

DARBY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 14, 2021

ROLL CALL - ALL PRESENT

PUBLIC COMMENT

EMAIL CAME IN FROM SCOTT STINSMAN

I HEARD THERE WAS A WATER LEVEL ISSUE ON BEECH AND POPLAR. CAN WE GET AN UPDATE? WE ARE HAVING MANY DRIVEWAYS REDONE IN THE BACK OF BEECH AND POPLAR. IS THE TOWNSHIP ADDRESSING THE WATER DRAINAGE ISSUES BEFORE THE WORK IS DONE? IT NEEDS TO BE DEALT WITH BEFORE THE WORK IS DONE

MS. CATANIA STATED SHE NEEDED MORE INFORMATION BUT SHE WOULD REACH OUT TO HIM IF SOMEONE PROVIDED HER HIS PHONE NUMBER.

COMMISSIONER GOUGLER STATED HE HEARD ABOUT THE WATER IS ABOUT TWO INCHES BELOW THE MANHOLE COVERS IN THE BACK ALLEY THAT COULD BE CAUSED BY THE REPLACEMENT OF THE PADS IN THE BACK ALLEY.

MS. CATANIA STATED IT MAY BE SANITARY, WE WILL HAVE TO FOLLOW UP.

TERRYL QUARLES, 1517 ROOSEVELT DRIVE.

MS. QUARLES THANKED THE TOWNSHIP FOR ADVERTISING THE APRIL 10TH CREEK CLEAN UP ON THE WEBSITE. SHE ALSO THANKED THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION AND ASSISTING WITH THE CREEK CLEAN UP OF WEEDS AND DEBRIS THE FOLLOWING MONDAY. SHE STATED SHE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THEM IN THE FUTURE.

ALLISON CARREY, 1050 N. ACADEMY AVENUE

MS. CARREY WANTED TO KNOW THE PROGRESS ON THE ABANDONED HOUSE AT 1052 N. ACADEMY AVENUE.

SOLICITOR PIERCE SAID HE KNOWS THERE HAS BEEN WORK DONE THERE TO SECURE THE PROPERTY. HE ALSO STATED THE PROPERTY HAS BEEN LIENED FOR THE WORK RELATED TO THE ROOF, AS WELL AS THE PROBLEM WITH THE TREES. THERE IS AN ISSUE WITH OWNERSHIP OF THE PROPERTY. THE PROPERTY IS SCHEDULED FOR UPSET SALE IN SEPTEMBER OF THIS YEAR, WHICH LEADS HIM TO BELIEVE THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT UNPAID TAXES ON THE PROPERTY.

MS. CARREY STATED THAT THE PROPERTY IS NOT SECURE AND THERE IS A HOLE IN THE ROOF.

JOE CHICHELLA, 1054 N. ACADEMY AVENUE

MR. CHICHELLA STATED HIS NEIGHBOR ON THE SAME BLOCK PAID \$7,800 TO FIX IT AND THERE IS WATER UNDER YOUR FEET WHEN YOU WALK ON THE ROOF. ARE YOU AWARE THAT SEVEN MONTHS AGO A FIREMAN CAME, WHEN THE ALARM WENT OFF AND THERE WAS A MAJOR LEAK? THE FIREMAN SAID THERE WAS A VERY GOOD CHANCE THERE BE AN EXPLOSION.

DISCUSSION ENSUED.

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MET IN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021 AT 6:00PM TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS.

COMMISSIONER LACEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING HELD ON MARCH 10, 2021. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FITZ AND COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO. FIVE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED. COPY ATTACHED.

COMMISSIONER LACEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE LIST OF BILLS FOR MARCH 2021. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GOUGLER. FIVE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED. COPY ATTACHED.

COMMISSIONER LACEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 2021 TREASURER'S REPORT. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FITZ. FIVE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED. COPY ATTACHED.

COMMISSIONER LACEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE RESIGNATION OF LARRY OLIVERI, CODE ENFORCER, EFFECTIVE MARCH 8, 2021. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO. FIVE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER FITZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROMOTION OF POLICE OFFICER DANIEL FYNES TO CORPORAL, EFFECTIVE MAY 2, 2021. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GOUGLER. QUESTION FROM COMMISSIONER SMITH. WILL OFFICER FYNES NEW TITLE BE DETECTIVE CORPORAL? MR. PIERCE SAID, JUST CORPORAL. FIVE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER FITZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROMOTION OF POLICE OFFICER SPURGEON KING TO CORPORAL, EFFECTIVE MAY 30, 2021. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMITH. FIVE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER FITZ MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER TO HIRE, NO MORE THAN TWO, PART-TIME SEASONAL HIGHWAY EMPLOYEES. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GOUGLER. FIVE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER FITZ MOVED TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION REDUCING POLICE OFFICERS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE POLICE PENSION PLAN FOR THE YEAR 2020. RESOLUTION #2021-4. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GOUGLER. FIVE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

MS. WHITAKER STATED FOR CLARIFICATION THIS RESOLUTION WAS AN OVERSITE. IT SHOULD HAVE ALREADY BEEN PASSED AND THAT IS WHY IT IS ON THE AGENDA.

