOLLOW UP ON QUESTIONS I HAD THE OTHER DAY ON HOW THE FUNDS ARE BEING USED. I DID TALK TO CONGRESS AGAIN, YESTERDAY AND TODAY AND THOSE MONIES CAN BE USED ON ANYTHING COVID RELATED TO ENHANCE THE COMMUNITY. SO, THOSE FUNDS CAN BE USED FOR RECREATION AND EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES. ANYTHING THAT COULD BRING THE RESIDENTS OUTSIDE THEIR HOME. SO, I'M JUST LETTING YOU KNOW THAT IT'S JUST NOT THAT LOT FOR SMALL THINGS. I DON'T THINK WE NEED TO USE THAT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE BUT THERE'S OTHER (INAUDIBLE) IN PARTICULAR FORRESTER AVENUE IS COLLAPSING. YOU WERE AWARE OF THAT OVER A YEAR AGO. AT LEAST WE REVISIT IT AND HAVE SOMEONE COME CHECK IT OUT. I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE THE MONIES ARE USED FOR LIFE CHANGING THINGS FOR THE RESIDENTS OF DARBY TOWNSHIP. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

COMMISSIONER SMITH MOVED TO APPROVE THE MANAGER'S REPORT. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO. FOUR APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

SCOMMISSIONER'S REPORT

COMMISSIONER FITZ GAVE THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT. HE ALSO THANKED THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT FOR AN OUTSTANDING JOB THEY DID WITH THE SNOW REMOVAL PROCESS IN THE STORM IN JANUARY 2022.

COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO GAVE HER REPORT. SHE HAD PREVIOUSLY REPORTED AND MADE MOTIONS. SHE ALSO THANKED THE CONWAY PARK TASK FORCE FOR DOING A FINE JOB IN COMING OUT TO THE MEETINGS AND COMING UP WITH GREAT IDEAS.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-POINT OF ORDER. THERE WAS SOMEONE IN THE BACK THAT WANTED PUBLIC COMMENT AND WE COULDN'T GET TO THEM BECAUSE THEY WERE TRYING TO MANEUVER IN THE BACK SO THEY COULD BE HEARD. BEFORE I CONTINUE MY REPORT.

MS. NICOLE, MANAGER-SO WE WERE GOING TO OPEN UP FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS AT THE END OF THE MEETING AGAIN BECAUSE A LOT OF PEOPLE CAME IN LATE. SO, WE ARE GOING TO WAIT. DO YOUR REPORT, JUST GIVE YOUR REPORT AND THEN COMMISSIONER LACEY WILL OPEN UP FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AT THE END OF THE MEETING.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-IT WASN'T ON THE AGENDA.

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-THEY CAME IN LATE. A LOT OF PEOPLE CAME IN AFTER HE ALREADY ASKED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT. SO, I SENT HIM A MESSAGE TO SAY, OPEN UP PUBLIC COMMENT AGAIN BECAUSE A LOT OF RESIDENTS ARRIVED LATE. SO, AT THE END OF THE MEETING.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-THAT'S FINE. IN REGARD TO 601 CLIFTON AVENUE, WE ARE NOT MAKING ANY MOTIONS ON IT TONIGHT. WE DID SPEAK ABOUT TAKING THE NECESSARY STEP TO TRY AND GET THE BUILDING READY FOR THE SPRING. SO, IF I'M CORRECT I WANT TO MAKE A MOTION TO OR PUT ON THE FLOOR FOR CONSIDERATION TO REBID THE PROCESS FOR THE LIGHTING, OR THE ADA COMPLIANCE FOR THE PARKING LOT. WHATEVER IT TAKES. AS STATED BY THE ENGINEER, THOSE FOUR ITEMS BID SEPERATELY BECAUSE IF WE BOUGHT SEPERATELY, IT WOULD BECOME CHEAPER AND WE COULD GET IN THE BUILDING TO USE THE BUILDING FOR A RESOURCE MINISTRY CENTER. SO, THAT'S WHERE WE'RE AT WITH THAT, 601 CLIFTON AVENUE.

FOLLOW BACK UP ON FORRESTER AVENUE. CLIFTON AND FORRESTER, THAT PARK AREA.

COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO ANYTHING CAN BE DONE IN THE NEAR FUTURE ABOUT THE SINKING HOLE AT THE BASKETBALL COURT AREA? DO YOU KNOW?

COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO-NOT AT THIS TIME, NO. I DON'T THINK IT WAS PUT IN THE BUDGET.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-IF YOU CAN TAKE SOME TIME TO GO DOWN THERE AND LOOK AT THAT BIG HOLE. SOMEBODY'S GOING TO GET HURT. IT'S A REAL BIG HOLE DOWN THERE. IT NEEDS TO BE FILLED UP.

MS. NICOLE, MANAGER-WHERE IS IT AT?

COMMISSIONER SMITH-CLIFTON AND FORRESTER, AS YOU'RE WALKING UP, COMING UP FORRESTER. DOWN IN THE GRASS. IT USED TO BE A TREE THERE. SO, IT'S A REAL BIG HOLE THERE. PEOPLE HAVE FELL (INAUDIBLE).

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-OKAY.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-SIGNAGE. SOMETIME AGO IT WAS REQUESTED TO HAVE THE SIGN REPLACED ON TRIBBETT AND HOOK ROAD. WHAT'S THE STATUS OF THAT MS. WHITAKER? THE SIGN THAT'S NOT VISIBLE.

