



The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Rodi.

PRESENT: DERNOSEK, SRAY, HOROWITZ, RODI, MALOSH (on phone)

ALSO PRESENT: Township Solicitor: Robert Garvin; Township Manager: John M. Barrett; Township Executive Assistant: Peggy Patterson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT

CORRESPONDENCE

A. OAK RIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

B. SOUTHBRIDGE EMS REPORT

Mr. Barrett – We received the monthly report from Oak Ridge Fire Department and Southbridge EMS.

Dan Miller, Executive Director of Southbridge EMS – We responded to a cardiac arrest in December, so we would like to recognize the police officers who played a crucial role in that patient’s survival. We want to recognize Officer Kuchta and Officer Schultz, who responded quickly, applied the AED and saved someone’s life. We had three successful cardiac arrest resuscitations in South Fayette in 2021, and the police were involved in all three. We are proud of the working relationship we have with the police, and the township should be proud of them.

C. DCNR GRANT NOTIFICATION

Mr. Barrett – We received a notice from DCNR that the township has been awarded a grant of \$1,000,000, which will be used for the turf-infield baseball fields with lights, dugouts, and ADA bleachers.

D. LETTER FROM THE CHAMBER – PITTSBURGH AIRPORT AREA

Mr. Barrett – There was some interest in the Pittsburgh Airport Area Chamber, so I included the letter and information from them for the board to look over.

E. LETTER FROM THE ALLEGHENY COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

This is from the Allegheny County Conservation District related to a grant that the township had previously secured. This grant was to replace a structure on Coal Pit Run Road for \$100,000 and the township believed that the work could be done for between \$175,000 and \$200,000. Gibson-Thomas has looked at what was proposed, and they discovered additional work that would need to be done, and now the estimate is over \$500,000. It just doesn't seem like this is the kind of road that we want to put that much of an investment in. I hate to return a grant, but it looks like that is the best way to go. We are going to have to do some improvements to the bridge at the cost of under \$100,000

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by DERNOSEK and seconded by HOROWITZ to approve the minutes from the December 8, regular meeting. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

B. PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by SRAY to pay the December 2021 bills. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

C. BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES

Mr. Barrett – These are provided for transparency, and we will share the financial reports when they are ready.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. BUILDING PERMITS REPORT

Mr. Barrett – This was kind of a slow month. It was mostly residential permitting and one commercial, but the year-end numbers for 2021 are pretty good. We ended at about \$102,000 more than the prior year, which is about a 65% increase.

B. COMMUNICATIONS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Andrea Iglar, Director of Communications & Community Development – I am working on the magazine and am looking for it to be published the end of January or the beginning of February. We have been busy with year-end tasks, like updating the website and different documents that we do every year.

We ended the year with 86 military banners, and we just got the first one of the year today.

I have some communications data from 2021: the magazine had almost 14,000 digital reads compared to 5,400 the year before. We had 39 business ads printed in the magazine and under that sponsorship program brought in \$21,500. Since we launched that program in 2016, we have brought in \$143,000 through that program.

We had over 253,000 website views in 2021, which was our biggest year yet and this averages 694 visits a day. People who signed up for subscription information such as news, calendar items, or alerts are directed to the website through links that are emailed to them.

The news flash and calendar are two of the biggest pages that were visited, followed closely by the trash and recycling page. The most popular link away from our website is the recreation registration website, including free tickets to the Joy-Thru Fairview event. Other popular links out from our website are the digital magazine site and to see the videos and information on the Southern Beltway.

We had 659 issues submitted to request tracker for the year. The vast majority were trash and recycling.

We had 713 downloads of the mobile app and the people that have it on their device use it an average of two times per week.

We gained 698 new followers to Facebook and have had over 248,000 views at our content on there. We responded to 67 private inquiries from citizens, using Facebook for customer service. The most popular posts had to do with public safety, businesses, and roads. Instagram was popular for business and community topics, and we more than doubled last year's reach on there. Twitter was popular with timely alerts and action items, and we had 16,000 visits to our main Twitter profile. Our most popular post on LinkedIn is the video of the BJ's Wholesale Club ribbon cutting. Our most popular YouTube videos are the self-produced Southern Beltway videos.

RECOGNITION OF EAGLE SCOUT VIDHISHA CHAHANDE

Vidhisha Chahande – The project that I did was building and painting four picnic tables for Fairview Park. Two of them are abstract designs and the other two are board game designs.

C. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Jason Paulovich, Division Manager, Gibson-Thomas Engineering – Our engineer's report is dated January 6, 2022. We have been working on the township MS4 Pollutant Reduction Plan. We have been analyzing four stormwater facilities that are residential detention systems, and we have been getting them ready for the HOAs to take over.

We are working on the consolidation plan for the Community Center project. The existing building should be demolished in the next few months.

We should have the road evaluations for the 2022 paving project in the next 30 days.

We have been working with Paula Willis and the township staff on the Boys Home and Preservation Park restrooms.

The Battle Ridge Road stormwater project is ready for construction, which is going to be a Public Works project.

We have been inspecting phase 3 and phase 1 for Hastings for utility installations and paving.

The BJ's Wholesale Club site is complete and open.

Stonegate broke ground over the holidays, and we have been inspecting earthwork and stormwater installations.

The Pro Bike project will be before the Planning Commission at this month's meeting.

We have been doing compliance inspections at ModWash, and they are about ready to open.

Commissioner Rodi asked about the 10-year paving program and was told by Mr. Paulovich that the 10-year program is under development, and this program would ensure that every road gets paved at least once in 10 years.

D. PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT

Paula Willis, Parks & Recreation Director – The Joy-Thru Fairview event had a great turnout. We had over 600 cars and estimated about 1,200 kids and 1,300 adults. We want to continue this tradition even after returning to pre-Covid conditions.

We had a smaller holiday event with a storyteller telling holiday stories. We had about 47 people in attendance, and Ian McNeill decorated the tables and provided cookies and hot chocolate.

We got a DCNR grant through the LWCF Fund and National Park Service, and that particular grant process will take longer than the average grant process.

I met with a DCNR representative to discuss our 2022 application. I am applying for two grants from DCNR. One is for riverbank restoration at Morgan Park, and the other one is a million-dollar grant for multipurpose fields at Fairview Park.

I also applied for a mini grant through the American Academy of Dermatology for about \$8,000 for a shade structure over part of our splash pad.

We are closing out the playground project, and Public Works removed the old equipment at Boys Home Park. Public Works brought dirt in, leveled it out and planted grass.

I met with a landscaper and fencing contractor on Mayview Road to start plans for the storage facility off Mayview Road.

We are switching our online registration process for our recreation programs to Rec Trac. This will give us the ability to do more and set us up for the recreation center. It will be going live on February 7, 2022, in time for summer camp registration in March.

E. POLICE REPORT

Chief John Phoennik – Last year we answered 5,222 calls, which is a 17% increase over 2020. Our officers attended 2,360 hours of training, which is a 33% increase, which I believe is very important.

Our department continues to be actively involved with the SHACOG, including the CIRT team, which is our SWAT team. This team consists of Sergeant Monyak and Lieutenant Leininger, and they responded to twenty-one call outs in 2021. Lieutenant Leininger has withdrawn his name from this team to spend more time on his administrative duties here.

Sergeant Wesolek and our bloodhound Ellie were called out fifteen times for searches: five within the township and 10 outside the township.

Our department has completed the updates to our policy manual with Lexipol.

Our records management system, CODY, has been active for one month and allows the officers to be out patrolling more.

With the new officer starting at the beginning of February, we will be able to start the new traffic squad.

Last year we had 253 reported Part One and Part Two crimes. Seventy-six of those were forwarded to Officer Jeffrey to be investigated. On January 4, 2022, Officer Schultz started as the second investigator.

The new police secretary, Dana Korbe, is working out very well.

F. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Butch Truitt, Public Works Director - Public Works has been doing their job and supporting all the departments.

Commissioner Rodi – I think we need to acknowledge Dan Dernosek for stepping up and taking care of the Public Works Department in Butch Truitt's (health-related) absence.

G. REQUEST TRACKER REPORT

Mr. Barrett – The majority of the Request Trackers are for missed trash and recycling.

H. ASSISTANT MANAGER’S REPORT

Mr. Barrett – Pat Catena has mailed out end-of-the-year escrow statements, and he plans to follow up this year.

Pat was instrumental in putting the budget document together.

He also has been going through the relief plan guidance that came out recently. We should be able to start answering your questions about what can and can’t be done with the money.

We had an orientation meeting with our new pension advisors, CS McKee, and Pat helped get that going.

