

EAST PENNSBORO TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JUNE 3, 2020

Regular Meeting

7:00 p.m.

A Regular Meeting of the East Pennsboro Township Board of Commissioners was held on Wednesday, June 3, 2020, via teleconference.

Those present were: Commissioners - George Tyson, President; Raymond "Skip" Magaro, Vice President; Kristy Magaro, Charles Gelb and Walter "Joe" Fidler; John Pietropaoli, Township Manager; Lisa Coyne, Township Solicitor; John B. Owen, Assistant Township Manager; Dearan Quigley, Housing & Community Development; Chief Mark Green and Lt. William Diehl, Police Department; Erik Owen, Fire Marshal; John Bruetsch, Emergency Management; and Robert Coyne, Law Office of Coyne and Coyne.

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Tyson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., acknowledging that this meeting is being held via a publicly announced teleconference that was done under the declared State emergency.

President Tyson opened with a moment of silence for the challenging time, praying for peace and tranquility; may a newfound respect for our fellowman come forth through all this uncertainty and turmoil. We are Americans and can all do our part for good to prevail. Which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

II. QUORUM

A roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION approving the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of May 6, 2020, was made by Mr. Skip Magaro, seconded by Ms. Magaro, and was carried by a unanimous aye vote.

IV. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

There was no business from the floor.

V. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL

MOTION authorizing payment of invoices and payroll pending review and signatures of Commissioners, was made by Mr. Fidler, seconded by Ms. Magaro, and was carried by a unanimous aye vote.

MOTION to adopt the revised East Pennsboro Township standard specifications as recommended by GHD, was made by Mr. Fidler, seconded by Mr. Skip Magaro, and was passed by a roll-call vote of 5-0.

MOTION to appoint Keith Morris to the position of probationary Sergeant in the Police Department, effective June 4, 2020, per the recommendation of the Chief of Police, was made by Ms. Magaro, seconded by Mr. Gelb, and was passed by a roll-call vote of 5-0.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Pietropaoli noted the police contract extension must be worked on through July.

He discussed with the board the 2020 roadway improvement project, Poplar Church Road, which was tabled at the last meeting in an effort to try to get costs down to an acceptable price for this season.

Mr. Skip Magaro stated if they do the reductions with a change order, the number two bidder becomes the low bidder. He does not feel comfortable doing that, noting a possible challenge, and believed it should be properly advertised and rebid.

MOTION to reject the 2020 roadway improvement project bids for Poplar Church Road, was made by Mr. Skip Magaro, seconded by Mr. Fidler, and was carried by a roll-call vote of 5-0.

MOTION to authorize the advertisement to rebid the 2020 roadway improvement project, Poplar Church Road, with a reduced scope not to include bid item 7-14 base repair, Erford Road improvements, and bid item 782-10 ADA ramp no. 10 for approval at our July Board of Commissioners meeting, was made by Mr. Skip Magaro, seconded by Mr. Fidler, and was carried by a roll-call vote of 5-0.

Mr. Pietropaoli noted he needs to bring back a few part-time employees at the next payroll. The only request at this point would be two Public Works employees brought back at shortened hours, and a property maintenance person to help assist on the vacant property situations for two days, or fractions of days to equal two days.

Mr. Pietropaoli informed the board they were advised by the county today that the senior center will not open for a few months. They anticipate waiting until around Labor Day, for safety reasons. Every 2 weeks the county has a conference call offering guidance. He will update the board after the next call in 2 weeks.

The library was open for curbside pickup only, no public in the building. They do not plan on increasing that, but it will give people options to get things out of the library.

Mr. Quigley reviewed the re-addressing problems in the township, specifically one that needs to be acted on most immediately involves College Hill Road. They are out of addresses. There are three addresses that are 17 College Hill Road. Mr. Erik Owen suggested that one of the solutions without changing everybody's current numbering would be to address the new properties off of the lane and name that lane, change it to McBride Lane, which would solve some problems. It will not change the 17, 17B, and 17RR College Hill Road addresses, but it would allow for additional addresses because homes are being built in that neighborhood and there are no addresses available. This is an important issue for emergency response. For future properties being built, the new addresses will be made when the property is transferred, they will be asked to

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change the address at the time of deed transfer as opposed to an immediate change, but this is an immediate concern.