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-THE SIGN THAT'S NOT VISIBLE.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-YES, IT'S FADED AWAY. WHEN WE GOT THE GREEN SIGNS AND...

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-I'LL HAVE TO FOLLOW UP WITH OUR HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR TOMORROW.

COMMISSIONER LACEY-WHAT STREET, TRIBBETT?

COMMISSIONER SMITH-IT'S JUST THE ONE SIGN. FOLLOW UP AGAIN ON THE SEWERAGE CLEAN UP. HAS THAT TAKEN PLACE TO GET DONE ON HOOK ROAD? MS. WHITAKER?

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-SEWERAGE?

COMMISSIONER SMITH-THE SEWER LINES. THE SEWER DRAINS. WERE THEY CLEANED OUT THE STORM SEWERS ON HOOK ROAD. IT WAS BOUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION.

MS, WHITAKER, MANAGER-BY WHO?

COMMISSIONER SMITH-THE RESIDENTS. MYSELF. TWO OR THREE MONTHS AGO. WE TALKED ABOUT HOOK ROAD AND GETTING THOSE DRAINS CLEANED OUT.

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-I DON'T RECALL THAT.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-DID YOU GET A CHANCE TO CONTACT PENNDOT ABOUT THE ROADS?

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-THOMAS IS IN CHARGE OF HIGHWAY AND THOMAS MADE THOSE CALLS. I'LL FOLLOW UP WITH THOMAS REGARDING HOOK ROAD AND HIGHWAY. AS FAR AS THE SEWER DRAINS YOU HAVE TO GIVE ME SOMETHING SPECIFIC. WHERE THE LOCATIONS ARE. I MEAN ANYTHING, WAS THERE A BACK UP? WE CALLED GENERAL SEWER OUT SEVERAL TIMES. YOU'D HAVE TO GIVE ME SOMETHING SPECIFIC AND I'LL HAVE TO PULL THE INVOICES TO SEE WHAT LOCATIONS AND WHAT WAS DONE. YOU HAVE TO GIVE ME THE INFORMATION AHEAD OF TIME SO THAT I CAN HAVE THE INFORMATION FOR YOU.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-IT'S IN THE EMAIL. YOU HAVE THE EMAIL. I'LL FORWARD IT TO YOU. IT WAS ALSO REQUESTED BY THE RESIDENTS, AND WE TALKED ABOUT IT EXTENSIVELY AT THE MEETING THAT THOSE DRAINS WILL BE CLEARED OUT, AS WELL AS THOSE HOLES ON HOOK ROAD. WE HAD CONGRESSMAN SCANLON IN THE AREA THINKING ABOUT INFRASTRUCTURE. WE CAN TRY TO FIND OUT WHAT WE CAN DO WITH HOOK ROAD BECAUSE IT FLOODS OUT A LOT AND WE NEED TO DO SOMETHING WITH HOOK ROAD. THE LIGHTING THAT WE TALKED ABOUT. WE NEVER GOT LIGHTS AT THE BRIDGE. AT FORRESTER AVENUE AND WALTERS AVENUE. WHERE ARE WE AT WITH THE LIGHTING? MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-I BELIEVE THOMAS RECEIVED QUOTES FOR THAT BUT IT WAS A LITTLE PRICY. AND AGAIN, I THINK THAT WAS AT THE END OF LAST YEAR SO THAT'S ON HOLD.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-PERHAPS WE CAN CONSIDER SOLAR LIGHTS, A LITTLE CHEAPER-NO ELECTRICITY. THE HANDICAP BRIDGE, WHEN YOU COME ACROSS WALTER AVENUE, IT IS NOT LEVEL. AND LAST, I GOT A CONCERN FROM THE RESIDENTS IN REGARD TO CATS BEING IN THE COMMUNITY. I CALLED YOU ABOUT THAT. I TALKED TO SHARON HILL SPAYED AND NEUTER. THEY REPLIED BACK IN AN EMAIL THAT WE'RE NOT GOING TO REMOVE THOSE ITEMS.

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-THOSE BOXES ARE NOT OURS.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-THOSE BOXES ARE NOT OURS?

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-I TALKED TO THOMAS. HE WAS DOWN THERE. HE SAID YOU HAD CONTACTED HIM ABOUT REMOVING THEM AND HE SAID THEY ARE NOT TOWNSHIP PROPERTY. I WAS ON THE PHONE WITH YOU WHEN I THINK THE LADY CAME UP FROM THE SPAYED CLUB. AND SO, I KNOW THAT OUR CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER HAS HAD SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH THE SPAYED CLUB REGARDING THE PROBLEM WITH THE CATS AND HOW WE COULD WORK TOGETHER TO KIND OF RESOLVE THAT. AND YES, I REPLIED THAT WE WOULD NOT BE REMOVING THOSE BOXES. THERE MAY BE ON TOWNSHIP PROPERTY BUT WE DID'NT WANT TO GET INTO ANYTHING WITH THIS ORGANIZATION AND SO WE WANT THEM TO REMOVE THE BOXES.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-DID YOU SEND A LETTER TO THEM?

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-NO, I DID NOT. SORRY?

COMMISSIONER LACEY-THIS ORGANIZATION OWNS THE BOXES?

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-YES.

COMMISSIONER LACEY-OKAY AND ARE THEY USED FOR TRAPPING OR...