I. MANAGER’S REPORT

Mr. Barrett – I wanted to discuss the Mayview entrance of Fairview Park and the storage building. After moving the entrance, it will be a sharp right turn going up the hill. This gives us the ability to have some space below there, instead of abandoning that road, have it be gated and lead to a spot for the storage building. HRG looked at this area to confirm that it would work. We would be able to store mowers and equipment used in the park and also Christmas lights. We can screen it with landscaping, and we wanted to make sure you all were okay with this. Right now, any equipment that we need at Fairview Park must be hauled there daily.

There was discussion about where the signage would be placed.

Mr. Barrett – I did want to acknowledge that you all have bound copies of the budget with a year-end review and community statistics.

You were aware that we had a community center survey advertised in the magazine, and we received the results from our consultant. We got 1,538 responses, which is incredible. The consultant was impressed with the number and the support from the residents. The biggest takeaways were residents want indoor court space, a walking track and outdoor amenities, such as walking trails. The next time the community center committee gets together, we will talk about how we can use this information to shape the plan.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER CORRECTING THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR LEGAL AND OTHER ADVERTISEMENTS TO THE OBSERVER-REPORTER

Commissioner Rodi – Just for clarification, we had previously designated the Post-Gazette as our official publication, but because they only print a couple days a week, we need to change it.

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by SRAY to approve correcting the official publication for legal and other advertisements to the Observer-Reporter. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

B. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by SRAY to appoint David Pope and Pete Previte to the Environmental Advisory Committee.

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by SRAY to appoint Ron Miller, Venkatesh Coomamani, and Jason Mount to the Parks & Recreation Board.

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by SRAY to appoint Dan Cerrone to the unfinished term on the Planning Commission.

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by SRAY to appoint Bill Price to a three-year term on the Zoning Hearing Board.

All members present voted AYE to all these appointments.

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by DERNOSEK to advertise for the alternate of the Zoning Hearing Board. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A MOTION TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR THE FAIRVIEW PARK SIGN PROGRAM TO ADVANCE SIGNS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$59,634.80, PER THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CONSULTING DESIGN FIRM

Mr. Barrett – We received five quotes and we are pleased with Advance, which is a local company. We are going to recommend that you do include the installation of the signs because there are so many, and we want them in the right spots.

It was moved by DERNOSEK and seconded by HOROWITZ to award a contract for the Fairview Park sign program to Advance Signs in an amount not to exceed \$59,634.80, per the recommendation of the consulting design firm. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

B. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2022-01, ACCEPTING THE ROADS IN PINNACLE POINTE

It was moved by SRAY and seconded by HOROWITZ to approve Ordinance 2022-01, accepting the roads in Pinnacle Pointe. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

C. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2022-01, APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE ZONING HEARING BOARD

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by DERNOSEK to approve Resolution 2022-01, appointing Bill Price to the Zoning Hearing Board. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

D. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A MOTION TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF TIMELY LERTA APPLICATIONS FROM BJ'S GAS STATION AND BJ'S WHOLESALE CLUB, PARCEL ID 256-L-30

It was moved by DERNOSEK and seconded by SRAY to acknowledge receipt of timely LERTA application from BJ's gas station and BJ's Wholesale Club, parcel ID 256-L-30. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

E. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ADVERTISING A PUBLIC WORKS POSITION

Mr. Barrett – This motion is worded incorrectly. The motion should say, discuss and consider approving the hiring of Joe Bastaroli as a full-time Public Works employee.

It was moved by DERNOSEK and seconded by HOROWITZ to approve the hiring of Joe Bastaroli as a full-time Public Works employee. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

F. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVING THE CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER, JOHN M. BARRETT

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by SRAY to approve the contract renewal with the township manager, John M. Barrett. All members present voted AYE to the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

BOARD DISCUSSION

Commissioner Rodi – I cannot wait to see the amazing things we are going to do in 2022.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Garvin – We need to dig up the Charter Homes Phase 1 agreement because I think they might owe us a monument sign for Fairview Park. (He was told that they will reimburse the township for an entrance sign).

First-class township code has provisions regarding a paper of general circulation and the Observer-Reporter meets that qualification.

I have been involved this past month in the I-79 litigation with, special counsel, John Smith and the board has been updated on the progress of that litigation.

There is a brief due at the end of the month on the Crown Castle Communication Tower case.

There have been a few issues with respect to the RFP for the Municipal Building that I have dealt with this month.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by HOROWITZ and seconded by SRAY to adjourn.
All members present voted AYE to the motion.

John M. Barrett, Township Manager

Gwen A. Rodi, President

Date

Date