Mr. Pietropaoli stated the township will move forward with letters and notification, but they have to move quickly because there is a house currently under construction that will need an address. He noted this is one of the roads that has been on the list for re-addressing for a long time.

Mr. Pietropaoli noted the Recreation Board had a summer camp discussion Monday night and they have recommended concurring with surrounding municipalities in canceling summer camp for the 2020 season. East Pennsboro is the last municipality to make this decision. It is not easy, but better for safety. It was recommended by the township insurance carrier as well as the Pennsylvania Parks and Recreation Society. There will be no day camp or playground. They will post it on the township Facebook page, and notify all the people who attended last year. He noted it may create a hardship for some families, but there is no other option at this point.

He discussed a reception area to be built at the township building when the county goes into the green phase. The plans will provide for a receptionist, with limited access into the building. That is the next step of re-opening the building. He does not know if that will be July, August, or not even until September. They want to be ready to safely open the building for residents.

Additionally, they will move the township business drop box out to an area in the parking lot where drive-by drop-offs can take place, similar to what the Post Office does. They will use the one-way lane that already exists and place it near an island. Work needs to be done to make sure they are water tight, as well as painted so they are visible.

The board discussed the request to work with the school district or school district residents for a senior parade. They need to know what the school district is

doing before deciding on anything. Mr. Pietropaoli noted the school district is planning a bus parade. Ms. Magaro stated Monday the students decorated their cars and had a parade from the middle school on their property down around the access road, around the high school, they got their caps and gowns, had balloons, cheered, and got ice cream at the end. They also walked across the stage for five minutes yesterday and today, half the class yesterday and half today. Tomorrow is the cyber graduation on YouTube.

Mr. Pietropaoli noted township police and fire police are a bit exhausted with what has been going on in the world the past 2 weeks, so they really do not have emergency services personnel to be assisting in an organized parade right now. If the school district did something, he would like the Commissioners to talk about it and get back to Ms. Grieger, but the emergency services schedule is busy right now, and he does not wish to strain them too much. Last Saturday, 14 police officers and every fire police available were working.

Mr. Skip Magaro stated school board members have to weigh carefully what they can do because the State gives them grant money and they have to follow very closely to State guidelines. Mr. Gelb believed the request is for sometime in the future, not this week or next week, perhaps July or August. Mr. Pietropaoli will ask Chief Green or Lt. Diehl to get contact the resident who made the request to get further clarification.

Mr. Pietropaoli noted a conflict with the July 1, 2020, board meeting. With the 4th being that weekend, he suggested either July 8 July 15. It would have to be readvertised. The consensus was July 15.

MOTION to reschedule the July 1 meeting to July 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., and readvertise, was made by Mr. Fidler, seconded by Ms. Magaro, and was carried by roll-call vote of 5-0.

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Ms. Magaro asked Chief Green to thank his staff for their work this weekend. They are doing a great job, and she wished they stay safe next weekend. Chairman Tyson reiterated Ms. Magaro's wishes. He noted the county put out a call rather late in the day on Saturday. That shift typically has four officers, but seven were here in the township, and seven responded elsewhere. It was a very good turnout. He stated protecting life and property is a priority, and residents can be very proud of our officers and our police department. Chief Green will relay the board's kind words to the troops.

Mr. Skip Magaro asked about the stop sign at Cherish Drive. Mr. Pietropaoli stated Jay States will be having a meeting for other matters, and they will review the request. The Solicitor's opinion is it is not supported by any type of traffic warrants and records. They will discuss with Mr. States about speed restrictions or other actions they can take. Chief Green and Lt. Diehl will meet with Mr. Pietropaoli tomorrow and will have a conference call with Mr. States. Mr. Pietropaoli noted there is another one on Brentwater Road that is a two-way stop that could easily be a three-way stop.

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m., was made by Ms. Magaro, seconded by Mr. Fidler, and was carried by a unanimous aye vote.