

Phil Kline, Chairperson, called the meeting of the Alsace Township Board of Supervisors to order. Present were Phil Kline, Keith Blankenbiller, Michael Stump, Solicitor Gary Swavely, and Mary Anne Fieux. The meeting was held at the Alsace Township Municipal Building and was called to order at 7:08 p.m. Phil Kline led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: Phil Kline presented the minutes from the December 17, 2014 and January 5, 2015 meeting. Keith Blankenbiller made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mike Stump, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Keith Blankenbiller made a motion to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$70,215.64 from the General Fund, \$5,788.00 from the Sewer Operations and Maintenance Fund, \$343.59 from the Septic Fund, and \$110.10 from the Highway Fund (Liquid Fuels) seconded by Mike Stump and the motion was unanimously approved. Mike Stump made a motion to pay taxes, payroll and interim bills, seconded by Phil Kline, and the motion was unanimously approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT FROM THE TREASURER: Chairperson Kline directed the Supervisors to review the end of year financial reports for 2014. Phil Kline went through each of the accounts with the Supervisors. Mr. Kline said the Capital Reserve is \$70,000.00 which represents an increase and is where the Township was prior to 2013. Chairperson Kline added the increase in the sewer fees helped the Township end the year with the sewer plant Operations and Maintenance Fund in good shape. Mr. Kline said the Highway Fund is also in good shape due to the anticipated funding coming from the State.

Keith Blankenbiller made the motion to approve the financial reports, Mike Stump seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: There were no comments from the public.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Solicitor Gary Swavely stated his office properly advertised proposed Ordinance 2015-1, an Ordinance authorizing Alsace Township's participation in the PSATS Unemployment Compensation Group Trust. (Pursuant to the PA Intergovernmental Cooperation Law). Solicitor Swavely continued by explaining the purpose of Ordinance 2015-1. Keith made a motion to approve Ordinance 2015-1, Mike Stump seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

SEWER REPORT: Chairperson Kline asked Ruth Ann Moyer about whether the landlord or renter receives the sewer bill. Mrs. Moyer explained either the landlord receives the sewer bill directly or the renter is billed for the sewer. Mrs. Moyer continued stating it depends on the situation and estimates there are eight (8) renters who receive sewer bills. Mrs. Moyer said this is decided upon per a landlord's specific request. Keith Blankenbiller asked if the landlord is advised of a delinquent bill. Mrs. Moyer responded by stating the landlord is advised when the past due bills pass the \$300.00 threshold. After discussion it was decided a form should be created advising landlords about their tenant's delinquent bill. Mr. Kline asked a form be created with input and direction from the Township's solicitor, Gary Swavely.

Mr. Kline asked if there were any questions regarding the Datte report. Ruth Ann Moyer advised she gave information to Datte's office about ten (10) delinquent properties. Mike

Stump stated he spoke with Datte and told him to proceed with enforcement for delinquent bills which are over \$1,000.00 past due. Mr. Stump added some mortgage companies pay the delinquent bills.

Phil Kline asked the Supervisors if there were any questions on the LTL report. None of the Supervisors had any questions on the Datte report.

Chairperson Kline asked the Supervisors to review the Septic Pumping Update and asked if there were any questions about the report. None of the Supervisors had any questions about the Septic Pumping Update report.

ADMINISTRATION: Phil Kline asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2015–1, the Building and Zoning Permit Fee Schedule with Kraft Code Services. Keith Blankenbiller made a motion, Mike Stump seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Chairperson Kline continued and asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2015–2, the 2015 SEO Fee Schedule with LTL Consultants. Keith Blankenbiller made a motion, Mike Stump seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Kline asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2015–3, the 2015 SALDO Fee Schedule. Keith Blankenbiller made a motion, Mike Stump seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

BUILDING AND ZONING REPORT: Vice-Chairperson Blankenbiller reported on the Zoning Hearing Board application submitted by Stephen Souders, Discovery Homes, for a variance for property located at 21 Schmecks Lane. Mr. Souders proposal is to place a manufactured home and shed on the property. Mr. Blankenbiller stated the Zoning Hearing Board Public Hearing was held on January 13, 2015 and the variance was approved providing relief from certain Township setback requirements. Keith Blankenbiller stated a Certificate of Occupancy will not be issued until the Zoning Hearing Board decision is final.

Ruth Ann Moyer informed the Supervisors Mr. Souders, Discovery Homes, had been under the impression a lateral was in place at the 21 Schmecks Lane property. Mrs. Moyer informed him Mr. Witters never paid for a lateral and none was in place. Mr. Blankenbiller advised Mrs. Moyer the property would be considered a new hook-up and Mrs. Moyer should collect the \$5,000.00 for the tap-in fee and \$1,000.00 for the lateral. Solicitor Swavely advised the Supervisors a total of \$6,000.00 should be collected for the new connection at the 21 Schmecks Lane property.

Vice-Chairperson Blankenbiller continued and gave a summary of the Building and Code Enforcement Officer's report for January 2015. The Supervisors discussed the Barrett property and requested extension from the Barretts for paving. After discussion, all Supervisors were in agreement to allow a final extension until the May 20 Supervisor's meeting.