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-I DON'T KNOW.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-SO, I'M REQUESTING YOU TO SEND THEM A LETTER, EMAIL, I NEED A MOTION FOR THAT, TO HAVE THEM COME AND MOVE THEIR BELONGINGS BECAUSE THIS BOOKLET THAT WE

PUT OUT, IT SPEAKS ABOUT STRAY ANIMAL AND SO FORTH AND THINGS YOU CAN AND CAN NOT DO. AND THIS IS CLEARLY A VIOLATION. THAT'S LIKE IF YOU WENT OUT THERE AND START FEEDING STRAY DOGS. WE DON'T WANT ANY CATS THERE. WE DON'T WANT THEM TO BE FED THERE. PEOPLE BRING FOOD TO THEM. IT'S OUT OF ORDER. SO, WE WANT THEM REMOVED AND I'M ASKING YOU TO HAVE THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT TO REMOVE THEM BECAUSE HE HAS SOME ALREADY IN THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AREA THAT HE REMOVED FROM OTHER AREAS. I FINISHED MY NEW BUSINESS. THANK YOU.

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-SO, THAT WOULD NEED APPROVAL FROM THE BOARD FOR ME TO SEND A LETTER. THAT WOULD NEED BOARD APPROVAL FOR ME TO SEND A LETTER TO ASK THEM TO REMOVE THE BOXES.

COMMISSIOER SMITH-OKAY. WELL...

COMMISSIONER LACEY-ARE THEY TRAPPING THE CATS OR ARE THEY FEEDING THE CATS?

COMMISSIONER SMITH-THEY ARE TRAPPING AND FEEDING THESE CATS. THESE CATS ARE BIG AS DOGS.

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-I WOULD SUGGEST WE TALK TO JOHN METTS ABOUT IT BEFORE WE DO ANY ACTION.

COMMISSIONER LACEY-OKAY. WE'LL DO THAT TOMORROW. THEY CAN'T BE FEEDING AND...

COMMISSIONER SMITH-THEY ARE FEEDING THE CATS. THE CATS ARE...

COMMISSIONER LACEY-LET'S HAVE A MEETING ON THAT WITH JOHN.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-IS THE CODE ENFORCER HERE TONIGHT?

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-HE MIGHT BE IN THE HALLWAY. I THOUGHT JOHN WAS GOING TO COME.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-IS THE CODE ENFORCER IN THE HALLWAY BACK THERE?

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-JOHN, OR BOB?

COMMISSIONER LACEY- LICENSE & INSPECTIONS REPORT WAS GIVEN.

IT WAS MENTIONED, BY THE SOLICITOR, THE ZONING HEARING BOARD NEXT WEEK AND THAT IS ALL I HAVE FOR MY REPORT. WE CAN MOVE ON NOW TO NEW BUSINESS.

NEW BUSINESS-

COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO-I JUST WANT TO RE-EMPHASIZETHE SURVEY THAT THE MANAGER TALKED ABOUT. GOING TO THE TOWNSHIP WEBSITE AND COMPLETING THE SURVEY FOR CONWAY PARK, PLEASE.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-I RECEIVED SEVERAL PHONE CALLS FROM SOME RESIDENTS, IN PARTICULAR WARD ONE. THEIR BACK ALLEYWAYS AND DRIVEWAYS TO REPAIR. SOME OF THEM ARE HERE TONIGHT. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE IF THE BOARD WOULD SEND A LETTER TO WHOEVER. SENATOR WILLIAMS, REGINA YOUNG, MS. SCANLON TO TRY AND SEE IF WE CAN GET SOME INFRASTRUCTURE MONEY TO HELP THESE ALLEYWAYS IN ALL FIVE WARDS, TO GET THESE BACK DRIVEWAYS COMPLETED BECAUSE THE TRASH COMPANIES ARE BREAKING THEM UP, THE DRIVEWAYS. IF WE CONTRACTED THE TRASH COMPANY, JUST LIKE WHEN THERE WAS SOME DAMAGE OVER HERE ON THESE SIDE STREETS THEY MIGHT HAVE WENT BACK AND FIXED IT. SO, I DON'T THINK IT WOULD BE IN ORDER TO SEND A LETTER TO THE RESIDENT SAYING GET BACK TO ME IN FIVE DAYS OR WE'LL TAKE YOU TO DISTRICT COURT WHEN THEY DIDN'T CREATE THE PROBLEM. SO, I'M ASKING THIS BOARD TO CONSIDER WRITING FOR GRANTS FOR SOME MONIES TO BE USED FOR FIXING THESE BACK STREETS AND PAPERSTREETS BECAUSE IT CAN BE DONE WITH INFRASTRUCTURE.

SECONDLY, I'M IN RECEIPT OF THIS LETTER I GOT TONIGHT FROM GOODWILL FIRE COMPANY. IT IS VERY DISTURBING AND I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU WANT TO ADDRESS IT. DO YOU WANT TO HEAR FROM THE RESIDENTS FIRST OR DO YOU WANT ME TO RESPOND TO THE LETTER?

MR. PIERCE, SOLICITOR-I WOULD NOT RESPOND TO THE LETTER. AT THIS POINT EVERYBODY JUST GOT THIS AT FOUR O'CLOCK AND I WOULD ASK THAT YOU HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO INVESTIGATE IT. THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD HAS INDICATED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED IT AS WELL AND THAT AN OPPORTUNITY BE GIVEN TO INVESTIGATE IT AND TAKE WHATEVER APPROPRIATE ACTIONS ARE NEEDED.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEGAL ADVICE. AS A COMMISSIONER, AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THIS COMMUNITY AND AS A MAN, THIS IS HORRIBLE. I CANNOT LET THIS GO BY FIVE MINUTES. I HAVE THE AUDIO AND WE COULD PLAY IT NOW. PUBLICLY OR WE COULD GO TO THE BACK ROOM AND LISTEN TO IT. WE NEED TO ADDRESS THIS TODAY.

