

MORRIS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
November 3, 2021 7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the Morris Township Supervisors was called to order by Chairman James Williams with a salute to the flag. A roll call of officers showed James Williams, Josiah Jones, John Saggese, Dan Nelson and Patti Moore.

Guests: Willard Verbeck, Emerson Reams, Bob Smith, Curtis Quick, William Clark, Fred Little, John McMullen, Tom Crain, Jr. Ed Andrasko Jr., Stan Minko, Chad Baughman

Minutes: The Chairman entertained a motion, John Saggese motioned, and Josiah Jones seconded to accept the minutes from the **October 6, 2021 and the October 27, 2021 Budget Meeting.** Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

Financial Reports: The Chairman entertained a motion, Josiah Jones motioned, and John Saggese Jr. seconded to approve the financial report. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

Bills: The Chairman entertained a motion, Josiah Jones motioned, and John Saggese seconded to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

Planning Commission: None

Executive Session: Josiah Jones motioned, and John Saggese seconded to go into executive session for Personnel Matters. Josiah Jones motioned, and John Saggese seconded to return from executive session.

Solicitor Report: Dan Nelson stated he was instructed to send a letter to Cooper Township to clarify what is to be done with the items in the Police Department, a response was received and stating they are satisfied, and this will be handled accordingly.

Dan also reported on the ongoing blighted and dilapidated properties. He stated he has provided every piece of information he has. Josiah stated he spoke to Lisa Kovalick and she has done abstract reports on her own and is moving forward on some properties, mainly the dangerous property along RT 53 to get this property removed.

Dan stated to do codification of the township files, it would cost \$10,000 and the time frame is 10 years for completion. James Williams suggested having the Planning Commission spend time reviewing and making suggestions on amending or eliminating outdated ordinances. James will meet with the Planning Commission to begin this process.

Dan stated he was asked to look at the nuisance ordinance. Josiah suggested amending and updating this ordinance to include recreation vehicles ATV's, UTV's, RV's, Campers.

The Chairman entertained a motion to proceed with the amendments to Ordinance 1989-03 and to advertise the same with the goal of final consideration in December of 2021. John Saggese motioned and Josiah Jones seconded to proceed. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

The Chairman entertained a motion, Josiah Jones motioned and James Williams seconded to authorize the solicitor to proceed with litigation in the form of a Quo Warranto action to determine the legitimate holder of the Moshannon Valley Joint Sewer Authority seat. Motion carried with two supervisors voting yes. **John Saggese Opposed.**

Police Update: James Williams stated there was a police meeting held at Cooper Township. The board agreed to move forward. The evidence is secured. The office will be rekeyed and returned to Morris Township.

Public Comments: John McMullen stated he received a letter from Code Enforcement regarding a structure on his property. It was decided there will be a meeting with Josiah and Mr. McMullen to inspect the property.

William Clark questioned if there has been a grant application submitted for Gray Hollow Road. James stated there are many grant applications submitted but not currently for Gray Hollow Road.

Fire Protection Update: Chad Baughman stated they held an open house for fire protection week. He stated the fire company ordered over \$30,000 in new air cylinders through a FEMA Grant. He also stated to change your batteries in your smoke detectors. Willard Verbeck stated Trick or Treat and Trunk or Treat was a successful event.

Road Masters report: James Williams stated there has been pipes installed and berming has been completed on Old Turnpike Road. The Crew will be applying hot patch to the areas where the pipes were installed, weather permitting.

Thomas Crain has been hired as a Full Time Road Crew member.

Code Enforcement Update: Josiah Jones submitted a code progress report. There have been citations issued. Josiah will continue as the Code Enforcement Officer. Certified Letters are sent as an effective way of notification.

Morris Township Recreation: Curtis Quick provided a report for the recreation board. He requested permission to purchase a Griddle and Fryer in the amount of approximately \$440.00.

The Chairman entertained a motion, Josiah Jones motioned and John Saggese seconded to approve this purchase using ACT 13 Funds. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

The supervisors decided to table the batting cage request.

Municipal Authority of the Township of Morris: Chad Baughman, Vice Chairman of the Municipal Authority Board stated he has received quotes to build onto the rear of the township building. He also stated they would like to move into the old police office. Dan stated there must be a Intermunicipal Agreement between the township and the Municipal Authority. The solicitors will meet and prepare this agreement and a lease prior to anything being done. This must be done through the proper bidding process.

The Chairman entertained a motion, Josiah Jones motioned and James Williams seconded to get preliminary approval to lease space to the Municipal Authority for business and storage of equipment and to authorize the solicitor to begin negotiations with the MATOM solicitor to execute the necessary paperwork to allow this to happen. Motion carried with 2 supervisors voting yes. **John Saggese abstained** because he feels this should have been done years ago.

2022 Proposed Budget: The Chairman entertained a motion, Josiah Jones motioned and John Saggese seconded to approve the 2022 Proposed budget and advertise for display for 20 days for adoption in December. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

Massey Ferguson: The Chairman entertained a motion, Josiah Jones motioned and James Williams seconded to accept the highest bidder on Municibid in the amount of \$6,450.00. **John Saggese Opposed.**

19mm Hot Mix for Patching: The Chairman entertained a motion, Josiah Jones motioned and John Saggese seconded to approve the cost of \$72.56 per Ton (Approximately \$1,770.00). Additional Expense of \$93.00 per hour for the driver delivering to site. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

Adjournment: The Chairman entertained a motion, John Saggese motioned, and Josiah Jones seconded to adjourn at 8:44 PM. Motion carried with all supervisors voting yes.

Respectively Submitted. Patti Moore, Secretary