PROFESSIONAL REPORTS

ENGINEER'S REPORT-LISA CATANIA

MS. CATANIA ASKED THE BOARD TO TAKE A LOOK AT THE LIST OF STREETS FOR THE 2021 ROAD PROGRAM. SHE EXPLAINED THE RATING PROGRAM.

MS. CATANIA MET WITH PENNDOT IN REGARD TO IMPROVEMENTS ON DELMAR DRIVE/HOOK ROAD AND THE POSSIBLE PARTNERING WITH FOLCROFT AND GOING THROUGH DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (DVRPC).

COMMISSIONER SMITH QUESTIONED IS IT BENEFICIAL TO TRY TO DO THIS WITH FOLCROFT OR SHOULD WE DO IT BY OURSELVES.

MS. CATANIA STATED IT IS BETTER TO JOIN FORCES WITH FOLCROFT.

DISCUSSION ENSUED.

COMMISSIONER SMITH ASKED FOR A LIST OF GRANTS AND OTHER RESOURCES TO BETTER OUR TOWNSHIP.

COMMISSIONER FITZ DISCUSSED HIS CONCERNS WITH CUSTER STREET.

THE SOLICITOR EXPLAINED THE HOMEOWNERS HAVE TO GET TOGETHER AND DEDICATE THAT EASEMENT TO THE TOWNSHIP BECAUSE IT IS PRIVATE PROPERTY.

COMMISSIONER FITZ REQUESTED THE BOARD REACH OUT TO THE HOMEOWNERS.

COMMISSIONER SMITH REQUESTED AN EMAIL TO ALL THE COMMISSIONERS ON THE PROCESS OF GETTING THE PAPER STREETS DEDICATED.

MS. WHITAKER ASKED MS. CATANIA TO FOLLOW UP ON DEMOLITION GRANT AWARDED TO 601 CLIFTON.

MS. WHITAKER ALSO STATED SHE SPOKE WITH MARK BURNS FROM PENNDOT. SHE ASKED HIM TO TAKE A LOOK AT HOOK AND BURNSIDE ROADS.

COMMISSIONER SMITH ASKED WHAT 601 CLIFTON AVENUE COULD BE USED FOR IMMEDIATELY. MS. CATANIA DID NOT KNOW BUT IT WILL HAVE TO HAVE ADA COMPLIANCE.

DISCUSSION ENSUED.

MS. CATANIA REQUESTED THE BOARD VOTE TO ADVERTISE THE 2021 ROAD.

COMMISSIONER SMITH MOVED TO ADVERTISE 2021 ROAD PROGRAM, INCLUDING THE LIST THAT WAS READ WITH THE NORTHERN AND THE SOUTHERN SIDE OF THE TOWNSHIP. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FITZ. FIVE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

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

SOLICITOR'S REPORT-MICHAEL PIERCE

COMMISSIONER LACEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE SOLICITOR'S REPORT. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FITZ. FIVE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

POLICE REPORT-CHIEF SOUSA

COMMISSIONER GOUGLER MOVED TO APPROVE THE SOLICITOR'S REPORT. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER FITZ. FIVE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT.

COMMISSIONER SMITH REQUESTED TO SPEAK LAST.

COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO THANKED MS QUARLES AND HER TEAM FOR THEIR EFFORTS AND GOOD WORK WITH THE CREEKBED AND THE ARNOLD COVERT PARK. SHE THANKED THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT FOR CLEANING CONWAY PARK AND REPAIRS TO THE BRIDGES. IT LOOKS BETTER.

SHE THANKED THE ENGINEER AND MS. JONES FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE WITH 601. SHE IS LOOKING TO BUILD A NEW LIBRARY. SHE IS LOOKING FOR FINANCING.

MS. WHITAKER STATED SHE WENT DOWN TO THE CREEK AND THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT DID DO A GOOD JOB. WE ARE CONTACTING THE CONTRACTOR TO GET SOME OF TREES AND DEBRIS OUT OF THE CREEK. SHE WILL BE MEETING WITH STORM WATER COLLABORATIVE IN TWO WEEKS AT THE CREEK TO CHECK OUT THE CREEKBEDS BECAUSE THERE ARE AREAS IN POOR CONDITION. WE ARE GOING TO APPLY FOR SOME GRANTS TO RESTORE THOSE CREEKBEDS. WE DID GET THE PECO GRANT TO REPAIR THE BUFFER IN CONWAY PARK.