MR. PIERCE, SOLICITOR-I WOULD NOT RECOMMEND IT BUT THAT'S YOUR CALL.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-I THANK YOU SO MUCH. EITHER WAY, AND THEN AGAIN, THESE MEETINGS ARE RECORDED SO EVERYTHING IS PUBLIC RECORD. BECAUSE OF THE NATURE OF THE CONVERSATION. I DON'T KNOW IF YOU HAD A CHANCE TO LISTEN MR. SOLICITOR.

MR. PIERCE-I HAVE NOT.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-SO THEREFORE WE COULD TAKE AN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

MR. PIERCE, SOLICITOR-HOW LONG IS THE AUDIO CAUSE I'M NOT GOING TO STAY HERE FORTY-FIVE MINUTES.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-OKAY, WELL. THE THING IS THIS, RESPECTFULLY-YOU'RE OUR SOLICITOR AND TO JUST TELL US YOU'RE NOT GOING TO STAY HERE FOR AN X AMOUNT OF TIME IS NOT NICE. DISCUSSION ENSUED.

MR. PIERCE-COMMISSIONER YOU HAD THE AUDIO MONDAY AND HAD THAT BEEN THE CASE, I WOULD HAVE BEEN PREPARED TO STAY.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-WELL THE THING IS THIS, IF I HAD THE AUDIO LAST WEEK IT WOULD'NT HAVE MATTERED UNTIL SOMEONE RAISED A CONCERN BECAUSE ACCORDING TO THE EMAIL, I RECEIVED FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER SHE SAID IT WAS HEARSAY. SO, WE KNOW IT'S NOT HEARSAY BECAUSE...

MR. PIERCE, SOLICITOR-I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO...

COMMISSIONER SMITH-OKAY, THE THING IS THIS, WE CAN PLUG IT IN NOW AND LET THE PUBLIC HEAR IT OR WVE CAN GO IN THE BACK ROOM AND DISCUSS IT AND MAKE A DECISION WHAT WE NEED TO DO BECAUSE THEN WE'LL TAKE THE PEOPLE'S ADVICE AT THAT POINT, SOMEBODY SAY SOMETHING LIKE THIS. I HEARD IT.

MR. PIERCE, SOLICITOR-YOU'RE IN CHARGE. I'M JUST HERE FOR YOUR...

COMMISSIONER SMITH-THAT'S FINE. I THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEGAL...

COMMISSIONER LACEY-CAN I GET A MOTION FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION?

COMMISSIONER SMITH-SO MOVED.

COMMISSIONER FITZ-MR. PRESIDENT? I'D LIKE TO CHIME IN THERE FOR A SECOND. IF COMMISSIONER SMITH DOES INDEED HAVE AUDIO OF THIS CONVERSATION THAT I RECEIVED, LIKE YOU ALL AT FOUR O'CLOCK THIS AFTERNOON, I'D PREFER TO BE PRESENT. NOT REMOTE, IN FLORIDA. I'D RATHER BE IN THIS MEETING IF WE'RE GOING TO DO AN EXECUTIVE MEETING.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-WELL HE COULD HEAR IT FROM INSIDE THERE. I CAN SEND IT TO YOU AS WELL. ONE OF THE OTHER OPTIONS IS TO HEAR IT FROM THE RESIDENTS CAUSE THEY'RE GOING TO PRESENT IT. IT WOULD'VE BEEN BETTER TO PRESENT IT IN EXECUTIVE SESSION IN THE BACK BUT IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DO IT THAT WAY? I MEAN, YOU WAS ON THE MEETING CALL THE WHOLE TIME SINCE SEVEN O'CLOCK HEARING EVERYTHING ELSE. SO, I CAN LET YOU HEAR IT IN THE BACK ROOM. IF NOT, IT'S GOING TO BE HEARD PUBLICLY BY THE RESIDENTS THAT'S PRESENTING THEIR CONCERNS. BECAUSE THIS IS BIGGER THAN DARBY TOWNSHIP. THAT'S WHY IT'S SO CROWDED TONIGHT. IT'S NO SURPRISE. WE ALL KNEW ABOUT THIS AND IT'S A SHAME THAT FIFTY, SIXTY YEARS AND WE'RE STILL DEALING WITH' RASISM. THIS IS HORRIBLE.

COMMISSIONER LACEY-SO WE HAVE A MOTION FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION. DO WE HAVE A SECOND?

COMMISSIONER LACEY SECONDED IT. DISCUSSION ENSUED.

COMMISSIONER LACEY CALLED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

ASHLEY DOLCEMORE, 1151 OAKWOOD DRIVE

MS. DOLCEMORE READ A LETTER ON BEHALF OF GOODWILL FIRE COMPANY. DATED FEBRUARY 9, 2022. THE CONTENT OF THE LETTER EXPRESSED RACIAL REMARKS BY BRIARCLIFFE FIRE COMPANY. GOOD WILL

FIRE COMPANY WENT ON TO STATE IN THE LETTER THAT THEY HAVE GREAT CONCERNS OF THIS AS FIRE COMPANIES AND THE SAFETY OF THE COMMUNITY. COPY ATTACHED.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-THANK YOU SO MUCH. WE'LL TAKE AN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-ANY OTHER COMMENTS.

