

Ridley Township Board of Commissioners
January 22, 2025
Meeting Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Ridley Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by Board President Willert at 6:00pm on January 22, 2025 at the Township Building.

The following Commissioners were present: Mr. Saraceni, Mrs. Morrisette, Mrs. Cummins, Mr. McMenamin, Mr. Saunders, Mr. Warwick, Mr. Willert, Mr. Capozzoli and Mr. Bidoli.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Executive Session Announcement

Mr. Willert announced the Board met in an executive session on January 14, 2025 to interview the three candidates for the position of 8th Ward Commissioner.

Mr. Willert nominated Michael D. Capozzoli to fill the vacancy of 8th Ward Commissioner. No other nominations were received.

Motion made by Mr. McMenamin, seconded by Mrs. Cummins to appoint Michael D. Capozzoli as 8th Ward Commissioner. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

A Resolution was presented appointing Mr. Capozzoli.

Motion made by Mr. McMenamin, seconded by Mrs. Cummins to adopt the Resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Mr. Willert read Mr. Capozzoli's background and welcomed him to the Board. The Honorable Jack Whelan swore Mr. Capozzoli in as 8th Ward Commissioner.

Presentation to Officer Sara Howell

The Board presented Officer Sara Howell a Certificate of Commendation for her heroic actions at an accident involving a CSX train and vehicle on December 18, 2024. Senator Kearney and State Representative Dave Dellosa also presented Officer Howell with official recognitions from the State of PA.

Public Forum

- Elizabeth Hocker appeared before the Board regarding pedestrian safety issues and utilizing the PA State Police in speeding enforcement.
- Suzanne deSeife – 1209 Harper Avenue appeared before the Board concerning traffic & pedestrian safety.

Manager's Report

Mr. Ryan updated the Board on Portnoff Law Associates' efforts in collecting delinquent taxes and rubbish and sewer charges. Over the 3-year period they have been engaged, over \$600,000 in delinquencies have been collected.

Mr. Ryan announced Folsom Fire Company's intent to host an Italian Festival on March 29, 2025 at the firehouse and are requesting permission to close 4th Avenue from Tasker to Sutton and also close Sutton Ave from 4th to Orchard.

Motion made by Mrs. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Bidoli to approve the request as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

Mr. Ryan requested approval to award the bid to dispose of a 2012 Dodge Charge in the amount of \$2,600 through the Municibid website.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrisette, seconded by Mr. Warwick to approve the award as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

Recycling Report

Mr. Bidoli reported trash collected in December was 1,771.08 tons and recycling collected in December was 177.08 tons. 4 televisions were collected in December.

Controller's Report- No Report

Solicitor's Report - No Report

Engineer's Report

Mr. Catania recommended approval of the following certificates: Ernel Co., Inc. – 6th & Hazel ADA Improvements - \$12,800.00; Traffic Planning & Design, Inc. – Green Light-Go Design - \$616.25; Traffic Planning & Design, Inc. – MacDade Blvd. Intersection Study - \$3,607.52; N. Abbonizio Contractors – Swarthmore Ave Inlet Repair - \$3,700.00.

Motion made by Mrs. Cummins, seconded by Mr. Saraceni to approve the certificates as read. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

Mr. Catania recommended approval of the following escrow releases: JMT Builders – 290/292 Morris Ave - \$31,374.40; Cannon Brothers, Inc. – 2021 MacDade Blvd. - \$412,706.80; Chick-fil-A – 405 MacDade Blvd. - \$351,447.95

Motion made by Mr. McMenamin, seconded by Mrs. Morrisette to accept the recommendations as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

Mr. Catania recommended award of a COSTAR proposal from Musco in the amount of \$386,804.00 for an LED lighting system on the baseball and softball fields at Blackrock Park. A state grant was received for these Phase 3 improvements at the park.

Motion made by Mrs. Cummins, seconded by Mrs. Morrisette to approve the award as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

Mr. Catania requested authorization to advertise for bids for the Blackrock Park ADA accessibility improvements.

Motion made by Mrs. Morrisette, seconded by Mr. Bidoli to approve the request as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

Mr. Catania requested approval of the 2025 County Aid resolution for the road resurfacing program in the amount of \$32,994.00.

Motion made by Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Saraceni to adopt the resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

Highway & Sanitation Committee Report

Mr. Warwick announced there is no trash collection on Monday, February 17th in observance of President's Day.

Law & Ordinance Committee Report - No Report

Recreation Committee Report

Mr. McMenamin announced the township received a grant from PA DCNR for improvements to Blackrock Park field. He also announced registration for the Spring Basketball League was open

Public Safety Committee Report

Mr. Willert read the Public Safety Committee Report noting the calls for service in December totaled 1,196.

Health & Code Enforcement Committee Report

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

- Permits Issued – 119
- Contractors Registered – 38

- Certificates of Occupancy Issued – 28
- Rental Inspections 94
- Health Inspections – 16

Building Committee Report- No Report

Library & Resource Center Committee Report

Mrs. Cummins reported the library reached a number of milestones in 2024 – 33,883 in program attendance, 180,837 books and other items checked out or downloaded, more than 80,000 patrons visited in 2024 and nearly 17,800 area residents have library cards. She also reported on upcoming library programs.

Finance Committee Report

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

Motion made by Mrs. Morrisette, seconded by Mr. Bidoli that the bills be approved subject to the Controller's review and approval. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

Old and New Business

The Board welcomed Mr. Capozzoli to the Board.

The Board thanked Officer Howell for her service, as well as all Ridley Township Police Officers.

Mr. Warwick and Mrs. Morrisette reminded residents to properly park during snow storms so the plows can get through and to obey Stop signs and all traffic regulations.

Adjournment

Motion made by Mr. Willert, seconded by Mr. McMnamin to adjourn the meeting, Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

Meeting concluded at 6:36pm.