

MORRIS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

REGULAR MEETING

VIA TELECONFERENCE

January 4, 2021

7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Morris Township Supervisors was called to order by Chairman James Williams with a salute to the flag. A roll call of officers showed James Williams, Josiah Jones, John Saggese, Dan Nelson, Scott Holencik, Armida Ortiz-Holencik and Patti Moore.

Guests: Len Coval, Vic Couturiaux, Chad Baughman, Fred Little, Tyler Kolesar (The Progress), Steve Norfolk

Minutes: The Chairman entertained a motion, Josiah Jones motioned, and James Williams seconded to accept the minutes from the **December 2, 2020** Board of Supervisors meeting. Motion carried with 2 supervisors voting yes. John Saggese abstained due to being absent from the meeting.

Financial Reports: The Chairman entertained a motion, John Saggese motioned, and Josiah Jones seconded to approve the financial report. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

Bills: The Chairman entertained a motion, Josiah Jones motioned, and John Saggese seconded to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

Planning Commission: The Chairman entertained a motion, John Saggese motioned and Josiah Jones seconded to approve the **Rodney Smeal Lot addition** presented by Steve Norfolk. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

Solicitor Report: Dan explained the proposed resolution for public comment and it was decided to move forward with this resolution for consideration at the February 3, BOS Meeting. Dan also discussed the resolution to be considered to adjust the rate of compensation for the tax collector.

Police Consolidation Update: Josiah Jones provided a report regarding the Police Study. He stated DCED has revised the initial proposal to make it more workable and would like to hold a public meeting to present the proposal, possibly in the summer of 2021. The supervisors will continue to review information as it is received.

Public Comments: No public comments.

Fire Protection Update: Chad Baughman provided a report on behalf of the Morris Township Vol. Fire Company. He stated there was 281 calls for the year. He suggested the idea of creating an ordinance for snow emergency, specifically to require residents clear/remove the snow from hydrants on their properties. James suggested the supervisors review the snow emergency ordinance currently in place. Josiah questioned how this would be enforced with hydrants located on vacant properties or properties of owners who are not local. Chad also suggests contacting PA American Water regarding Hydrant markers which cost \$125.00 for 6 markers.

Road Masters report: James Williams provided the roadmasters report. He discussed the large snowfall. Josiah and John thanked the crew and also James for being dedicated in the snow removal. He discussed the project on Old Turnpike Road which is still in progress. The Dam Road was discussed and is still under construction, currently there are signs on Dam Road for no winter maintenance.

The township will look into purchasing signs for the entrance to Emigh Run Road to prevent commercial vehicles from entering Emigh and Dam Road to deliver to the prison.

Josiah also thanked Cooper Township for their assistance in providing training for the crew.

Code Enforcement Update: Scott Holencik requested a list of fire hydrant locations. He will visit residents to make them aware of the hydrant concern. He also stated the snow has stopped the red tag properties, but will continue this program as weather permits.

Scott suggested Google be notified to stop the GPS from sending vehicles through Emigh Run/Dam Road. Patti has contacted Google, submitting a request for this information to be changed.

Morris Township Recreation: No Report.

Municipal Authority of the Township of Morris: No meeting due to snow storm.

Declaration of Disaster Emergency Extension: The Chairman entertained a motion, Josiah Jones motioned, and John Saggese seconded to extend the existing Declaration of Disaster Emergency to be reconsidered at the **FEBRUARY 3, 2021** Board of Supervisors meeting. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

Colorado Bridge Update: Josiah stated the bridge quote for repair is \$250,000.00 and the bridge needs and will be replaced as soon as possible. Bids will go out soon and Morris Township currently has 5 grants submitted, with one being for the Colorado Bridge.

MVCOG Membership Dues: The Chairman entertained a motion, Josiah Jones motioned and John Saggese seconded to approve the 2021 Annual Dues of \$150.00 for the MVCOG Program. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

PSATS Annual Dues: The Chairman entertained a motion, Josiah Jones motioned and John Saggese seconded to approve the 2021 annual membership dues in the amount of \$1,337.00. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

Executive Session: Not required.

Adjournment: The Chairman entertained a motion, Josiah Jones motioned and John Saggese seconded to adjourn at 9:00 PM.

Respectively Submitted, *Patti Moore*, Secretary