PATRICIA CLARK, 7756 GREEN VALLEY ROAD, WAYNECOTE, PA

MY COMMENT IS NOT IN REFERENCE TO THE LETTER THAT WAS JUST READ. THE LETTER IS VERY IMPORTANT AND I AM SHOCKED AND AMAZED AND ALMOST UNABLE TO SPEAK AFTER HEARING THAT LETTER. MY REASON FOR ATTENDING THIS MEETING TODAY AND MY REQUEST OF THE COMMISSIONERS IS THAT THEY CONSIDER A PROJECT WITH THE RESIDENTS THAT LIVE ON TRIBBETT AVENUE OR OWN PROPERTY ON TRIBBETT AVENUE OR HERMESPROTA. IN DEVELOPING A ROADWAY THAT IS APPROPRIATE FOR USE OF GARBAGE TRUCKS. SINCE WE HAVE OWNED A COUPLE OF PROPERTIES ON TRIBBETT AVENUE WE'VE REPAIRED THAT ALLEYWAY A FEW TIMES AND IT JUST WITHIN A YEAR OR SO, GETS TORN BACK UP BECAUSE WE HAVE NO CONTROL EVEN THOUGH IT IS OUR PRIVATE PROPERTY. WE HAVE NO CONTROL OVER WHO USES THAT ROADWAY INCLUDING THE GARBAGE TRUCKS AND UTILITY TRUCKS AND SO FORTH. SO, WE WOULD LIKE A PLAN HOPEFULLY FOR THE FUTURE BECAUSE IF WE REPAIR, OBVIOUSLY THE LETTER FROM MR. BRENNAN, AND HE DID SAY- ASK THAT WE GET BACK IN TOUCH WITH HIM IN FIVE DAYS OR ELSE WE WOULD BE TAKEN TO COURT. I DID CALL HIM BACK. I LEFT A VOICEMAIL AND THEN I LEFT A TEXT MESSAGE ON THE NUMBER THAT WAS AVAILABLE TO ME AND I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM HIM. BUT, IN ANY CASE I AM REQUESTING SOME ASSISTANCE FROM THE TOWNSHIP BECAUSE THIS NEEDS TO BE A COMMUNITY PROJECT. SINCE I GREW UP IN DARBY TOWNSHIP AND USED THOSE ROADS, WHEN I GOT OF AGE TO DRIVE. IT'S BEEN A PROBLEM AND IT'S NOT GOING TO BE SOLVED BY HAVING RESIDENTS PATCH THEIR SECTION ONE BY ONE. IT REALLY NEEDS TO BE PREPARED FOR UTILITY USE. THANK YOU.

TIBERIAS BOBO, 704 FELTON AVENUE

I AM THE FIRE CHIEF OF DARBY TOWNSHIP NO. 4 FIRE STATION NO. 76. WELL FIRST HAPPY BLACK HISTORY MONTH. THIS IS AN ISSUE I HEARD RUMORS ABOUT IT AND I GOT A CHANCE TO HEAR THE TAPES AND I WANT TO SAY THAT I'M TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS OLD. I'VE WORKED HARD TO GET EVERYWHERE THAT I AM. PLUS, IT'S NOT TO PULL A RACE CARD BUT IF IT'S NOT KNOWN, IN SOME INSTANCES, HAVING DARKER SKIN YOU HAVE TO WORK A LITTLE HARDER. I THOUGHT THAT THIS WAS OVER IN DARBY. THIS IS A REMINDER THAT WHEN MY MOTHER WAS GOING TO HIGH SCHOOL AND COULDN'T WALK TO COLLINGDALE AND COULDN'T WALK TO PLACES LIKE FOLCROFT WITHOUT BEING IN A FIGHT. THOSE PEOPLE ARE MERELY BECOMING SENIOR CITIZENS AT THIS TIME. THEY ARE STILL HERE. MY FIRE COMPANY HAD BEEN FIGHTING WITH THIS TOWNSHIP FOR DECADES AND IT TOOK SOMETHING LIKE THIS TO COME OUT FOR SOMEONE TO RECOGNIZE THE ISSUES. WE'VE EXPERIENCED SOMETHING THAT IS CALLED SYSTEMIC RASISM. AND SYSTEMIC RACISM IS THE RACISM THAT OCCURS BUT WE CAN'T CALL IT BECAUSE IF WE CALL IT, IT'S PULLING THE BLACK CARD. AND, IN THAT VIDEO, IT STATED THREE TIMES THAT I PULLED THE BLACK CARD BECAUSE I WENT THROUGH YEARS, TWO ASSOCIATE DEGREES, TWO BACHLOR'S DEGREES AND THEN SAT FOR TWO ADDITIONAL YEARS TO GET MY PARAMEDIC AND WORK FOR THE THIRD LARGEST AND BUSIEST FIRE DEPARTMENT IN THE COUNTRY AND I CAME BACK HERE FOR LESS MONEY, FOR LESS THAN NOTHING TO SERVE MY COMMUNITY. AND TO HEAR, BECAUSE OF MY RACE THAT YOU DIDN'T WANT ME HERE. AND I PROMISE YOU THERE IS NOONE BETTER FOR DARBY TOWNSHIP THAN ME. I DON'T SAY IT TO BE COCKY, I SAY IT BECAUSE IT'S TRUE. THIS IS WHERE MY HEART IS. WITH THAT BEING SAID, WHETHER YOU ALL BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I HAVE GENUINELY BEEN TRYING TO BUILD RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE THREE FIRE COMPANIES. I AM HERE TO TELL YOU THAT THAT IS DONE. CHIEF SOUSA, I'VE EVEN TRIED TO BUILD SOME KIND OF RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT, BUT ONE THING THAT I WILL NOT TOLERATE, BECAUSE I HAVE SO MANY OTHER PROBLEMS, IS RACISM. THINGS TO ADDRESS, WHEN YOU GUYS DO WHATEVER MEETING THAT YOU HAVE BACK THERE, I WANT YOU TO KNOW, I'VE ALREADY HEARD THE TAPES. AT

