

Ridley Township Board of Commissioners
July 28, 2021
Meeting Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Ridley Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Willert at 6:00pm on July 28, 2021 at the Township Building.

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

Also present were Mr. Ryan, Mr. Betzler, Mr. Neill and Mr. Catania, Jr..

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Executive Session Announcement

Mr. Willert announced the Board met in an executive session on July 22nd to discuss personnel and active litigation matters.

Condolences/Moment of Silence

The Board expressed their condolences to the families of Richard E. Temple and Michael Mogan. A moment of silence was observed.

Public Forum

John Shaffer, 309 Kossuth Avenue, appeared before the Board concerning Rich Temple's passing, the fire on Buchanan Avenue, pole barns, drainage issues behind Tom & Jerry's, fire company personnel shortage, overgrown hedges at 304 Academy Avenue, and U-turns at MacDade Blvd. & Fairview Road.

Julie Flower, 209 Swarthmore Avenue, appeared before the Board and asked if there is a list available to the public of upcoming township projects. Ms. Flower also asked what could be asked or discussed during the public forum, if the meeting agenda will be available prior to the meeting and if the minutes will be posted on the website.

Announcements

Mr. Willert reminded property owners the deadline to file an assessment appeal is August 2nd at 4pm.

Mr. Willert congratulated Robert Geedes, the 2021 recipient of the Anne E. Howanski Memorial Scholarship.

Manager's Report

Mr. Ryan reported on the following requests for Block Party/Special Event:

- 500 block Lindsay Street – September 18th
- Folsom Fire Company Octoberfest – October 9th. Request also included permission to block 4th Avenue from Sutton to Tasker Aves and Sutton Ave from 4th to Orchard between 8:30am and 4:30pm. The fire company will notify residents.

Motion made by Mrs. Melasecca, seconded by Mr. Saraceni to approve the block party/special event requests as submitted. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Ryan requested approval to ratify extending the current agreement of sale with RVN, LLC until January, 2022 in order to sell a small portion of the property at Mann Field to RVN, LLC in order to develop the property at MacDade Blvd. & Kedron Avenue.

Motion made by Mr. McCrea, seconded by Mr. McMenamin to extend the current agreement of sale to January, 2022. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Ryan announced the American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on August 16th from 2pm to 7pm at Ridley's Creekside Center.

Mr. Ryan announced the Commissioners will host a Community Shredding Event on October 23rd from 9am to 12pm at the township building.

Mr. Ryan requested a motion to award the bids on the Municibid auction website for township vehicles and equipment no longer in service. He reported the auction brought in over \$20,000. Mr. Ryan also reported in addition to getting paid for the out of service equipment, we will also see a reduction in auto insurance premiums.

Motion made by Mr. McMenamin, seconded by Mr. Bidoli to award the bids as submitted through Municibid. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Recycling Report

Mrs. Melasecca reported trash collected in June was 1,483.03 tons and recycling collected in June was 193.58 tons. She also reminded residents about the township's Television/Monitor Recycling Program. Mr. Willert asked if there was a report on the number of tv's collected. Mrs. Melasecca reported she will have that information at next month's meeting.

Controller's Report - No Report

Solicitor's Report - No Report

Engineer's Report

Mr. Catania recommended approval of the following certificates:

- Radio Communications Service – 2021 Police Radio Maintenance Contract - \$3,134.96
- A to U Services, Inc. – 2021 Storm & Sanitary Sewer Repair Contract - \$20,670.03
- MOR Construction – PENNVEST Utility Locations - \$27,885.00
- N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. – PENNVEST Stormwater Improvements – Change Order No. 1 - \$12,855.40
- N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. – PENNVEST Stormwater Improvements - \$150,925.71
- McCormick Taylor – Bullens Lane Bridge Rehabilitation Project - \$5,479.09
- Kehoe Construction – Fairview Road Utility Patch Repairs - \$3,200.00
- McMahan Associates, Inc. – ARLE Bid Documents - \$2,112.00

Motion made by Mr. McCrea, seconded by Mr. Saraceni to approve the certificates as read. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Catania recommended approval of an escrow release for Paul D. Rayer & Company – 2303 Secane Road - \$13,519.00.

