

**Ridley Township Board of Commissioners**  
**January 26, 2022**  
**Meeting Minutes**

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The Regular Meeting of the Ridley Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Willert at 6:00pm on January 26, 2022 at the Township Building.

The following Commissioners were present: Mr. Saraceni, Mrs. Morrisette, Mr. McMenamin, Mr. Saunders, Mr. McCrea, Mr. Willert, Mrs. Melasecca (*by phone*) and Mr. Bidoli. Mrs. Cummins was absent.

Also present were Mr. Ryan (Township Manager), Mr. Betzler (Controller), Mr. Neill (Solicitor) and Mr. Catania (Township Engineer).

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Resolution Presentation – Vincent D. Gallagher, Jr.**

Mr. Willert presented the Honorable Vincent D. Gallagher, Jr., Magisterial District Justice for Court 32-1-30 with a resolution acknowledging his recent retirement.

**Resolution Presentation – James Maginnis**

Mr. Willert presented James Maginnis with a resolution in honor of his retirement after 40 years of service with the Ridley Township Zoning Hearing Board.

**Motion made by Mr. McCrea, seconded by Mr. Saraceni to adopt both resolutions as presented. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).**

**Public Forum**

John Shaffer, Kossuth Avenue, Milmont Park, appeared before the Board concerning the fire in Folsom, a traffic signal on MacDade Blvd. at Kossuth Avenue, manholes on MacDade Blvd., and Mr. Willert's Christmas lights.

Janet DiIorio, 426 Ridley Avenue, Folsom, appeared before the Board concerning follow up on the Marine Training Center, resurfacing streets, potholes at 5<sup>th</sup> & Ridley Avenues, any update on the American Rescue Plan funding, Agnes and Waverly drainage issues, and the pickleball court fencing concerns.

Ann Duffy, 308 Highland Terrace, Holmes, appeared before the Board concerning the proposed development of the former Italian Delight property.

Al Ianieri, 751 Agnes Avenue, Morton, appeared before the Board concerning a plan to fix the creek area behind his home.

### **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

The Board authorized approval of the October 6, 2021, December 20, 2021 and December 27, 2021 meeting minutes.

**Motion made by Mr. McMenamain, seconded by Mr. Saraceni to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).**

### **Manager's Report**

The following were reappointed to the township's various public committees:

- Anthony Christina, Zoning Hearing Board
- Mark Farthing, Zoning Hearing Board
- Joe Calamita, Planning Commission
- Anthony Calise, Planning Commission
- Joe Centrone, Muckinipates Authority
- Tom Zetusky, Recreation Board
- Tom Donahue, Civil Service Commission
- Lisa Maffei Hahn, Library Board
- Anne Whitehouse, Library Board
- Raymond McKinney, Board of Health

**Motion made by Mr. McCrea, seconded by Mr. McMenamain to approve the reappointments as read. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).**

### **Recycling Report**

Mr. Saunders reported trash collected in December was 1,103.48 tons and recycling collected in December was 235.07 tons. 5 televisions were collected in November, bringing the total amount of televisions recycled to 192 since April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Controller's Report** – No Report

### **Solicitor's Report**

Mr. Neill discussed the tax assessment appeal for 221 Morton Avenue and 134 Haverford Road. The properties should have been combined, but never were at the County level. The whole property was appraised and it was determined a reduction in the assessment was warranted. The new assessment results in approximately a \$1,798.00 reduction in township taxes.

**Motion made by Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Bidoli to approve the settlement of the tax assessment appeal as presented. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).**

Mr. Neill also discussed the tax assessment appeal for 428 N. Fairview Road. After appraisal, it was determined a reduction of assessment was warranted, which will result in an approximate reduction of \$392.00 in township taxes.

**Motion made by Mr. McMenamain, seconded by Mr. Saunders to approve the settlement of the tax assessment appeal as presented. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).**

### **Engineer's Report**

Mr. Catania recommended approval of the following certificates: Radio Communications Service – 2022 Police Radio Maintenance - \$3,226.01; A to U Services, Inc. for the 2021 Storm & Sanitary Sewer Repair Contract - \$6,749.76; A to U Services, Inc. for the 2022 Storm & Sanitary Sewer Repair Contract - \$4,019.74; N. Abbonizio Contractors – PENNVEST Stormwater Improvements - \$348,419.16; and Traffic Planning & Design, Inc. for Kedron & Franklin Avenues - \$11,930.00.

**Motion made by Mr. McCrea, seconded by Mr. Bidoli to approve the certificates as read. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).**

Mr. Catania discussed the bid tabulation for the Haig Avenue Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project. Four (4) bids were received and still under review. A recommendation will be made at the February meeting.

Mr. Catania requested approval of DELCORA's Act 537 Plan Update. Mr. Willert recused himself from the discussion and vote. Mr. Catania explained the plan update would approve the alternate plan to construct a tunnel to the DELCORA plant for waste disposal instead of going through the City of Philadelphia.

**Motion made by Mr. McMenamain, seconded by Mr. Saunders to approve DELCORA's Act 537 Plan Update as presented. Motion carried unanimously (7-0). Mr. Willert abstained from the vote.**

### **Highway/Sanitation Committee Report**

Mr. McCrea reminded residents there will be no trash collection on February 21<sup>st</sup> in observance of President's Day.

**Law & Ordinance Committee Report** - No Report

### **Recreation Committee Report**

Mr. McMenamain reported on upcoming recreation programs. He also encouraged residents to visit the township website for links to the various athletic clubs and organizations.

### **Public Safety Committee Report**

Mr. Willert read the Public Safety Committee Report noting the calls for service in December as follows:

- Crum Lynne – 93
- Folsom – 259
- Holmes – 110
- Milmont Park – 47
- Morton – 48
- Ridley Park – 110
- Secane – 77
- Swarthmore - 48
- Woodlyn – 184

Mr. Willert read a sampling of some of the calls for service the police responded to during the month. He also thanked all members of the Ridley Township Police Department, CID and officers from surrounding departments for their assistance in the investigation and swift apprehension following the homicide at the Empire Vape Shop on Chester Pike in December.

### **Health & Code Enforcement Committee Report**

Mr. Saraceni read the Health & Code Enforcement Committee report for December as follows:

- Permits Issued – 134
- Contractors Registered – 56
- Certificates of Occupancy Issued – 50
- Rental Inspections – 13
- Health Inspections – 16

### **Building Committee Report**

Mr. Saunders reported the township received a request for a six-month extension on the Subdivision/Land Development application of Jon Prichard, 646 Michigan Avenue.

**Motion made by Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. McCrea to approve the applicant's request as presented. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).**

### **Library & Resource Center Committee Report**

Mr. Saraceni reported on upcoming events at the library. 37,758 patrons visited the library in 2021 and checked out 111,855 books and other items. Program attendance in 2021 was 13,855.

### **Finance Committee Report**

Mrs. Morrisette reported all Commissioners received a list of this month's bills.

**Motion made by Mrs. Morrisette, seconded by Mr. Saraceni that the bills be approved subject to the Controller's review and approval. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).**

### **Old and New Business**

Mr. McMenemy thanked everyone for the condolences on the passing of his mother.

Mrs. Morrisette expressed sympathies to Linda Gallagher's family on her sudden passing.

### **Adjournment**

**Motion made by Mr. Willert to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Bidoli. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).**

Meeting concluded at 6:53pm.