THE END OF THIS MEETING, WHETHER A LETTER NEEDS TO BE DRAWN UP OR HOWEVER, BRIARCLIFFE FIRE COMPANY IS NOT TO RESPOND TO MY SIDE OF TOWNSHIP UNTIL THE RELATIONSHIP HAS CHANGED. THAT INCLUDES THE FIRE SIDE AND THE AMBULANCE. AND LET ME GO BACK TO THE AMBULANCE BECAUSE THAT'S WHERE IT STARTED AND I TRIED TO SAY IT BUT I COULDN'T SAY IT DIRECTLY. YOU SEE THE AMBULANCE WASN'T PROVIDED BY BRIARCLIFFE ORIGINALLY, OR DARBY OR FOLCROFT. IT WAS PROVIDED BY COLLINGDALE. ARE YOU GUYS AWARE OF WHY? IT'S BECAUSE EVERY OTHER WHITE COMPANY SAID THAT THEY DIDN'T WANT NIGGERS IN THE BACK OF THEIR AMBULANCE. AND COLLINGDALE WAS THE ONLY FIRE COMPANY THAT SAID THAT THEY WOULD SERVICE OUR TOWNSHIP. BUT THEN AS TIME WENT ON AND WE SAW THAT THERE WAS A LITTLE BIT OF MONEY TO BE MADE THERE. THE TOWNSHIP ALLOWED A FURTHER AMBULANCE SERVICE TO COME DOWN TO OUR SIDE OF THE TOWNSHIP. I'M TELLING YOU NOW, I DON'T WANT THEM DOWN THERE AND I SAY THAT FROM ME WITH THE SUPPORT OF WARDS ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR AND FIVE. THEY SHOULDN'T BE SERVING UP HERE EITHER. REMARKS WERE MADE AS SAYING, THEY'RE TAKING OVER THE FIRE COMPANY. THEY ARE EVERYWHERE. THEY ARE WALKING BACK AND FORTH PAST OUR STATION. I'VE NEVER SEEN SO MANY OF THEM ON BALTIMORE PIKE IN MY LIFE. IT'S UNACCEPTABLE AND YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TO GO BACK INTO THAT ROOM AND LISTEN TO IT. I FEEL FOR ALL OF YOU BLACK OR WHITE BECAUSE WE SHOULD NEVER EVEN BE IN A POSITION TO SIT HERE AND DO IT. NIP IT IN THE BUD TONIGHT. BECAUSE IT SHOULDN'T HAVE TO BE HANDLED ON THE FIRE SCENE. DO NOT LET IT GET THAT FAR TO WHERE I HAVE TO HANDLE IT. LET IT BE HANDLED HERE IN THE TOWNSHIP.

LINDA STEWART, 915 SHARON AVENUE

MS. STEWART-I'VE BEEN A RESIDENT HERE ALL MY LIFE AND TO HEAR THIS AND FOR THEM TO MAKE FUN OF A CHILD THAT WAS KILLED. I DON'T CARE, IT COULD HAVE BEEN A WHITE CHILD, BLACK CHILD, INDIAN CHILD. IT'S A CHILD. AND TO THINK THAT IN THIS DAY AND AGE THAT THERE IS SO MUCH RACISM IN THIS LITTLE TINY TOWNSHIP. IT'S HORRENDOUS. I'VE BEEN HERE FOR SIXTY-SIX YEARS. MY MOTHER'S BEEN HERE FOR EIGHTY-FIVE YEARS. MY FATHER WAS A VOLUNTEER FIRE MAN OF NUMBER FOUR FOR SIXTY-TWO YEARS BEFORE HIS DEATH AND HE WAS A GOOD FIREMAN. IF YOU DON'T KNOW HIS NAME IT'S DICKY STEWART OR RICHARD STEWART. HE WAS CHIEF TWICE. HE'S GOT NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR BEING THE FIRST BLACK ON CERTAIN THINGS. AND JUST TO THINK THAT THIS TOWNSHIP IS STILL THIS RACIST, IT DOESN'T MAKE SINCE. I PRAY FOR YOU ALL. AND IF IT MEANS THAT WE HAVE TO BRING PRAYER IN HERE AND THROW HOLY WATER ON SOME OF YOU OR EITHER OIL. IT NEEDS TO BE A CHANGE. AND SINCE THAT IDIOT AND I'M GOING TO SAY THAT IDIOT TRUMP WAS IN OFFICE, IT SEEMS LIKE PEOPLE HAVE LOST THEIR MINDS AND THEY NEED TO GET A GRIP. THANK YOU. COMMISSIONER LACEY-ANY OTHER COMMENTS. SO, CAN WE GET A MOTION TO ADJOURN? COMMISSIONER SMITH-NO. NO! THE RECOMMENDATIONS... EXCUSE ME. IT WAS SUGGESTED BY TOWNSHIP MANAGER THAT WE ADJOURN THE MEETING TO THE BOARD PRESIDENT. NO! (BANGS ON THE TABLE). I'M SITTING HERE SHAKING. I CALLED YOU ON THE PHONE AND TOLD YOU EVERYTHING. MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-AND YOU'RE YELLING AT ME BECAUSE...

