

SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING, WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 16, 2022

Michael Stump, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting of the Alsace Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00 PM. Present were Vice Chair, Kimberly Mallatratt, Board Member Keith Blankenbiller, Township Business Manager Jan Moore, and Solicitor Gary Swavely. The meeting was held as a hybrid with no residents attending remotely.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mr. Stump led the Pledge of Allegiance

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:** Mrs. Mallatratt made a motion to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$74,066.16 from the General Fund, \$60,903.47 from the Sewer Plant O&M Fund, and \$1,938.81 from the WWTP fund. Motion was seconded by Mr. Blankenbiller and the motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** All financial reports were distributed prior to the meeting with no further comments made at the meeting.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** There were no public comments

**SOLICITOR:** Mr. Swavely had nothing to report

**BLANDON FIRE COMPANY:** Dan Miller from the Bandon Fire Company provided a brief report on fire activity as well as some year- to- date financials. Mr. Miller also supplied copies of the fire company's IRS 8879-TE and 8868 forms that were filed with the IRS.

Rick Lombardo and Dave Okonski from the Mt. Penn Fire Company were also in attendance and stated that they will provide a full financial report in January 2023 for the year 2022. They also mentioned that both fire companies will be driving through the township on December 17, 2022 following the same route as last year. Mr. Moore stated that he would add an item on the Township's website mentioning Santa's visit and route.

Mrs. Mallatratt thanked both companies for their attendance and report and requested that the board would like to specifically see the amounts that the Alsace Manor Social Quarters remits to each company. Both Mr. Miller and Mr. Lombardo confirmed that they would provide that figure to the board.

Darlene Bartsch made a comment that the Township should contribute to the Bandon Fire Company. Mrs. Mallatratt stated that as was mentioned at a previous meeting, the Township makes contributions to both Bandon and Mt. Penn Fire Companies.

**ADMINISTRATION:** Mrs. Mallatratt reviewed the budget and stated that there were no changes from the proposed budget and requested a motion to accept and approve the proposed budget as the final budget. Mr. Blankenbiller made a motion to accept and approve the proposed budget as the final budget, seconded by Mr. Stump and the motion carried.

Mr. Moore presented the 2023 Municipal Tax Sheet for approval with a millage of 1.50% for the Township which is the same millage as 2022. Mr. Blankenbiller made a motion to approve the 2023 Municipal Tax Sheet with a 1.50% millage for the Township, seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt and the motion carried.

Mr. Moore presented a MOU for the McKnights Gap Substation at 153 Bingaman Road for approval and execution. Mr. Blankenbiller made a motion to approve and execute the MOU for the McKnights Gap Substation, seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt and the motion carried.

Mr. Moore presented an overview of the ICS program offered by Tompkins Community Bank. This would be a 100% risk free overnight sweep account that would invest the funds in FDIC insured institutions to earn a better rate of return than the regular account. The funds would be invested in blocks of \$240K to avoid the \$250K insurance threshold. In the current rate environment, the Township would see approximately \$1300 to \$1500 net revenue each month on the account. Mr. Moore requested a motion to execute the ICS enrollment form to set up the ICS Sweep Account. Mrs. Mallatratt made a motion to approve and execute the ICS enrollment form, seconded by Mr. Blankenbiller and the motion carried.

Mr. Moore commented that the Township would be moving to Aetna for health insurance coverage in 2023 due to only having 4 employees enrolled in the program. This would also move the individual deductible from \$500 to \$2500 dollars. Mr. Moore requested that the Township continue to pay for the first \$500 of the deductible for Township staff only as was done in previous years. Mrs. Mallatratt made a motion to approve the continuance of paying the initial \$500 of Township staff's deductible, seconded by Mr. Blankenbiller and the motion carried.

Mr. Moore stated that permit applications for both the school bus stop and digital speed limit signs were submitted to PennDot. The Township had to request new quotes for the digital speed limit signs as they must be PennDot approved signs for a permit to be issued. Mr. Blankenbiller stated that we should request permits for use on all state roads within the Township.

A brief discussion was held concerning fire company run cards. Currently, Dave Barth is the administrator for the run cards. Mr. Barth provided an email stating that he would be willing to continue as administrator and the board agreed to allow Mr. Barth to continue as such. Mrs. Mallatratt stated that some minor changes were made to the run cards and submitted to the County. Mr. Blankenbiller thanked the fire company members in attendance for bringing him up to speed on the run cards. No motion was made as no changes were made to the existing account set up.

**PUBLIC SEWER:** Mr. Stump stated that the work was completed on the wet well and everything looked good. He also stated that he upgraded the ladder components with stainless steel to prevent corrosion. Mr. Blankenbiller asked Mr. Moore how many residents have completed their hook up to the Route 12 extension. Mr. Moore stated that 7 residents have completed hook up to date out of 33 impacted properties. Mrs. Mallatratt stated that Mr. Moore should draft and send a reminder letter to those residents who have not completed their hook up in early 2023 to remind residents that they can finance the cost of the hookup until April 30, 2023 and receive the 10% discount off the EDU cost. As of May 1, 2023 the financing and discount will no longer be available.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Mr. Stump stated that the tree trimming was continuing and should be completed by the end of the week.

**SUPERVISORS REPORT:** No additional reports were given

**AGENDA ADDITION:** A motion was made by Mrs. Mallatratt to add an agenda item concerning the acceptance of a release related to a vehicle accident in the Township on July 7, 2022. Motion was seconded by Mr. Stump

**INSURANCE RELEASE:** The Township received a Property Damage Release from Good2go insurance company stating that their insured had a maximum of \$5000 coverage for physical damage. The Township had an estimate to repair the damage to the stone wall of \$12,096 dollars from Eshbach

SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING, WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 16, 2022

Masonry. Mr. Blankenbiller asked what recourse the Township had, and Mr. Swavely stated that the Township could sue the vehicle owner but would then have to incur the legal expense to do so. Mr. Swavely also stated that if the Township signed the release, it could not bring suit against the vehicle owner. Mr. Swavely recommended that the board accept and sign the Property Damage Release. Mr. Blankenbiller made a motion to accept and sign the Property Damage Release form, seconded by Mr. Stump and the motion carried.

**ADJOURN:** Mr. Blankenbiller made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 PM. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt and the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Jan G Moore, Business Manager