

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SCHUYLKILL TOWNSHIP
75 WALNUT STREET
MARY-D, PA 17952**

The Regular meeting of the Supervisors of Schuylkill Township was held on Monday, December 7, 2020. The Pledge of the Allegiance was recited. Those present included Charles Hosler and Frank Fabrizio.

Treasurer's Report

\$477,165.67 total in bank accounts. Hosler made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report pending audit. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved.

Answers to last month's public questions – Stop sign at Coal Street and Broad Street is listed on the Ordinance form 1979 and will be replaced. Discussion ensued about a possibility of a four way stop sign and the process of new stop signs.

Public comment on agenda items only – none

Police Report – none

Code Enforcement Report – none

Roadmaster Report- Hosler reported patched potholes, cut down trees hanging over roadways, cleared drains, vehicle and equipment maintenance, police car and GMC inspected, building maintenance, and picked up trash/tires on Old 209.

Solicitors Report- Atty. Baranko stated (via phone) garbage contract circulated and signed by Mr. Wittig. We are going to revisit the Zoning Ordinance. Baranko asked if the township will participate in a joint effort by contributing \$1000 to the legal fund to amend the Zoning Ordinance. Hosler made a motion to participate and pay the \$1000 to ESRP. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved. Discussion about the LST process.

Zoning Report- No UCC permits were issued. No Zoning permits were issued.

Committee Reports

Council of Government-met Hosler did not attend (sick)

Eastern Schuylkill Recreation Committee-

Tax Collection Committee- Committee did not meet

Communications: Thank you letter from Schuylkill Headwaters for our donation of \$500.00 for the fingerling trout program. The township received \$486.31 for the State Police Fines and Penalties Payment.

Old Business – Hosler made a motion to hire Light & Heigel Assoc. for code enforcement. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved. The Quality of Life changes were discussed. No motions were made for changes on the Quality of Life. Hosler stated that the township received police officer applications and that they would be reviewed. Interviews would be set up.

New Business- Hosler made a motion to approve the Township Budget for 2021 Resolution 2020-7. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved. Hosler made a motion to approve the Meeting Schedule for 2021 for advertisement. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved. Hosler made a motion to pay for the township's website renewal in the amount of \$300 for the year due Jan. 24th, 2021. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved. Hosler made a motion to approve to pay Martin Donahue's survey invoice in the amount of \$4,740.00. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved. Hosler made a motion to pay the invoice for the zero turn mower from Koch's lawn & garden \$8,634.26. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved.

Public Comment –Albert Inama, Mary D, read a letter regarding a complaint that Fayash in the township backhoe dug trenches and blocked access to the community association property, along with a trench dug on Moss Glen Club property. Inama stated he spoke with Ron Novack regarding the community association property and that Novack was not aware that Fayash was up there. Inama stated he spoke with Matt Rudy; Rudy in turn contacted Charles Hosler and Hosler stated that Fayash did not have permission to take the backhoe. Inama stated he confronted Fayash and Fayash stated he did not need permission to use the township equipment and that it was a misunderstanding that he blocked all the accesses. Inama stated what a coincidence it was that this misunderstanding happened the day before hunting season. Inama stated Fayash later apologized to him stating they were trying to keep 4 wheelers off the damn. Inama stated there are only three access roads to the dam (that would need to be blocked) so all the rest of the trails did not need to be blocked. Inama questioned who was going to be responsible for backfilling all the trenches that were dug. Inama stated it was illegal to block an access with a trench as per DEP. Inama stated if someone drove in and was hurt the landowner is liable. Inama suggested the township could also be liable since the trenches were dug with township equipment with a supervisor operating it. Inama stated that the land is owned by all members of the Mary D Community Association. Discussion ensued about the situation and solutions. Hosler stated that Mark would go up and fix the trenches. Hosler asked that Inama would go along with Mark to show him where the trenches are. Hosler made a motion that any township equipment that is used for any other activities (other than a township activity) will require the permission of two township supervisors. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved. Baranko stated that the township will put the access back to the way it was before the trenches were dug.

Frank DiMarco introduced Jason Lex who was submitting an application for the part time police officer position. DiMarco stated he is available nights and weekends, has over five years experience and he recommends the township hire Lex. DiMarco also stated that anyone hired needs a background investigation. DiMarco stated that all calls to the township need to go through the state police. DiMarco stated he is requesting that the Chief/Sergeant be paid \$20/hr and Patrolmen be paid \$19/hr. DiMarco stated he would like to get the LPR that Coaldale has but it requires sitting down and figuring it out. Hosler questioned if it needed to be purchased by the end of the year for the grant. Barrett stated it should be purchased by the end of the year for Budget purposes. DiMarco stated if it is ordered and paid for by the end of the year but installed next year that should be alright. DiMarco was going to contact Chief Kropt from Coaldale for the supervisors to look at. Discussion about the LPR. Kosticky asked a question about any resolution on salary for the police. Barrett stated the township advertised for the position and set up interviews. DiMarco stated Stanell would like to meet with all the supervisors.

Joe Toney, Tuscarora, stated he agreed with the police being paid \$19 and \$20/hr., the police are taking their lives in their hands, and that police presence is needed in the community. DiMarco spoke of the importance of his police officers and having qualified people in our community. Discussion ensued about night time coverage and day time coverage. DiMarco suggested getting Stanell back and having Lex overlap coverage with Stanell for an hour by having Lex come in at 6. Discussion ensued about Stanell, his qualifications and length of time he has been with the township.

Chris Kosticky, Tuscarora, agreed with DiMarco about rehiring Stanell. Hosler stated he needed to perform traffic stops. DiMarco stated it is illegal to tell someone to do traffic stops. DiMarco stated you can't tell police officer to write tickets. Hosler stated he was not saying he had to write tickets but that there were complaints about speeding. DiMarco stated Stanell does sit there. Discussion ensued about traffic stops and GPS along with access to the police car.

Hosler made a motion to go into executive session. 2nd Fabrizio.

The Board discussed survey in executive session.

Hosler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 2nd Fabrizio. All approved.

Adjourned

Attest: Colleen Barrett