COMMISSIONER SMITH-I'M TALKING, I'M NOT TALKING TO YOU.

MS. WHITAKER, MANAGER-YOU ARE TALKING TO ME.

COMMISSIONER SMITH-I'M TALKING OUT LOUD BECAUSE I'M FRUSTRATED. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT RACISM. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT SOMEBODY... IT'S RIGHT HERE. DID HE STEAL? THIS YOUNG MAN PUT HIS LIFE ON THE LINE FOR EVERYBODY. I WAS A FIREFIGHTER FOR THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AND TO HEAR THIS CONVERSATION. THAT I TALK TO IN PERSON, THAT I TRUST TO COME TO MY HOME, TO MY FAMILY. TO A MS. BETTY ON THE TOP OF ROOSEVELT DRIVE. AND TO SAY YOU DON'T WANT A BLACK MAN IN YOUR STATION. SOME OF THEM ARE HOME GROWN. SOME OF THEM ARE AND I AM SORRY I AM YELLING. I'M NOT YELLING AT YOU MS. WHITAKER. I APOLOGIZE. I AM SIMPLY SAYING. THERE'S NO TIME FOR IT. ALL I AM SAYING IS THIS. WE MADE A MOTION BUT WE SAID WE'LL TAKE AN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO HEAR IT. BECAUSE THERE'S GOT TO BE THE SAME RESPONSE WHEN MR. PAYNE AND MR.

LITES HAD A RACIAL PROBLEM, THEY SUSPENDED THE FIRE COMPANY. WHEN NUMBER FOUR HAD AN ISSUE, THEY SUSPENDED THE FIRE COMPANY. AND OUR ISSUE WAS, THE LIGHT FIXTURE DID NOT WORK GOOD ENOUGH. THIS WASN'T PLUGGED IN. I HAVE PEOPLE HERE, THAT ARE OF COLOR. WE TALK BLACK AND WHITE. WHAT ABOUT THE MULTI RACIAL CHILD THAT LIVES OVER HERE. MIXED FAMILIES. THIS IS NOTHING TO PLAY WITH. IF YOU CAN'T STAY, THEN LEAVE BUT WE HAVE TO MAKE DECISIONS. MY RECOMMENDATION IS LIKE ANYTHING IN PAST PRACTICE, SUSPEND FOR NINETY DAYS, INVESTIGATE AND COME BACK AND SEE WHAT WE CAN DO. THIS AIN'T PERSONAL. THIS IS BUSINESS. PEOPLE'S LIVES ARE ON THE LINE. SO, I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT REPUTATION. I APOLOGIZE MR. PRESIDENT FOR BANGING BUT THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS, AT FIFTY YEARS OLD, WE ARE STILL DOING RACISM. AND I GOT EVERYTHING DOCUMENTED AND I SAID I WOULD BE QUIET BUT TO HEAR SOMEBODY SAY, DID THEY STEAL? AND MS. JUDGE, SHE MAY NOT BE HERE. I TALKED TO KATHY JUDGE, WHEN I TALKED TO YOU MR. PRESIDENT. YOU CALLED ME BACK BY MISTAKE. YEAH, I KNEW WHAT WAS GOING ON. THEY MENTIONED LOTS OF NAMES. YOU TALKED ABOUT MY BUSINESS MANAGER AND YOU ALL KNOW MS. WHITAKER AND MR. MARVIN SMITH, WE GO BACK AND FORTH. SHE'S DOING HER JOB AND I'M TRYING TO DO MY JOB. WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT ONE OF MY QUEENS. SHE'S A QUEEN WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT. WE CAN DISAGREE, THAT'S MY QUEEN, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DISRESPECT HER AND SAY WHAT YOU SAID IN THIS LETTER AND ON THIS TAPE ABOUT HER. SHE IS ONE OF MY QUEENS. DON'T GET IT TWISTED. YOU CAN CALL MARVIN ALL KINDS OF NAMES. BUT WHEN IT COMES DOWN AT THE END OF THE DAY, DARBY TOWNSHIP IS WHAT IT'S SUPPOSE TO BE, A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE. WHEN I SAID GET THOSE FLAGS, IT WAS FOR A REASON. WHEN I SAY PUT THOSE COLORS UP, IT'S FOR A REASON. YOU MAKE ME THE BAD GUY. I'M NOT THE ENEMY, I'M YOUR FRIEND. YOU KNOW WHAT IT IS TO GET UP, ANY FIRE FIGHTER, THREE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING AND NOT COME HOME? EXPLAIN THAT AND TO HEAR SOMEBODY SAY, WE'LL PUT AN AXE TO THEIR HEAD AT THE NEXT FIRE. YOU WANT TO GO TO EXECUTIVE SESSION? OR YOU WANT ME TO KEEP TALKING? CAUSE I CAN READ. AND YOU SIT HERE AND LOOK ME IN THE FACE LIKE YOU NEVER SAID NOTHING. COME ON MAN, SIR, WOMAN, LADY. THIS IS NOT WHAT THIS IS ABOUT. WE SAY AMERICA. AND SOMETIMES BLACK PEOPLE SAY THEIR AMERICA BECAUSE IT'S THEIR WAY. I'LL NEVER FORGET MY MOTHER DIED WAITING FOR AN AMBULANCE. FEBRUARY 1, 2000. I'LL NEVER FORGET AS A FIREFIGHTER, NOT ONLY ONE WE HAD TWO AMBULANCES AND THE PREVIOUS BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WOULD NOT LET US GET ON THE CAD SYSTEM. I JUST TALKED TO KATHY JUDGE YESTERDAY AND TO MAKE A PROMISE TO BRAIRCLIFFE FIRE COMPANY THAT THE AMBULANCE SERVICE WOULD NOT BE TOUCHED. OH, I KNOW EVERYTHING AND IF YOU TRY AND KILL ME IT'S ALREADY GIVEN TO THE NEXT PERSON SO, IT'S BIGGER THAN MARVIN SMITH. WHEN I WENT TO THIS SCHOOL HERE, THEY TOOK ALL THE TROPHIES, FROM DARBY TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL, AND PUT THEM IN THE DUMPSTER. SO, RACISM IS A PROBLEM. NOW DARBY TOWNSHIP HAS THE ABILITY TO MAKE IT BETTER. I'M SITTING HERE FIGHTING WITH MY SISTER COMMISSIONER RIGHT HERE. OPPOSING, GOING AGAINST. WE GOT TO DO BETTER. YA'LL THINK IT'S A THREE TO TWO OR FOUR TO ONE. WE'VE GOT TO BE ONE BOARD. SO, YOU WANT TO GO INSIDE AND LISTEN TO IT, WE CAN LISTEN TO IT. BUT IT WILL BE ADDRESSED CAUSE THEY WANT TO HEAR THE TAPE. SO, YOU WANT TO GO INSIDE? LET ME BE CLEAR. I AM ONLY GOING TO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO COME BACK TO THIS COMMUNITY WITH A DECISION TO PUT THINGS IN ORDER. AND I DID'NT SAY TO CLOSE THE FIRE COMPANY DOWN. THOSE ARE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PEOPLE. BUT WE CANNOT AND WILL NOT ALLOW STUFF LIKE THIS TO GO ON. WE'RE GOING TO GO IN EXECUTIVE SESSION. YOU WANT TO HEAR IT, YOU CAN HEAR IT BUT WHEN WE COME BACK HERE MY MOTION IS AGAIN, STOP THE SERVICES FOR NINETY DAYS CALL (610) 891-9200 OR SOMETHING, MEDIA AND TELL THEM THEY ARE NOT TO DISPATCH THAT COMPANY FOR ANYTHING FOR NINETY DAYS UNTIL WE GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS. IT'S NOT ABOUT THE CROWD, IT'S ABOUT THE PROCESS.

