

Michael Stump, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting of the Alsace Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:01 pm. Also present were Vice Chairman Sam Mallatratt, Member David Barth, Kimberly Mallatratt, and Solicitor Gary Swavely. The meeting was held at the Alsace Township Municipal Building. Mr. Stump led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: Chairperson Stump asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 17, 2018 meeting. Mr. Mallatratt made that motion, seconded by Mr. Barth and the motion carried.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: Chairperson Stump asked for approval for the Township payment of bills. Sam Mallatratt made a motion to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$90,964.44 from the General Fund, \$20,001.40 from the WWTP Operations and Maintenance Fund, \$6,425.55 from the Septic and Sewer Fund, and \$170,837.40 from the Liquid Fuels Fund seconded by David Barth, and the motion was approved. Mr. Mallatratt made a motion to pay taxes, payroll and interim bills, seconded by David Barth, and the motion was approved.

There were no questions regarding the financial reports as presented.

ADMINISTRATION:

- Mr. Stump presented the draft of the 2019 Budget. All proposed budgets for the various accounts are balanced. Mr. Stump asked for a motion to approve the proposed budget and authorize the advertising of the notice in the newspaper that the 2019 Draft Budget is available for public inspection. Sam Mallatratt made that motion, Dave Barth seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- The Animal Rescue League contract has been tabled to the next meeting as there is another County meeting scheduled with ARL to further discuss terms.
- Oley Valley Youth League donation. This item was tabled to the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Scott Moyer – Mr. Moyer has a question about the fuel tank at the Township building. Mr. Stump stated that the tank is currently not in service and that it needs to be certified by DEP. This is a large cost and is being evaluated as to the value of that expense. Mr. Moyer asked where the Township is currently getting their fuel. Mr. Stump stated both the Sunoco on Pricetown Road as well as Eastern Propane on Route 73. Mr. Stump stated that the tank is currently empty.

Mr. Moyer also asked a question regarding the “shady” activities going on after-hours in the playground parking lot and what can be done about it. Mr. Moyer was told to call the State Police if he witnesses incidents requiring police response. Mr. Moyer stated that he has brought this up on several occasions and that he will also submit his concerns in writing to the Board.

Mary Lou Kline – Mrs. Kline asked if the proposed budget was going to be discussed further and if there would be an increase in taxes. Mr. Stump stated that there would be no increase in taxes for 2019.

Mrs. Kline then asked what is included in "Other Taxes" beyond Real Estate Taxes. The Business Manager stated that this includes Per Capita Taxes, Delinquency Taxes, Real Estate Transfer Taxes and Earned Income Taxes. Mrs. Kline asked about Real Estate Taxes and if that has gone up from 2018 and if that was a good thing. The Business Manager stated that the number is higher as there has been a good deal of real estate activity.

Mrs. Kline then asked about the Expenditures and had several questions about Codes, Zoning and Planning expenses and what they were comprised of. Mrs. Kline also asked about the Foreign Fire Insurance payments. Ms. Mallatratt answered questions about this line item and explained that this is an "in and out" line item. Mrs. Kline then asked a series of questions regarding various line items in the budget relating to the Foreign Fire Insurance budget as well as other Fire Company related line items. The Business Manager explained the various line item questions as well as a list of the Foreign Fire Insurance budget line items over the past several years. Mrs. Kline then represented that she believes there were discrepancies in the 2017 budget regarding this line item and this could account for the audited budget discrepancy. Ms. Mallatratt then shared two specific line items from the budget that accounted for a portion of the discrepancy.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. Swavely had nothing to present to the Board.

WWTP, SEPTIC & SEWER: The Business Manager stated that the sewer billing period will be changing in January 2019 to coincide with the calendar month. Ms. Mallatratt stated that postcards have been mailed to all affected residents and it is being noted on all of the outgoing bills.

Keith Blankenbiller - Mr. Blankenbiller asked why this is being done. Ms. Mallatratt explained that this will coincide better with the new software system and that having the bills coincide with a calendar month will also make it easier to track financially. Mr. Blankenbiller asked if it was fair to some people to ask them to pay a shorter period over the holiday season. Ms. Mallatratt stated that this is not the case and, in fact, all of the sewer customers would actually not be receiving a bill on December 15th as the billing cycle was being pushed back to January 1st.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Stump stated that as we had a snow event which interfered with leaf collection. Mr. Stump explained that originally leaf collection was enacted to keep leaves out of the drainage areas for the storm water system but his program has morphed into residents expecting leaf collection throughout the Township. Mr. Stump stated that they would try to do more leaf collection on Monday, November 26th.

Mary Ann Ohlinger – Ms. Ohlinger stated that she understood that at the last meeting it was stated that someone from the Township contacted Barry Jozwiak's office. Mr. Stump said he believed Mr. Jozwiak's office was contacted. Ms. Ohlinger said that she knows he was contacted and that she has spoken to him. Ms. Ohlinger stated that Mr. Jozwiak said that he advised the Township to send the Fireman's Relief Money back to the state. Ms. Ohlinger was told that no one spoke to Mr. Jozwiak about that matter. Mr. Mallatratt stated that he did not call Mr. Jozwiak, but that Mr. Jozwiak called him on numerous occasions. Mr. Mallatratt stated that the substance of those calls did not involve the Fireman's Relief Association check. However, Mr. Mallatratt further stated that research was done regarding the disbursement of the check

and that the Township was under no legal obligation to return the check to the Commonwealth and that the disbursement was appropriate. Ms. Ohlinger said she would call Mr. Jozwiak's office to confirm this information.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Darlene Bartsch, Emergency Management Coordinator stated there will be no meetings for the month of November and December. Ms. Bartsch stated that FEMA contacted her and have cancelled the visit to the residence on Antietam Road. The visit has currently not been rescheduled.

SUPERVISORS: Both Mr. Mallatratt and Mr. Barth had nothing further to report.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mary Lou Kline – Ms. Kline asked if there was an update on the fire company. Mr. Stump reported that there is no update. The various attorneys are in contact. Mr. Swavey stated that the Attorney General's Office is conducting the investigation and is not sharing with the Township all of their documentation as it would be considered a breach of their investigation. The matter is moving forward. Mrs. Kline then asked if there seemed to be any sense of urgency. Mr. Swavey stated that he believes there is a sense of urgency but there were some matters that needed to be worked out to move forward.

Bonnie Landis – Ms. Landis asked if there was any update on the sewer project. Mr. Stump stated that there will be a public Town Hall Meeting to be held on December 18th at 7:00 in the township building. Letters will be sent to all affected property owners. This will be an opportunity to see the layout and ask questions of the engineer.

Darlene Bartsch – Ms. Bartsch stated that she is in disagreement with where the Fireman's Relief money was sent. Mr. Stump stated that the money was distributed to the other companies because the Alsace Manor Fire Company was de-certified. Ms. Wendy Becker then stated that the Township turned the fire company in to the Attorney General's office. Mr. Mallatratt then reiterated that the fire company individuals knew that this was a possibility. Mr. Mallatratt then stated that if the Fire Company has something to share that would shed light on the subject to bring the information forward. Ms. Becker then stated that the matter is in the attorney's hands.

A brief discussion then ensued about recycling.

Mr. Stump asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sam Mallatratt made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by David Barth, and the motion was approved. Adjournment was at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Mallatratt
Business Manager/Secretary/Treasurer