COMMISSIONER FITZ GAVE HIGHWAY REPORT. THE HIGHWAY REPORT DATE WAS CORRECTED FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2021 TO FEBRUARY 28, 2021 TO MARCH 1, 2021 TO MARCH 31, 2021.

COMMISSIONER SMITH HAD A QUESTION IN REGARD TO THE STREET SWEEPER AND PURCHASING A NEW ONE. HE ALSO INQUIRED ABOUT THE STREET SWEEPER POSSIBLY DOING HOOK ROAD. HE SPOKE TO PENNDOT WHO SAID IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TOWNSHIP AND THE TOWNSHIP SAYS IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PENNDOT.

COMMISSIONER FITZ STATED THE CONDITION OF THE STREET SWEEPER IS IN GOOD CONDITION ALTHOUGH IT IS AN OLDER STREET SWEEPER. IT CANNOT HANDLE THE DEBRIS ON HOOK ROAD. HE DID SPEAK WITH THE HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR WHO WAS IN CONTACT WITH THE STATE IN REFERENCE TO THAT SECTION. THE STATE IS GOING TO PRESENT A PROJECT AND COME IN TO CLEAN UP THAT SECTION OF THE ROAD. WE CAN ALSO LOOK INTO IT AS A BOARD

TO SEE WHAT THE COST OF A NEW VEHICLE WOULD BE.

COMMISSIONER SMITH STATED THAT THERE IS TWENTY-FIVE FEET OF COVERAGE FROM THE CURB GOING INTO HOOK ROAD (FROM THE SIDEWALK TO THE CURB), THE TOWNSHIP IS RESPONSIBLE. HE WANTED TO KNOW IF WE COULD GET SOME BLOWERS AND HE AND SOME VOLUNTEERS AND THE PERSONNEL WE ARE GOING TO HIRE, CAN CLEAN UP HOOK ROAD.

MS. WHITAKER STATED SHE WILL ADD THAT IN HER CONVERSATION WITH MIKE BURNS, THEY WILL BE HERE TWO DAYS NEXT WEEK, AS A RESULT OF RECEIVING SEVERAL EMAILS FROM COMMISSIONER SMITH. THEY ARE IN THE PROCESS OF ANSWERING THOSE QUESTIONS, AS FAR AS, PAVING, THE PAINTING, THE STRIPING AND WHO IS GOING TO CONTINUE TO CLEAN HOOK ROAD ON A REGULAR BASIS. HE HAS ESCALATED THOSE QUESTIONS UP. SHE DOES NOT FEEL IT IS THE TOWNSHIP'S RESPONSIBILITY AND WE DEFINITELY DO NOT HAVE THE EQUIPMENT TO HANDLE HOOK ROAD ON A REGULAR BASIS. SHE DID RECEIVE COMMISSIONER SMITH'S EMAIL ABOUT THE BLOWERS BUT SHE WOULD ASK THAT WE WAIT TO GET A DEFINITIVE ANSWER FROM PENNDOT.

COMMISSIONER LACEY GAVE THE INSPECTION DEPARTMENT REPORT. THE PLANNING BOARD IS MEETING THE LAST THURSDAY OF THIS MONTH AND WILL BE ADVERTISED TOMORROW.

COMMISSIONER GOUGLER STATED WE ARE IN DECENT SHAPE FINANCIALLY AND THE BUDGET LOOKS GOOD.

NEW BUSINESS:

MS. WHITAKER STATED THE ELECTRONICS RECYCLING IN ROSE TREE PARK ON THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2021 FROM 9AM TO 1:00PM. THERE IS A FEE.

THERE IS A REQUEST TO RELEASE THE FUNDS TO MS. ANN G. ACHE IN THE AMOUNT OF 11,098.75

ALL REPAIRS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED ON HER PROPERTY ON ROOSEVELT DRIVE. AN INSPECTION HAS BEEN COMPLETE ALONG WITH A SEWER LATERAL.

COMMISSIONER SMITH MADE THE MOTION TO RELEASE THE FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF 11,098.75 TO MS. ATCH. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER TALIAFERRO. FIVE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

MS. WHITAKER READ AN EMAIL FROM MR. HOSBACH EXPRESSING HIS SINCERE GRATITUDE TO HIGHWAY SUPERVISOR THOMAS THORPE. EMAIL IS ON FILE. MS. WHITAKER ADDED THAT THOMAS IS WELL DESERVING OF THE COMPLIMENT.

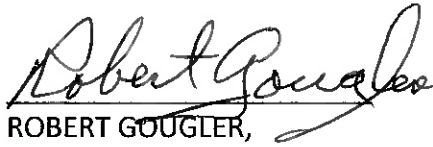
COMMISSIONER FITZ MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SMITH. FIVE APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



BEATRICE POE,
SECRETARY



ROBERT GOUGLER,
PRESIDENT