DISCUSSION ENSUED.

COMMISSIONER LACEY BANGED THE GAVEL AND THE BOARD WENT INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:11 P.M.

COMMISSIONER LACEY-FOR THE RECORD, THE BOARD MET IN EXECUTIVE SESSION. WE ARE COMING BACK TO ORDER AT 8:37 P.M. THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR STAYING. WE APPRECIATE YOUR TIME. WE KNOW IT'S VALUABLE. THE BOARD MET IN THE BACK ROOM IN EXECUTIVE SESSION AND IT IS DETERMINED THAT BASED ON THE ALLEGATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN BOUGHT BEFORE US THIS EVENING. EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, PENDING INVESTIGATION, WE'RE GOING TO SUSPEND BRIARCLIFFE FIRE COMPANY FOR AT LEAST THIRTY DAYS TO GIVE TIME FOR THE COUNTY TO INVESTIGATE THESE ALLEGATIONS. WE WILL LOOK INTO AMBULANCE SERVICE IN THE MORNING, ONCE WE CAN CONTACT TRINITY HEALTH CARE TO SEE HOW THAT WOULD BE HANDLED. WE WOULD BE INVOKING OUR MUTUAL WAVE AGREEMENTS WITH OUR NEIGHBORING FIRE COMPANIES.

MR. PIERCE, SOLICITOR-IN ADDITION, THE COMPLAINANTS, IN THIS CASE, GOODWILL FIRE COMPANY BOUGHT THIS BEFORE THE BOARD. WE ARE ASKING THAT WITHIN THE NEXT TEN DAYS THE AUDIO PORTION THAT WAS PRESENT AND UTILIZED TO PUT THE WRITTEN COMPLAINT TOGETHER BE PROVIDED SO THAT IT CAN BE TURNED OVER TO THE INVESTIGATORS IN THE COUNTY. WE WILL NEED THAT, WE CAN'T USE THIRD PARTIES WHO MAY HAVE IT, MAY NOT HAVE IT. WE WANT IT DIRECTLY FROM THE COMPLAINANTS WITHIN THE NEXT TEN DAYS SO THAT WE CAN PROVIDE IT OUT TO THE COUNTY, WHO WILL HOPEFULLY BE UNDERTAKING THIS FULL INVESTIGATION. AND THAT'S IN THE NATURE OF A MOTION, COMMISSIONER YOU HAVE A MOTION TO SUSPEND FOR THIRTY DAYS AS INDICATED IN YOUR PREFERENCE AND IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO OBTAIN A SECOND.

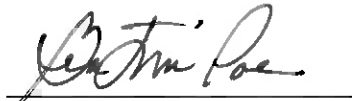
IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO. THERE WAS A FOUR-ZERO VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE SUSPENSION.

MR. PIERCE, SOLICITOR-YOU WOULD DIRECT THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER TO CONTACT THE 911 CENTER TO INDICATE THE CURRENT STATUS OF THAT AND TO MAKE SURE THE MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS ARE IMPOSED.

COMMISSIONER SMITH MOVED TO ADJOURN. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FITZ. FOUR APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

MEETING ADJOURNED.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



BEATRICE POE,
SECRETARY



JOHN LACEY,
PRESIDENT