Keith Blankenbiller reported on Notice of Violations for J. A. Auto Sales and Muddy's regarding cars and equipment left behind on the property. Mr. Blankenbiller stated J. A. Auto Sales removed all cars from the property, however one (1) shed remains. Mr. Blankenbiller reported the Township received a letter from Muddy's stating the property owner, Mr. Noll, purchased all

of Muddy's equipment. Kraft Code Services advised the Supervisors Mr. Noll needs to acquire a permit for Muddy's old equipment for it to remain on his property. Mr. Blankenbiller stated he would contact Mr. Neidert, Kraft Code Services, to advise Mr. Neidert to proceed acquiring the proper permits on the property.

Mr. Blankenbiller stated construction has started at the Reserve at Spring Pointe – Phase 2 for the first building. Mr. Kline discussed emergency access off of Rt. 12. Chairperson Kline said Township Engineer Gary Kraft suggested various solutions to provide access for the Alsace Manor Volunteer Fire Company, which included no gate, a manual or electrically controlled gate. Mr. Kline stated emergency access will continued to be discussed at a future meeting.

Keith Blankenbiller reported on the One-by-One cat rescue. Chief Wendy Becker stated she received a call from One-by-One and they gave her the security code to open the gate to the facility for the Fire Company's use.

Vice-Chairperson Blankenbiller reported there is a request for release of escrow for the property at 1887 Friedensburg Road owned by Jonathan Fick, per the recommendation from Joe Neidert, Kraft Code Services and requested by Mr. Fick via letter. Mr. Neidert advised the Supervisors the garage damaged by the fire has been removed. Mr. Blankenbiller made a motion to approve the release of escrow for 1887 Friedensburg Road per Mr. Neidert's recommendation, Mike Stump seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

ROAD MASTER REPORT: Mike Stump reported on a proposal from LTL utilizing GPS to document locations of all traffic signs in the Township, per new regulations from the PA MUTCD (Manual on Uniform Traffic Devices). Mr. Stump informed the Supervisors the new MUTCD requirement states municipalities must document locations and age of all signs located within its boundaries. Mr. Stump contacted two (2) other municipalities as to how they are complying with the new regulation. Mike Stump said the Township will be complying via the sign's address rather than GPS location. After discussion, it was decided that Mike Stump will map out the location and create a list the signs.

Mr. Stump anticipates this winter to be a repeat of last winter. Mike Stump informed the Supervisors to expect the cost of salt purchased to be close to the previous season.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT: Chairperson Kline announced the Planning Commission is prepared to move forward with the new Zoning Ordinance pending their decision to do so at their February meeting. Solicitor Swavely gave direction on moving forward with the Public Hearings and submission of the Zoning Ordinance to the Berks County Planning Commission.

Chairperson Kline asked Ms. Fieux to provide a summary of the Planning Commission meeting since there were no members of the Planning Commission present. Ms. Fieux stated the Planning Commission reviewed the plans for the Reserve at Spring Pointe – Phase 2 Amended Final Plans. Brian Kobularcik representing Metropolitan Development was present and introduced the representative from Forino. Ms. Fieux reported the Planning Commission's review of the plans included Township Engineer Gary Kraft's review letter. Ms. Fieux stated there were two (2) primary areas of discussion, the fence around the detention basins and emergency access along Rt. 12 (Pricetown Road).

RECREATION BOARD REPORT: There was no report.

ALSACE MANOR FIRE COMPANY REPORT: Fire Chief Wendy Becker gave a summary of the Annual Report for the Alsace Manor Fire Company for 2014. Fire Chief Becker stated there were a total of 231 calls during the year and 141 of those were in Alsace Township. Four (4) of Mrs. Becker's Juniors are taking their MODS classes. She continued by stating they have applied for two (2) grants, State and Federal. The Federal grant's proposal includes replacement of the tanker.

Fire Chief Becker informed the Supervisors she has reviewed the plans for the Reserve at Spring Pointe – Phase 2 – Amended Final Plans. She stated she has concerns about the type of connections utilized for the fire hydrants. Chief Becker stated there are two (2) different types of connections used with hydrants, National and Berks. Alsace Manor Fire Company utilizes National connections.

Fire Chief Becker had a question regarding the development's sprinkler system and the connections related to the sprinklers. She stated she would like to do a walk-through the buildings with the Fire Crew. Mrs. Becker said she would like to approach the developer regarding hi-rise packs for the crew which cost \$900.00 each. The Supervisors encouraged Chief Becker to approach the developer to try to acquire the hi-rise packs for her crew.

Fire Chief Becker requested the Planning Commission minutes be emailed to her. Jane Bender used to send the minutes to her. Chairperson Kline stated that minutes would be forwarded to Mrs. Becker

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: No report.

SUPERVISORS REPORT: Phil Kline stated Alsace Township was approached by Exeter Township looking for a recommendation for LTL Consultants since Exeter Township was considering utilizing LTL Consultants. Chairperson Kline said the Township has been satisfied with LTL's work and thus renewed them as SEO Officer for 2015.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: – There were no additional comments from the Public. Phil Kline asked if there was any additional business for the Supervisors and as there was none he asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Keith Blankenbiller made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mike Stump, the motion was unanimously approved. Adjournment was at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Anne Fieux
Secretary – Treasurer