

Michael Stump, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting of the Alsace Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:02 pm. Also present were Vice Chairman Sam Mallatratt, Member David Barth, Business Manager, Kimberly Mallatratt, Asst. Secretary Courtney Harris, and Solicitor Gary Swavely. The meeting was held virtually via a Zoom meeting due to the state-wide shutdown as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A roll was taken of the attendees to establish that all could hear the discussion clearly. In addition to the Board Members it was noted that Township residents Patricia Moyer, Ruth Ann Moyer, Drew Eck, Steven Rothenberger and Diane and Tom Furillo attended via Zoom meeting. The audio of the meeting was recorded. The Business Manager then stated that if background noise becomes an issue, the participants will be muted.

An audio recording of this meeting has been created and retained and is available upon request.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: Chairman Stump asked for approval of meeting minutes from April 15, 2020. Mr. Mallatratt made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, Mr. Barth seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

The Business Manager stated that she received a written comment via email from Patricia Moyer prior to the meeting. Ms. Mallatratt read the public comment which related to a property on Mt. Laurel Road and the condition of the property and the condition of an adjoining property. Mr. Swavely asked Ms. Moyer, who was on the call, to verify that she submitted this comment. Ms. Moyer verified that she submitted the comment. Mr. Furillo, 104 Skyline Drive, owner of the property in question, responded to the comment. Mr. Furillo stated that he is aware of several complaints related to the property. Mr. Stump stated that the Board had previously allowed a year for cleanup to occur which was May of 2019. Mr. Barth asked for a date for when Mr. Furillo expects the property to be cleaned up. Following a brief discussion, Mr. Furillo stated that he will provide a monthly update with photographs to the Board of Supervisors to show progress per Mr. Barth's request. Mr. Mallatratt stated that the Board is willing to keep the date open-ended, but that process needs to be made on a consistent basis.

Diane Furillo asked about the status of the squatters on the adjacent property. A brief discussion ensued. Mr. Swavely stated that there has been an attorney who represents the estate and he will follow up with that individual for a report at the next meeting.

Mr. Drew Eck asked about a property in Alsace Manor that has conditions that appear to be in violation with the Township Code. Mr. Eck stated there is no address but is south of Poplar and west of Spring which is owned by Gary Grant. Mr. Stump asked that the Business Manager forward the issue to Code Enforcement for a visit.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. Swavely had nothing to report.

ADMINISTRATION:

- Resolution 2020-06 – Tax Deadline Extension. The Business Manager stated that this extends the deadline for the Real Estate flat tax period until September 30, 2020 which would match the Berks County extension. Mr. Barth made the motion to accept this Resolution, seconded by Mr. Mallatratt, and the motion carried.

- Draft Ordinance 2020-01 – Well Ordinance Amendment. Ms. Mallatratt asked the Board for authorization to advertise this draft Ordinance for consideration by the Board at the June 3rd meeting. This Ordinance would be to amend the current well ordinance by modifying the current setback requirements from 50 feet to 10 feet. Mr. Mallatratt made a motion to authorize advertisement, seconded by Mr. Barth and the motion carried.
- Approval of Cummins Maintenance Agreement – This Agreement is for the Alsace Township Wastewater Treatment Plant and the generator for the system. The quote is for an annual fee of \$1483.08. Mr. Barth made a motion to accept this agreement, seconded by Mr. Mallatratt and the motion carried.

RECREATION BOARD: Ms. Courtney Harris stated that she and the Business Manager recently attended a program put on by PA Parks & Recreation regarding summer playground programs in light of the current COVID-19 pandemic. Notes from that call were presented to the Board in advance of the meeting. There are severe concerns regarding the summer playground program and the recommendation is to cancel the summer program for the year 2020 as safety and health of the children are of first priority and additional expenses were also a concern. Mr. Swavely concurred with this recommendation from a legal standpoint. Ms. Harris also asked the question about the rental of the playground facilities to the public. Mr. Barth made a motion to cancel the 2020 Summer Playground program and to keep the playground closed for outside events, seconded by Mr. Mallatratt and the motion carried. It was discussed that should the Governor move Berks County to the “Green” phase the option of opening the playground facilities to the public and possible “Pop-Up” events could be discussed at that time and will follow CDC Guidelines.

PUBLIC WORKS: Mr. Stump stated that there is money in the budget for road projects but need to discuss further the oil & chip projects and other road projects for 2020. Mr. Barth asked which roads Mr. Stump felt were top priority. Mr. Stump stated Old State Road is a priority and the other oil & chip roads. Mr. Barth stated that next year’s (2021) liquid fuels money will be affected and projects for next year may need to be modified. Mr. Stump discussed Cralou Drive briefly, which is also a Liquid Fuels Project, and some of the costs have declined as not as much stone will be required than originally planned.

SUPERVISORS REPORT:

- Mr. Barth and Mr. Stump had nothing to report.
- Mr. Mallatratt discussed the change in venue for the polling location for Zion Spies Lutheran Church, the polling location at the Township Building remains unchanged. He mentioned both Zion Spies Lutheran Church and the Fire Company have declined their facilities for the June 2, 2020 election. Blind Hartman’s Tavern has offered their facilities as a temporary location and Mr. Heffner of Blind Hartman’s Tavern and Deb Olivieri, Director of the Berks County Board of Elections, have spoken and worked out the details of this location. A letter will be sent by Berks County to those affected residents. Additional notices regarding this change in location will be posted on the Township website and social media. Mr. Mallatratt also thanked Mr. Eck for his offer of his facility if necessary

Prior to entering the Executive Session, Mr. Eck asked if there were any updates on the Fire Company. Mr. Barth stated that the Board has not heard back from them from our recent correspondence.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 7:42 p.m. the Board held an Executive Session on a personnel matter regarding a written complaint by Ms. Patricia Moyer, dated April 6, 2020, regarding the Township Road Master, Michael Stump. The Business Manager explained that all participants, with the exception of the Board and Mr. Swavely, would be placed in a Zoom "Waiting Room" and that those in the "Waiting Room" would not be able to hear or see but were welcome to remain there and would be re-admitted to the meeting following the Executive Session. Mr. Swavely stated that there will be no additional business conducted following the Executive Session, unless an action would be required as a result of the Executive Session. The Board left Executive Session at 8:14 p.m.

Mr. Stump asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Barth made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sam Mallatratt and the motion was approved. Adjournment was at 8:14 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Mallatratt
Business Manager/ Secretary/ Treasurer