

MINUTES

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SWATARA TOWNSHIP

REGULAR MEETING II

JUNE 8, 2022

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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1. **Call to Order:** President Zubeck called the Regular Meeting II of the Swatara Township Board of Commissioners to order at 7:05 p.m. Wednesday, June 8, 2022. The meeting was held at the Swatara Township Municipal Building, 599 Eisenhower Boulevard, Harrisburg, PA.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** President Zubeck led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Moment of Silence**
4. **Roll Call:** Commissioners Christine Zubeck, Shaela Ellis, Michael Tuckey, Richard Boudier, and Jeff Varner were present. Also present: Manager Jim Fosselman, Assistant Manager Kim Kaufman, Solicitor Kevin Hall, Director of Public Safety and Sergeant-at-Arms Darrell Reider, Director of Planning and Zoning Robert Ihlein, Fire Chief Mike Ibberson, and Secretary Karen Alleman.
5. **Announce Executive Session:** No executive session was held
6. **Presentation of Proclamation to Fran Peck:** President Zubeck presented N. Frances "Fran" Peck with a proclamation for over fifty years of the service to the Township in various positions such as Recording Secretary to the Planning Commission and Police Pension Board and Township Secretary to the Board of Commissioners.
7. **Status Update on Economic Impact Study of 2020:** Mr. Jesse Suders of Dawood Engineering gave an update on the economic impact study which began in 2020. Phase I of the study was for stakeholder outreach efforts. The stakeholders were chosen by the township. The efforts were divided into two parts. Part one was a survey sent to the stakeholders, the second part was either virtual or in person meetings to see how those stakeholders felt about the township. During that time U.S. Census data was also to be evaluated. The U.S. Census data was not fully released due to COVID, and stakeholders did not participate as anticipated. There were also extreme economic fluctuations during COVID. Dawood approached the township regarding the pause of the economic impact strategy. Dawood did not feel it was ethical to continue to bill the township for time and ceased billing work in May of 2021. The study was paused officially on July 7, 2021, due to the unstable economy. Phase II of the project would have targeted specific industries in the township that would drive economic development and develop a strategic action plan. Phase III would have been a scenario to help the township see how their decisions affect the recruitment and retention of businesses. The proposed project would have cost \$30,000; Dawood Engineering has billed the township less than \$3,000 to date. Vice President Varner asked what Mr. Suders meant by lack of stakeholder participation. Mr. Suders said there were originally 24-25 participants in the project. They were demographically and geographically located throughout the township. Less than twenty participated. He contacted some of participants no less than eight times requesting their participation. They were sent emails, telephone calls and text messages. Commissioner Ellis asked if the market has calmed down. Mr. Suders said inflation, gasoline prices and other factors are variables to consider. At a proposed cost of \$30,000, it was not a good return on investment for the township. The township could move forward

MINUTES

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at some point, but that time is not now. Dawood redirected their focus on the I-83 PennDOT project and other projects which benefited the township by acquiring grants. Commissioner Tuckey would have liked to be informed when the project was placed on pause.

8. **Visitors Requests and Comments:**

- A. **Justin Bradnick, 3703 Rutherford Street:** Mr. Bradnick is the Den Leader of Cub Scout Pack 23 out of Saint Catherine's. The Pack donated gift cards to the police, fire and EMS departments. Director Reider and Chief Ibberson thanked him for his generous donation.
- B. **Tom Garlic, 6050 Hocker Drive:** He was an individual interviewed for the economic impact study. He would have liked to know that the study was on hold.
- C. **Steve Roth and Karris Roth, 3642 Derry Street:** Would like to have a traffic study conducted at Wilhelm and Derry Street for a traffic signal. They gave their request to Lt. Krahling.

9. **Motion to Approve Agenda:** President Zubeck added an item to the agenda, a new number 15, authorization for the Township Manager to execute a contract with Paxtang Borough for fire services. Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the agenda, as amended, Vice President Varner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

10. **Motion to Approve Items on Consent Agenda:** Commissioner Boudier made a motion to approve the consent agenda items, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Motion carried unanimously.

A. Monthly Departmental Reports

B. Committee Reports

C. Codes Report

D. Award of Green Light Go Design Services at SR441/Chambers Hill Road/Orchard Drive to Stahl Scheaffer

E. Approval of Police Ride Along for Gurleen Grewal

11. **Consideration of Minutes:**

- A. **Regular Meeting I of June 1, 2022:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2022 Regular Meeting I, as presented. Vice President Varner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

12. **Reports:** All reports are posted in the lobby of the municipal building.

A. **Manager's Report:** Manager Fosselman let the Board know that the resident who made a previous presentation before the Board regarding outstanding liens on their property has now paid all liens in full.

B. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Fosselman presented reports for March, April and May. He read the May report, the others are posted on the bulletin board in the foyer. Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

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REGULAR MEETING II

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- C. **Solicitor's Report:** Solicitor Hall reported that a notice of lawsuit was received in regard to a police matter and turned it over to the insurance carrier. Mr. Travis Eby, who was at the Stormwater Authority meeting this evening, has now retained an attorney in relation to his property. The Norfolk Southern Grayson Road railroad crossing situation has been resolved. The Norfolk Southern tax appeal is proceeding. Mr. Hall introduced Kaitlyn Spearcheck, a student at Wiedner School of Law, who was observing this evening's meeting.
- D. **Swatara Rising Comp Plan:** Director Ihlein presented his report to the Board. His department is now training to use the software to aid code officers in the field.
- E. **EMS Report/Fire Services:** Chief Ibberson presented his report to the Board. On June 16 from 5:30 to 7:00 the Rutherford Fire Company is hosting a pop-up BBQ at Lawnton Elementary School. Training on recruiting fire members will be held at Hampden Township on June 13. Mr. Joel Hocking of Community Life Team presented his report to the Board. Mr. Hocking was able to attend the Medical Special Operations Conference and train with the fire department of New York City for four days last month. Community Life Team is now training their personnel to respond to water emergencies so they can actively participate in water rescues. Commissioner Ellis expressed her gratitude to Community Life Team for a situation that occurred at her home in May.
- F. **Director of Public Safety Report:** Director of Public Safety Reider presented his report to the Board. A women's self-defense class was held in conjunction with Swatara Karate, it was well attended. National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, August 2 at Vanatta Park, vendors are welcome to attend and encouraged to sign up for a free table. Coffee With a Cop will be held on June 9, 9:00 a.m. at the municipal building.
13. **Consideration of Resolution: Dauphin County Infrastructure Bank Reimbursement:** Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve Resolution R-2022-24, which reimburses the Dauphin County Infrastructure Bank for the \$1,000,000 loan the Township is taking out for a stormwater project through PennDOT. Vice President Varner seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously
14. **Subdivision/Land Development Plans:** Director of Building and Codes Robert Ihlein, Zoning Officer presented the following business:
- A. **The McNaughton Company Request for Fee-in-Lieu of Sidewalks at Ridgeview:** McNaughton Properties L.P. has submitted a request for substituting payment of the fee-in-lieu of installing sidewalk along the east side of 82<sup>nd</sup> Street for a length of 81.25 feet north from the Summit Avenue intersection. Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the provision of the fee-in-lieu of the sidewalk in the amount of \$2,112.50. President Zubeck seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. **The McNaughton Company Request for Fee-in-Lieu of Sidewalks at Chambers Pointe Phase 2:** McNaughton Properties L.P. has submitted a request for substituting payment of the fee-in-lieu of installing a sidewalk along the east side of Gaynor Lane for a length of

MINUTES

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BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

128.54 feet. Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to approve the provision of the fee-in-lieu of the sidewalk in the amount of \$3,342.02. President Zubeck seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

15. **Authorization for Township Manager to Execute a Contract with Paxtang Borough for Fire Services Upon Legal Review:** Commissioner Ellis asked for a five-minute recess to review the contract. The Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting II recessed at 8:22 p.m. to review the proposed fire services contract with Paxtang Borough. The meeting reconvened at 8:26 p.m. Commissioner Tuckey made a motion to authorize the township manager to execute a contract with Paxtang Borough for fire services upon legal review. Commissioner Ellis seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
16. **Visitors Requests and Comments:**
- A. **Travis Eby, 570 Highland Street:** Sought council after having a conversation with Solicitor Hall. Solicitor Hall will work with Mr. Eby's attorney going forward.
  - B. **Steve Roth 3642 Derry Street (Paxtang Borough):** Was surprised by the contract for fire services between Paxtang and Swatara. Paxtang has a great fire department and wanted to make sure they would still have a say in fire services.
  - C. **Gavin Ford 3731 Rutherford Street:** He wanted to advise the Board to be careful of what they are signing into with Paxtang when this township cannot provide a constant service to this township at times. He finds it scary and disturbing and wants the township to get the ball rolling on the part time fire fighter situation.
17. **Possible Stormwater Violations:** None
18. **Commissioners Requests and Comments:**
- A. **Commissioner Ellis:** Thanked the police and fire police for assistance during the Capital Area Greenbelt Tour de Belt. Congratulated Officers Walsh and LeCadre for graduating from the Dauphin County Crisis Response Team. On Saturday, June 18 a meet and greet/movie night will be held at Clown Park from 6 to 9. The movie Encanto will be shown.
  - B. **Commissioner Boudier:** No comments this evening.
  - C. **Commissioner Tuckey:** Thanked everyone for coming out this evening.
  - D. **Vice President Varner:** No comments this evening.
  - E. **President Zubeck:** Is looking forward to the meet and greet and movie night. Thanked the police and fire departments for participation in the Tour de Belt. The 40 and 8 Club is holding their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on June 11 beginning at 11:00 a.m. Thanked the audience members for attending.
19. **Adjournment:** Commissioner Ellis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Tuckey. Motion carried unanimously.

  
Karen Alleman, Secretary