

MINUTES

SWATARA TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING I

March 2, 2022

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1. **Call to Order:** President Zubeck called the Regular Meeting I of the Swatara Township Board of Commissioners to order at 7:01 p.m. Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at the Swatara Township Municipal Building, 599 Eisenhower Boulevard, Harrisburg, PA 17111
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** President Zubeck led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Moment of Silence**
4. **Roll Call:** Commissioners Zubeck, Varner, Ellis, Boudier and Tuckey were present. Also present: Township Manager Jim Fosselman, Assistant Manager Kim Kaufman, Solicitor Kevin Hall, Lt. Dennis Krahling, Public Works Director Todd Webb, Director of Building and Codes Robert Ihlein, and Secretary Karen Alleman.
5. **Announce Executive Session:** No executive session was held this evening
6. **Stream Restoration Presentation:** Mr. Kevin Trafka, Township Stormwater Specialist, introduced Mr. Daryl St. Clair of PennDOT. Mr. St. Clair presented a MS4 credit partnership proposal to the Board. If PennDOT puts up \$1 million and the Township matches it, both parties get \$2 million worth of MS4 credits. PennDOT bids the project, manages the contract, and maintains the project. Mr. St. Clair will send an agreement for the Township's review. He would like a decision by next months Board meeting.
7. **Visitors Requests and Comments:**
 - A. **Deb Harvey, 105 South 47th Street:** Wanted to know who is responsible for preparing and executing the annual fire budget. President Zubeck said the budget is prepared in the fall, all department heads have input into their budget. The Board has hearings and move forward with the budget. She asked if the Board approved the budget. Manager Fosselman said the Board approved the budget. She asked if there was a cap on the budget. Manager Fosselman said the fire tax must stay within the fire tax portion of the budget. She asked if the Board approved the stipend increase which the fire chiefs received this year. Manager Fosselman said the Board approves the budget by line item, not individual.
 - B. **Tom Connolly, 345 North Harrisburg Street:** Suggested the presentation by Mr. St. Clair this evening be presented at the Stormwater Authority meeting next Wednesday. He would like to see the \$1 million credit partnership proposal approved.
8. **Motion to Approve Agenda:** Vice President Varner made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Tuckey. Unanimously approved.
9. **Motion to Approve Consent Agenda Items:** Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Vice President Varner. Motion carried unanimously.
 - A. Approval of Letter of Support for Capital Area Greenbelt Association
 - B. Authorization to Rehire Compost Facility Employees – Rich Szekeres and Mike Roller
 - C. Authorization to Rehire Seasonal Summer Employees – Joe Gussler, Sean Marzen and Casey Averbeck
10. **Consideration of Minutes - Regular Meeting II of February 9, 2022:** Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the February 9, 2022, Regular Meeting II minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Tuckey. Commissioner Ellis made a correction to Page 2, Item 15C, third sentence. Sentence should read Commissioner Ellis asked... Motion carried unanimously
11. **Consideration of Resolution: Adopting the Dauphin County Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the Dauphin County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Vice President Varner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. This is **Resolution R-2022-09**.
12. **Consideration of Resolution: Removal of Special Purpose Parking Area at 3701 Brisban Street:** Commissioner Ellis made a motion to remove the special purpose parking area at 3701 Brisban Street. Commissioner Tuckey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. **This is Resolution R-2022-10.**
13. **Consideration of Resolution: Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement With City of Harrisburg for Use of Compost Facility:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the Intergovernmental

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- Cooperation Agreement With the City of Harrisburg for Use of the Compost Facility. Vice President Varner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. **This is Resolution R-2022-11**
14. **Consideration of Resolution: Signatory's for Local Share Assessment Grant:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion designating James Fosselman, Manager and Kim Kaufman, Assistant Manager, as the officials to execute all documents and agreements for the Local Share Assessment Grant. Vice President Varner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. **This is Resolution 2022-12.**
 15. **Reschedule of Zoning Amendment Hearing from March 9 to April 6, 2022, and Authorization to Advertise:** Commissioner Varner made a motion to reschedule the Zoning Amendment Hearing from March 9 to April 6, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. Commissioner Tuckey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
 16. **Visitors Requests and Comments:**
 - A. **Tom Garlic, 6050 Hocker Drive:** Asked if line items in the budget are broken down any further. Manager Fosselman said there are various items in the line item. There are no line items for every vehicle. Internal paperwork is maintained for vehicles. He asked why chiefs vehicles had tinted windows, and some were darker than others. Lt. Krahling said it is his understanding that public vehicles are authorized by PennDOT to be tinted and do not require special authorization.
 - B. **Deb Harvey, 105 South 47th Street:** Asked if fire chiefs and line offices have a log system for their vehicles for mileage and time. Manager Fosselman said he does not recall the use of a log system. She is concerned about gas prices and maintenance and reining in spending. Not everyone needs a Tahoe or sedan, there should only be a Tahoe vehicle for the chief and two line officers, the others are frivolous. She feels there is too much money being spent on things we do not need to fight a fire, to handle a fire in this township. She asked the Board to review the numbers. She said when the fire chief can raise a stipend 50% up to \$10,000 per year for line officers, it's time to look at the budget. This is too much for each of the chiefs and line officers. Another fire company is closed. The paid fire chief should know how to move volunteers around to all fire companies. President Zubeck said her concerns would be reviewed.
 17. **Possible Stormwater Violations for Investigation:** None
 18. **Commissioners Requests and Comments:**
 - A. **Commissioner Ellis:** On December 8 the Board approved a letter of support for a disparity study. She has additional information available. She thanked Commissioner Pries for awarding a Gaming Grant in the amount of \$179,800 for a pickle ball court for Bishop Park. A list is being compiled of recreation events for 2022. She thanked the volunteer firefighters.
 - B. **Commissioner Boudier:** Nothing this evening.
 - C. **Commissioner Tuckey:** Is glad that residents are asking questions regarding fire services. He thanked the residents for coming out this evening.
 - D. **Vice President Varner:** Thanked staff for everything they have done to secure grants.
 - E. **Solicitor Hall:** Norfolk Southern and the Township entered into an agreement about two years to remove a rail crossing on Grayson Road. The rail was never removed, and the PUC began Enforcement Action. Norfolk Southern has now agreed to remove the rail crossing on May 9.
 - F. **President Zubeck:** She has a great passion for fire services in the township. She is fully supportive of all volunteers. She looks forward to working with everyone in the township and reviewing all concerns.

