

Ridley Township Board of Commissioners
May 25, 2022
Meeting Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Ridley Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Willert at 6:00pm on May 25, 2022 at the Township Building.

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

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Forum

Mark Bryan, 525 Ridley Avenue, appeared before the Board concerning a water problem in the back of the houses at 523, 525, 527 and 529 Ridley Avenue.

Manager's Report

Mr. Ryan stated a request was received for a Block Party along Mildred Avenue for July 9th and he requested the matter be tabled until he meets with the organizer.

Mr. Ryan received a Special Events Permit request for 1314 Parklane Road for a Mobile Escape Room trailer on June 26th. He requested approval subject to working out the details regarding parking the trailer with the homeowner.

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

The Board approved allocating \$50,000 in ARPA funds to each fire company to use for equipment, etc.

Recycling Report

Mrs. Melasecca reported trash collected in April was 1,263.70 tons and recycling collected in April was 173.05 tons. 3 televisions were collected in April.

Controller's Report – No Report

Solicitor's Report - No Report

Engineer's Report

Mr. Catania recommended approval of the following certificates: Radio Communications Service – 2022 Police Radio Maintenance - \$3,229.01; A to U Services, Inc. for the 2022 Storm & Sanitary Sewer Repair Contract - \$13,174.37; N. Abbonizio Contractors – PENNVEST Stormwater Improvements - \$129,917.23; N. Abbonizio Construction Inc. – Greenhouse Drive Sanitary Sewer - \$49,329.46; Mobile Dredging & Video Pipe, Inc. – Braxton Road Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project - \$77,549.40 and \$33,980.40; Traffic Planning & Design, Inc. – Kedron & Franklin Ave - \$8,906.25; Traffic Planning & Design, Inc. – MacDade Blvd. Improvements - \$2,098.75; Traffic Planning & Design, Inc. – Green Light Go Design - \$7,199.57; McMahon Associates, Inc. – ARLE Grant - \$202.50.

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

Mr. Catania requested approval of an escrow agreement for Cocco on Youngs Avenue in the amount of \$55,000.00.

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

Mr. Catania reported one bid was received for the Muhlenberg Avenue culvert project re-bid and came in high again. He recommended the bid be rejected and the project tabled and reconsidered when construction costs are more reasonable.

Motion made by Mr. McMnamin, seconded by Mrs. Cummins to reject the bid and table the project for now. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

Mr. Catania requested approval of a PEMA Resolution to make application for reimbursement of costs for flood remediation work provided during Hurricane Ida.

Motion made by Mr. McMnamin, seconded by Mr. Saraceni to approve the Resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

Mr. Catania requested approval of a Resolution supporting the County's TCDI application to Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission.

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

Mr. Catania updated the Board on PennDOT Projects. The I-476 interchange project was bid and awarded to Alan Myers. A pre-construction meeting was held and we are waiting for a schedule from PennDOT and the contractor as to when the work will begin. He also reported PennDOT has (2) paving projects in the works. Morton Avenue from the railroad to Kedron Avenue will be done as well as Sellers Avenue from Fairmount Ave to Chester Pike. We are waiting for a schedule for both projects.

Mr. Catania updated the Board on the PENNVEST Project. Restoration work has begun on Winona Avenue and then the project will move to Armstrong & Wendy Roads.

Highway/Sanitation Committee Report

Mr. McCrea announced there will be no trash collection on May 30th, Memorial Day. He also announced the County's Household Hazardous Waste Collection event will take place on June 11th at Rose Tree Park.

Law & Ordinance Committee Report

Mr. Ryan requested final adoption of the following Ordinances:

a. Ordinance #2061 – Police Pension Amendment. This will amend the current ordinance to include a deferred pension option as negotiated in the recent contract.

Motion made by Mr. Bidoli, seconded by Mr. Saunders to adopt Ordinance #2061 as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

b. Ordinance #2062 – Police Service Connected Disability. This was also part of the recent police contract negotiations to change the service connected disability requirements.

Motion made by Mrs. Cummins, seconded by Mr. McMenamini to adopt Ordinance #2062 as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

c. Resolution – Police Roth Option. As part of the officer's 457 program which they contribute to themselves, the township agreed to offer a Roth option in that program.

