

SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

Mr. Blankenbiller called the meeting of the Alsace Township Board of Supervisors meeting to order on September 20, 2023 at 7:04 PM. Present were Vice Chair Mike Stump, Board member Kimberly Mallatratt, Township Business Manager Jan Moore, and Solicitor Gary Swavely.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mr. Blankenbiller led the Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mrs. Mallatratt made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 16, 2023 Board meeting and the September 6, 2023 Board Workshop meeting, seconded by Mr. Stump and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF: Mr. Stump made a motion to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$196,377.67 from the General Fund, \$18,239.25 from the Sewer O&M Fund, and \$3,494.55 from the WWTP Fund, seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt and the motion carried unanimously.

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

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Financial reports were distributed to the Board prior to the meeting with no additional comments made at the meeting. Mr. Stump made a motion to accept and approve the financial reports as submitted, seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt and the motion carried unanimously

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Robert Kutzler, 3142 Pricetown Road stated that he had purchased 6 EDUs for his apartment building which has 6 units. He received a letter from the Township stating that he could place a water meter on his property to determine actual water usage which would then be used to generate his sewer usage charges. He also stated that he was told to get a meter so his usage bill could be adjusted. Following the installation of the water meter, Mr. Kutzler applied to have his usage adjusted to reflect the meter readings. His usage adjustment was subsequently denied by the Board. The reason for the denial was that his property is zoned commercial with residential use and every individual residence must have their own sewer usage. Since his building has 6 units, he must have 6 usage charges so there was no deduction available. He questioned why he would have placed a meter if he had no possible way of benefiting from it. He would not have incurred the cost to install the meter. Mrs. Mallatratt stated that the current policy is defined by what the property is used for, not what it is zoned. The board requested Mr. Kutzler to provide a copy of the invoice for the cost to install the meter and that the board would reconsider reimbursing him that cost but stood by the decision to deny a monthly usage adjustment. Mr. Blankenbiller stated that this was one of the reasons he initially voted against the EDU policy as he felt there were several aspects of the policy that were not clearly stated. There was also a brief discussion where several attendees stated that when a building has 3 or more units it is automatically considered as a commercial use property.

Jayne Martinez stated that she would be hosting the invasive plant program that would be held at the Township on September 29, 2023. She asked if a projector would be available to use and Mr. Moore stated that the Township does have a projector for her use. Mr. Stump stated that he would be attending the event and would ensure that the projector was available.

SOLICITOR: No report was provided

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ADMINISTRATION: Mr. Moore provided a list of bus stops on Oley Road as supplied by the Oley School District. There are only 4 currently in use. Mr. Stump requested that we contact the school district and have them suggest where they feel a school bus stop ahead sign would be most beneficial. Mr. Moore stated that he would reach out to the school district and report back to the board.

Mr. Stump stated that the sign that was placed on Pricetown Road is obstructed by tree limbs. Mr. Moore will contact the property owner to see if the Township can obtain permission to trim the limbs.

Mr. Moore presented the Agreement with Safety Net Sanctuary for 2024 and requested that funds be earmarked for payment of the Agreement in 2024. This expense is included in the 2024 draft budget, but the cost needs to be recognized in 2024. Mr. Stump made a motion to earmark the funds for payment for the 2024 Agreement with Safety Net Sanctuary, seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt and the motion carried unanimously.

A discussion took place concerning the existing Commercial EDU Policy. Mr. Blankenbiller stated that he had several concerns about some of the items in the policy, such as the matter discussed earlier by another resident. Mrs. Mallatratt requested Mr. Blankenbiller to provide specific comments that he did not agree with. It was then decided that each Supervisor would review the existing policy and provide their individual comments to Mr. Moore who would then prepare an all-inclusive list. This list would then be reviewed by the Board to determine what, if any, changes should be made and then bring an amended policy to the Board for formal approval.

PUBLIC SEWER: No Report

PUBLIC WORKS: Paving should be completed in the first week of October at Oley Estates and Blankenbiller Road. Mr. Blankenbiller thanked Mr. Stump for the stormwater drain work he completed near the fire company building.

SUPERVISORS: Mrs. Mallatratt stated that the draft budget will be sent out prior the next meeting in October.

ADJOURN: Motion made by Mr. Stump to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Mallatratt. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Jan G Moore, Township Business Manager