

Michael Stump, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting of the Alsace Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00 pm. Also present were Vice Chairman Sam Mallatratt, Member David Barth, Business Manager Kimberly Mallatratt, Solicitor Gary Swavely, and Township Sewer Engineer Fred Ebert. The meeting was held virtually via a Zoom meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** A motion was made by Mr. Mallatratt for approval of the Minutes from the April 7, 2021 meeting. Mr. Barth seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:** Chairperson Stump asked for approval of the Township payment of bills. Mr. Barth made the motion to approve payment of these bills in the amount of \$47,407.20 from the General Fund, \$38,166.59 from the WWTP Operations and Maintenance Fund, \$17,113.66 from the Septic and Sewer Fund, and \$0 from the Liquid Fuels Fund seconded by Mr. Mallatratt, and the motion was approved.

**PAYMENT OF PAYROLL:** Mr. Barth made a motion to approve the payment of Payroll in the amount of \$33,609.12 seconded by Mr. Stump. Mr. Mallatratt abstained from the vote per the memo on file. The motion was approved by Mr. Barth and Mr. Stump.

**PAYMENT OF TAXES AND INTERIM BILLS:** Mr. Barth made a motion to approve the payment of taxes and interim bills, Mr. Mallatratt seconded that motion and it carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** All financial reports were reviewed and there were no questions.

#### **ADMINISTRATION:**

- The Business Manager discussed the Commercial Insurance and Workers Compensation quote which was received from EMS Insurance for 2021-2022. The quote is \$25,983 which represents a \$1385 increase from last year. David Barth made a motion to accept this quote, seconded by Sam Mallatratt and the motion passed.
- Mr. Stump asked Ms. Mallatratt to provide a briefing on the formation of a DEKA Traffic Task Force which will include multiple municipalities to develop solutions to ease traffic and safety issues. Mr. Stump made a motion to authorize the Business Manager to attend and participate in this Task Force, seconded by Mr. Barth, and the motion carried.
- Ms. Mallatratt requested authorization to advertise draft Ordinance 2021-03 which allows the Board to execute the Intergovernmental Agreement to utilize the UCC Countywide Appeals Board moving forward. Mr. Barth made a motion to authorize the Ordinance's advertisement, seconded by Mr. Mallatratt and the motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS:**

- Mr. Stump provided the Board with an overview of the projects currently being worked on regarding pipe replacement on Fox Road.

**BID OPENING – 2021 LIQUID FUELS PROJECT:** The Business Manager stated that two bids were received for the advertised oil & chip project which remain sealed. Mr. Mallatratt showed the sealed bid packages on the video of the meeting. Mr. Mallatratt opened the sealed bids. The bids received were from:

- Martin Paving, Inc., Lititz, PA - \$109,327.05 – unit price was \$2.915
- Asphalt Maintenance Solutions, Center Valley, PA - \$99,388.25 – unit price was \$2.65

Following a brief discussion, the Business Manager stated that she would forward to Township Solicitor pending review from Mr. Swavely of the administrative documentation received. The award of the bid will occur at the next meeting following this review.

**SEWER EXPANSION:** Mr. Fred Ebert of Ebert Engineering attended the meeting to discuss the proposed fees and financing policies and to answer questions from affected property owners on the documentation that had been mailed prior to the meeting. Mr. Ebert read through the proposed policy document.

A discussion took place regarding permit fees as that was not included in the proposal document. Following a brief discussion, a \$150 single permit fee will be added to the document. This fee will cover both the electrical and the plumbing permit. The Board asked the Business Manager to add that fee.

Carl Payne asked a question about the difference between the simplex and duplex pump. Mr. Stump explained the differences between the pumps and that the simplex is for residential customers and the duplex is typically for commercial. Mr. Stump further stated that the township will continue to offer pumps for sale at the Township Building at this time. Mr. Stump also stated that there is ongoing investigation of pump types and prices, but that they must meet system requirements and demands.

Keith Eckart asked a question about a pump warranty. He was told that there is a two-year warranty with the pumps. Mr. Eckart also asked about where the line would be stubbed on the property. Mr. Ebert explained it would be the right-of-way edge. He additionally asked what an EDU means. Mr. Ebert explained an EDU stands for Equivalent Dwelling Unit which equates for 350 gal/day usage. Mr. Ebert also explained the additional costs to connect based on the location of where an individual property owner chooses to connect and what the tap-in fee is for.

A question was asked about when construction would begin. Mr. Ebert stated he believes that construction should begin in July and that potential hookups can begin in November.

Mr. Blankenbiller asked a question regarding cable lengths and if it is possible to purchase cables of a longer length if necessary. Mr. Stump stated he believes that is possible, but that would incur an additional charge.

Hearing no further questions, Mr. Barth made a motion to accept to fees and policies document with the permit fee inclusion, the motion was seconded by Mr. Stump. Mr. Mallatratt abstained from the vote as he is the owner of property affected by the sewer expansion. The motion carried with two aye votes and one abstention.

The second item that was discussed involved the re-evaluation of the commercial EDUs which would look at water consumption and if they are using additional capacity than is being paid for by the user. A policy would be established as so that there is a standardized policy moving forward so that there is an equitable framework moving forward.

Mr. Ebert explained that each commercial account would be reviewed every two years and further described the mechanism on the calculations involved in that review. Mr. Ebert recommended to the Board that this is a policy that should be developed. Mr. Stump asked about the impact to existing businesses and if their charges have increased, would they need additional EDUs at this time. Mr. Ebert answered in the affirmative. Mr. Barth asked if the commercial account is now using less, would they be entitled to a refund. Mr. Ebert stated that they would not be reimbursed for an EDU charges and it would remain an asset of the property, but could request a reduction in the monthly sewer charge for the EDUs.

Mr. Blankenbiller asked if all commercial properties would be metered and who would pay for the meters? Mr. Ebert stated that all commercial properties would be metered. He also stated that the charge would be a Board decision but that a meter typically costs \$250 plus installation. Mr. Blankenbiller asked who would read them. Mr. Ebert stated that they could be read with a radio and it could be done by either the Sewage Treatment operator or the Department of Public Works.

Mr. Blankenbiller stated that this issue was discussed by the previous Board during Phase 1 of the public sewer project and it was determined to not be feasible at that time. He expressed concern that the cost isn't justified at this time. Mr. Ebert explained that while it may not appear necessary at this time, this is an issue that should be addressed at this time while it is a manageable issue. This will allow the Township to

have a policy in place and will not become problematic as the commercial impacts grow in the future. It avoids the appearance of singling any entity out in the future.

Mr. Ebert left the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Judith Treichler commented on the continued closing of the public bathrooms on the playground. She asked the Board to consider re-opening the bathrooms for public use. A discussion ensued regarding the options for opening the bathrooms. They have asked the Recreation Board Chairman to look at the CDC and Department of Health requirements for cleaning, maintenance and contract tracing. This item is tabled to the next meeting.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** Mr. Swavely stated that he received a request on the transaction on the Kegerise property to extend the settlement date to July 1, 2021. A signed Addendum on the property has been received. Mr. Barth made a motion to have the Chairman execute the Addendum, seconded by Mr. Mallatratt, and the motion carried.

**SUPERVISORS REPORT:** Mr. Barth and Mr. Mallatratt had nothing to report.

Mr. Mallatratt then made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Barth and the motion was approved. Adjournment was at 7:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Mallatratt  
Business Manager/Secretary/ Treasurer