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

d. Ordinance #2063 – Appointment of Portnoff Law Associates, Ltd. This will authorize appointment of Portnoff Law Associates to collect unpaid township real estate taxes and sewer and rubbish fees.

Motion made by Mr. McMenamini, seconded by Mr. Saunders to adopt Ordinance #2063 as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

e. Resolution – Third Party Collection for Delinquent Taxes. This will authorize Portnoff Law Associates, Ltd to collect the delinquent taxes instead of the County.

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

Mr. Neill presented Ordinance #2060 regarding Medical Marijuana Dispensaries/Grower/Processor Facilities. A public hearing was held on May 19th. Mr. Neill explained where facilities may be located. Mr. Willert stated this ordinance puts as much restriction as the township can on these facilities.

Motion made by Mr. McCrea, seconded by Mr. Saraceni to adopt Ordinance #2060 as presented. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

Mr. Saraceni requested an ordinance to prohibit recreational or utility trailers or recreational vehicles from being parked in a common or shared driveway.

Motion made by Mr. Saraceni, seconded by Mr. McCrea to intend to adopt an ordinance as presented at a future meeting. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

Recreation Committee Report

Mr. McMenamain reported on upcoming recreation programs. The discounted tickets to various amusement parks will be available shortly.

Public Safety Committee Report

Mr. Willert requested a moment of silence for the children and teachers recently killed in Texas.

Mr. Willert also expressed the Board's sympathy to the family of Edward Howley, a former employee at the Maintenance Garage, who passed away recently.

Mr. Willert congratulated Chad Kennedy on receiving the Anne E. Howanski Memorial Scholarship Award at Ridley High School.

Mr. Ryan read correspondence from John Hudyma, Chief of Holmes Fire Company, concerning assistance they received from Jim Mitchell, owner of Mitch Electric, with a hazardous situation at a home in Holmes with a handicapped resident. Mr. Mitchell came and secured the property at no charge. Chief Hudyma wanted the Board to know of Mr. Mitchell's good deed.

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

- Crum Lynne - 96
- Folsom - 251
- Holmes - 101
- Milmont Park - 52
- Morton - 34
- Ridley Park - 120
- Secane - 61
- Swarthmore - 36
- Woodlyn - 219

Mr. Willert highlighted a few calls for service our officers responded to, and how they went above and beyond to assist residents.

Mr. Willert congratulated Mr. Ryan on recently completing the 150-mile relay style Law Enforcement Memorial Run from Philadelphia to Washington D.C.

Health & Code Enforcement Committee Report

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

- Permits Issued – 247
- Contractors Registered – 34
- Certificates of Occupancy Issued – 60
- Rental Inspections – 270
- Health Inspections – 13

Building Committee Report

Mr. Saunders stated the township received a request for an extension to act on the final land development application of Cannon Brothers, Inc. at 2023 E. MacDade Boulevard for development of a Popeye's restaurant until July 28, 2022.

Motion made by Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Bidoli to approve the extension request as read. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

Mr. Saunders stated the township also received a six-month extension request from MacDade Bullens, LLC for redevelopment of the Wawa at 1920 W. MacDade Blvd., Woodlyn.

Motion made by Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Saraceni to approve the extension request as read. Motion carried unanimously (9-0).

Mr. Ryan reported Cannon Brothers, Inc. removed the rock pile at MacDade Blvd. & Amosland Road and cleaned up that area.

Library & Resource Center Committee Report

Mrs. Cummins reported on upcoming events at the library. Nearly 3,800 patrons visited the library in April and checked out or downloaded more than 12,500 books and other items. Program attendance for children's, teens and adult classes in April was approximately 2,000. Effective June 6th, library hours are Mon, Tues, & Wed 10am to 8pm, Thurs & Fri 10am to 5pm and Saturday, 9am to 4pm.

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 (9-0).

Old and New Business

Mrs. Melasecca reported PEMA has contacted the township and nothing will happen until the Fall with the acquisition of properties.

Mr. McCrea thanked the Commissioners that attended Ridley Area Little League's Baseball Parade. He also thanked all the volunteers and parents who helped out.

Adjournment

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

Meeting concluded at 6:34pm.