Motion made by Mr. McMenamain, seconded by Mr. Bidoli to approve the escrow release as read. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Catania reported six (6) bids were received for the Braxton Road/Clymer Lane Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation area. These bids are being reviewed by his office and the solicitor's office to determine compliance.

Bids were also received for the Nall Field Improvements. The bids came in extremely high for this project. Mr. Catania recommended rejecting the bids and rebidding at a later date.

Motion made by Mr. Bidoli, seconded by Mr. Saraceni to reject the Nall Field Improvement bids and rebid at a later date. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Catania extensively discussed the Ridley Township Pollutant Reduction Plan (PRP) and made the following statement, *“Ridley Township will accept comments from the public beginning on Wednesday, July 28, 2021 and extending through Friday, August 27, 2021 associated with the township Pollutant Reduction Plan as required by the PA Department of Environmental Protection as a component of the township's national pollutant discharge elimination system, NPDES permit, to discharge stormwater from small municipal separate storm sewer systems, MS-4's. The PRP will outline in general terms the township's 5-year plan to reduce sediment loadings from the MS-4 stormwater discharge. The PRP will be available for public review on the township website, and it will also be available for review and inspection in the township office. Comments should be provided in writing or delivered in person via email or US postal service and addressed to Joseph A. Ryan, Township Manager, at 100 E. MacDade Boulevard, Folsom, PA 19033.”*

Highway/Sanitation Committee Report - No Report

Law & Ordinance Committee Report

Mr. Saraceni deferred to Mr. Neill. Mr. Neill discussed final adoption of Ordinance No. 2056 amending the fence, walls and vegetative screens section of the zoning ordinance to add language to permit fencing on corner lots along secondary front yards as determined by the Zoning Officer.

Motion made by Mr. Saunders, seconded by Mr. Saraceni to adopt Ordinance No. 2056. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Mr. Willert discussed revisiting the property maintenance ordinance to tighten up the regulations concerning trash on properties.

Recreation Committee Report

Mr. Donahue read the Recreation Committee report concerning the township's Summer Playground Program, the Fall newsletter and programs, discount amusement park tickets and the upcoming Fall Festival.

Public Safety Committee Report

Mr. Willert read the Public Safety Committee Report detailing the calls for service as follows:

- Crum Lynne – 107
- Folsom – 268
- Holmes – 95
- Milmont Park – 52
- Morton – 35
- Ridley Park – 129
- Secane – 81
- Swarthmore - 53
- Woodlyn – 233

Mr. Willert commended Detective Tim Kearney for his work in two (2) child sex attempt cases that resulted in convictions. Mr. Willert also commended the police department for the excellent job they do.

Health & Code Enforcement Committee Report

Mr. Saunders read the Health & Code Enforcement Committee report as follows:

- Permits Issued – 222
- Contractors Registered – 5
- Certificates of Occupancy Issued – 78
- Rental Inspections – 6
- Health Inspections – 13

Building Committee Report - No Report

Library & Resource Center Committee Report

Mr. Saraceni read the library report thanking the township personnel for installing the new library sign. He reported on increased library use - 4,000 visitors in June checked out 8,000 books and other items, downloaded 2,100 e-books. 663 people attended programs, bringing the total for the year to nearly 6,000. The Library will be holding a Stock's pound cake fundraiser. Info available on their website. Children's programs and the Blood Drive on August 9th was announced. Information on all programs and events is available on their website – www.ridleylibrary.org.

Finance Committee Report

Mr. Bidoli reported all Commissioners received a list of this month's bills.

Motion made by Mr. Bidoli that the bills be approved subject to the Controller's review and approval, seconded by Mr. Saraceni. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Old and New Business

Mr. McCrea congratulated the Ridley Area Little League 12-Year-Old All-Star Team on winning the District 19 Championship. He also announced he will be unavailable by phone for approximately 2 months due to surgery. He will be available by email or text.

Mr. McMenemy reminded residents to contact their Commissioner at any time if they have questions or concerns – they don't have to wait to come to a meeting.

Adjournment

Motion made by Mr. Willert to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Bidoli. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Meeting concluded at 6:48pm.