

SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING, WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2023

Keith Blankenbiller, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting of the Alsace Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:00 PM. Present were Vice Chair, Michael Stump, Board Member Kimberly Mallatratt, 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. Blankenbiller led the Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Blankenbiller requested a motion to approve the minutes from the January 18, 2023 Business meeting. Motion was made by Mr. Stump, seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt and the motion carried.

APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF: Mrs. Mallatratt made a motion to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$55,947.63 from the General Fund, \$18, 213.02 from the Sewer Plant O&M fund, and \$2,947.80 from the WWTP fund. Motion was seconded by Mr. Stump and the motion carried.

APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF TAXES AND INTERIM BILLS: Mr. Stump made a motion to pay taxes and interim bills, seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt and the motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Financial reports were distributed to all Supervisors and Solicitor prior to the meeting. Mrs. Mallatratt stated that she had a question that had been already addressed by Mr. Moore prior to the meeting. No additional questions or comments were made concerning the financial reports. Mr. Stump made a motion to accept the financial reports as submitted, seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt and the motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Scott Moyer asked if the water cistern at the AMFC were being maintained for use as a water source for emergencies. Mr. Blankenbiller stated that they were being maintained and were used recently for the structure fire in the township.

Mr. Blankenbiller further stated that he personally visited both Blandon and Mt Penn Fire Departments and was very happy with both of them.

Mrs. Mallatratt stated that she did inquire about insurance coverage on the building and equipment and was told that it was in place and up to date. Patty Moyer asked if she had received this information in writing and Mrs. Mallatratt stated it was provided verbally. Mr. Blankenbiller commented that the board would inquire to ensure that everything was covered by insurance.

Phil Salamone from the Lower Alsace Ambulance provided a brief overview of the services that they provide to the Township as well as an update on the overall financial condition of the ambulance service. Mr. Salamone stated that every time the ambulance is dispatched, it is losing money. The service does not get reimbursed for most items. He also provided a brief background on the decision by Western Berks Ambulance to eliminate service in several areas which prompted his letter that was sent out to municipalities during 2022. At the conclusion of his presentation, he requested that the Township review its current contribution level to ambulance services and possibly increase that budget number for the 2024.

Darlene Bartsch asked a question of Mr. Salamone which Mr. Salamone stated that she should contact her insurance company to determine how payments are made for ambulance services.

Ms. Bartsch also stated that she has observed a lot of trucks hauling into the quarry and was wondering what they would be hauling in. Mr. Blankenbiller stated that he had a call into Senator Schwank's office to voice his concerns over the same matter. Ms. Bartsch also commented on the fence recently installed at 5 Elm Avenue. Mr. Blankenbiller stated that the fence was installed in accordance with the existing ordinances for the Township. Mr. Blankenbiller requested the board to re-visit the Zoning Ordinance for fences and to request the Township Planning Commission to do the same.

David Krott stated that he contacted PennDOT about the plow truck at Elizabeth Avenue during the recent small snow event.

Bonnie Landis stated that she only saw one large PennDOT plow truck during the recent snow event and later the day saw a smaller PennDOT truck that was not applying anything to the roads.

Mr. Stump stated that there is a change coming in November 2024 to the intersection of Route 12 and Elizabeth Avenue. As further information is received on this matter, it will be shared with the Township residents.

SOLICITOR: Mr. Swavely had not report or comments

STORMWATER: Mr. Moore presented an MOU for 9 Laurel Avenue for approval and execution. Mrs. Mallatratt made a motion to approve and execute the MOU for 9 Laurel Avenue, seconded by Mr. Stump and the motion carried.

Mr. Moore requested permission from the board to advertise the amendment to the Schuylkill River Watershed Stormwater Ordinance 2008-2. Mr. Stump made a motion to approve the advertising of the amendment, seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt and the motion carried.

Mr. Moore presented Resolution 2023-03 to adopt the Alsace Township Emergency Operations Plan. Mrs. Mallatratt made a motion to approve and adopt Resolution 2023-03 for the Alsace Township Emergency Operations Plan, seconded by Mr. Stump and the motion carried.

Mr. Moore requested a motion to execute the 911 Records Agreement with Berks County. Mr., Stump made a motion to execute the 911 Records Agreement, seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt and the motion carried.

Mr. Moore requested a motion to authorize the Solicitor to file of a petition for the Alsace Manor Fire Company. Mr. Stump made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to file a petition for the Alsace Manor Fire Company, seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt and the motion carried.

Mrs. Mallatratt made a motion to re-appoint Tim Waldman as Alsace Township Fire Marshall, seconded by Mr. Stump and the motion carried.

Mr. Moore requested motion to approve the contract for Zero Gravity for website hosting for 2023 at a cost not to exceed \$920. Mrs. Mallatratt made a motion to accept the contract for Zero Gravity, seconded by Mr. Stump and the motion carried.

Mr. Moore provided a statement that the IRS mileage rate for 2023 was set at \$.655 per mile

The board held a brief discussion concerning the salt shed project and requested Mr. Moore to request a rendering and stamped prints for review. Mr. Blankenbiller made a motion to have Mr. Moore request a

rendering and stamped prints for the salt shed project, seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt and the motion carried.

PUBLIC SEWER: Mr. Moore stated that a letter will be sent out in early March 2023 reminding residents impacted with the Route 12 sewer extension that the financing option and EDU discount period will expire on April 30, 2023. The residents would have 3 years to complete the hookup to the system from May 1, 2023 and the cost of equipment and hookup must be paid in full at the time of hookup.

PUBLIC WORKS: It was discussed that a letter would be sent to Bruce Bubser at the local PennDOT Temple facility to request PennDOT's plans for dealing with Route 12 during snow events and to inquire as to why nothing was done prior to the recent event which caused very dangerous conditions on Route 12.

Mr. Stump stated that stone had been placed at 3585 Kegerise in anticipation of construction vehicles accessing the property during construction. He also stated that some rehab work had begun in the Township Office building and the shop LED lights had been installed.

SUPERVISORS REPORT: Mrs. Mallatratt stated that she would like to see the Codification of Ordinances. She requested Mr. Moore to obtain quotes for this project.

Mr. Blankenbiller further requested Mr. Moore to review and ensure all Ordinances were account for, for inclusion in the codification process.

ADJOURN: Mr. Blankenbiller asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 PM. Mr. Stump made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Jan G Moore, Business Manager