

Ridley Township Board of Commissioners
June 23, 2021
Meeting Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Ridley Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Willert at 6:00pm on June 23, 2021 at the Township Building.

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

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Forum

John Shaffer, 309 Kossuth Avenue, appeared before the Board concerning the group home across the street from him. He also brought up a property on Kelly Avenue with a boat out front, a rusted farm tractor in the front yard of a property in Folsom, the drainage system on Morris Avenue, Aston Township's firehouse and body cameras for police officers.

Jennifer Caufield, 654 Brighton Terrace, appeared before the Board regarding the township's plans for the American Rescue Plan funds and also questioned whether the Board will post agendas, meeting minutes and video archives on the website.

James Michael Donahue, Jr., 2644 Armstrong Avenue, appeared before the Board with questions concerning the previous tax collector.

Mary Quinlan, 229 Sycamore Avenue, appeared before the board requesting a pickleball court in the township.

Manager's Report

Mr. Ryan reported on the following requests for Block Parties/Special Events:

- 1200 block Mildred Avenue for July 10th
- Essex Avenue from Youngs Ave to Randall Ave for July 24th
- 100 Block Bullens Lane for July 31st
- Notre Dame de Lourdes Annual Carnival – October 7th through 9th

Motion made by Mr. McCrea, seconded by Mr. Bidoli to approve the block party/special event requests as submitted. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Mr. Ryan announced an American Red Cross Blood Drive would be held on August 16th from 2pm to 7pm at Ridley's Creekside Center. He also announced the Commissioners' Community Shredding Day will be held on October 23rd from 9am to 12pm at the township building.

Mr. Ryan requested approval to utilize the Municibid website to dispose of old vehicles and equipment.

Motion made by Mr. McMenamain, seconded by Mrs. Cummins to utilize the Municibid website to dispose of old vehicles and equipment. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Recycling Report

Mrs. Melasecca reported trash collected in May was 1,346.48 tons and recycling collected in May was 187.84 tons. She also reminded residents about the township's Television/Monitor Recycling Program.

Controller's Report

Mr. Betzler requested approval to open a new bank account for the Nall Field Improvements as requested as a condition of the grant.

Motion made by Mr. McMenamain, seconded by Mrs. Melasecca to approve Mr. Betzler's request as submitted. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Neill reported on a tax assessment appeal filed for the property at 1 Stoneybrook Lane (Parkwood Towers). Mr. Neill requested approval of settlement and authorization to sign the stipulation for the assessed values for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Motion made by Mr. McCrea, seconded by Mr. Donahue to approve Mr. Neill's request as submitted. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

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 - \$15,804.20
- McCormick Taylor – Bullens Lane Bridge Rehabilitation Project - \$19,497.48
- N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. – PENNVEST Stormwater Improvement Project - \$28,071.90
- MOR Construction Services – Utility Locations for PENNVEST Project - \$17,040.00
- Joseph E. Sucher & Sons, Inc. – 2019 Road Program retainage - \$7,000.00
- Joseph E. Sucher & Sons, Inc. – 2020 Road Program retainage - \$21,761.90
- Loftus Construction – Change Order #2 Bullens Lane Bridge Rehabilitation Project – credit of \$10,684.87

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

Mr. Catania reported bids for several projects were opened. Four (4) bids were received for Nall Field Improvements and they all came in over budget. (Project is being funded through a state grant). He recommended tabling the award until after his review.

Six (6) bids were received for the Greenhouse Drive Sanitary Sewer Replacement project. Mr. Catania recommended award be made to N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. for their bid total of \$153,557.00, contingent upon review by the Township Solicitor.

Six (6) bids were received for the 2021 Road Program project. Mr. Catania recommended award be made to N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. for their bid total of \$1,013,028.50.

Motion made by Mr. McCrea, seconded by Mr. Saraceni to approve Mr. Catania's recommendations as submitted. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Mr. Catania requested authorization to advertise for bids for the Leedom Area Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project.

Motion made by Mr. McCrea, seconded by Mr. Saraceni to approve Mr. Catania's request as submitted. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Highway/Sanitation Committee Report

Mr. McMenammin reported there will be no trash collection on July 5th in observance of Independence Day.

Mr. McMenammin also requested approval for the purchase of a tractor load bucket and a Ford F-350 truck with plow and salt spreader through the PA COSTARS Program as approved in the 2021 budget. He also requested the purchase of a truck and three (3) tow-behind leaf machines through the PA COSTARS program. A DEP Grant in the amount of \$359,000.00 was received for this purpose.

Motion made by Mr. McMenammin, seconded by Mr. Donahue to authorize the purchases as requested. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Law & Ordinance Committee Report

Mr. Saraceni deferred to Mr. Neill. Mr. Neill discussed final adoption of Ordinance No. 2055 amending the traffic and parking regulations in the township code.

Motion made by Mr. Saraceni, seconded by Mrs. Melasecca to adopt Ordinance No. 2055. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Recreation Committee Report

Mr. Donahue read the Recreation Committee report concerning the township's Summer Playground Program, sports camps, Family Movie Night and discounted amusement park tickets.

Public Safety Committee Report

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

- Crum Lynne – 106
- Folsom – 263
- Holmes – 110
- Milmont Park – 42
- Morton – 41
- Ridley Park – 128
- Secane – 85
- Swarthmore, 56
- Woodlyn – 237

Mr. Willert reminded residents about the township's fireworks ordinance and requested everyone stay safe and considerate of their neighbors.

Health & Code Enforcement Committee Report

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

- Permits Issued – 234
- Contractors Registered – 1
- Certificates of Occupancy Issued – 43
- Rental Inspections – 3
- Health Inspections – 14

Building Committee Report

Mr. McCrea discussed the subdivision/reverse subdivision application from St. Matthew's Church at 1243 Essex Avenue to reconfigure the lot lines of the two properties at Fairview Road and Essex Avenue. Lot 1 will continue to be used primarily as church parking and lot 2 will contain a dwelling.

Motion made by Mr. McCrea, seconded by Mr. Donahue to approve the subdivision/reverse subdivision application as submitted, subject to the alternate township engineer's comments. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

Library & Resource Center Committee Report

Mrs. Cummins read the library report concerning new library hours, 2,333 visitors in May who checked out 7,750 books and other items, downloaded 136 e-books. 774 people attended programs, bringing the total for the year to 5,326. More information on library services is available at 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 (8-0).

Old and New Business

Mr. McCrea reported on the former Leedom Fire Chief's daughter who is battling Sanfilippo Syndrome. Mr. McCrea also reported the Leedom 4th of July Committee will not be holding the July 4th parade this year due to COVID concerns.

Mr. McMenamin wanted to thank the Parks and Recreation and township overall for getting the summer programs up and running.

Mr. Bidoli reminded everyone to check on neighbors during the heatwave.

Mr. Willert wished everyone a happy and safe 4th of July.

Adjournment

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

Meeting concluded at 6:44pm.