

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 15, 2020**

The Regular Meeting of the Cumru Township Board of Commissioners was called to order by President William B. Miller at 7:00 p.m. Other Commissioners in attendance were Vice President Ruth A. O'Leary, David J. Batdorf, Sam Kalbach, and Chip Bilger. Also attending were Solicitor Michael A. Setley, Chief of Police Madison Winchester, Fire Chief James A. Beane, Superintendent of Public Works Robert McNichols, Jr., Business/Personnel Administrator Peggy A. Carpenter, Manager Jeanne E. Johnston, and Joe Rogosky of Great Valley Consultants.

This meeting is being recorded for the purpose of assisting in the preparation of meeting minutes. The audio file of the meeting will be destroyed after official meeting minutes for this meeting have been adopted.

Pledge to the Flag.

PRESENTATION

Daryl Peck of Concord Public Finance re: Fire Station Financing

As follow up to the 9/8/2020 meeting, Mr. Peck presented a plan for the financing of capital projects, including a central fire station, utilities to the Township campus, and other improvements to Township owned buildings. The directive from the Board was to borrow \$13MM-\$15MM, an amount that would limit a debt service tax increase to a maximum of .5 mill. The debt service schedule would be structured so that there would be no budgetary impact for 2020 or 2021. The 2013 bonds would be refinanced to save interest costs, but the period would not be lengthened. At this time, it is estimated the savings would be around \$35,000. After the 2013 bonds are paid off, the corresponding millage will be added to that for the 2020 bond issue, a so-called "wrap around" payment. The bond auction will be on 9/29/2020. The current average interest rate is about 2.5%. Standard and Poors rated the Township AA with a stable outlook.

Since the funds would not be used immediately, Mr. Bilger suggested an investment policy. Mr. Setley noted that permissible investments are stated in the first class Township code. Ms. Johnston indicated that she and Mrs. Carpenter had already begun to look into options for interest bearing accounts.

The Board agreed to move forward with the financing.

PUBLIC

Mr. Miller invited public comment. No one indicated the desire to speak.

SOUTHERN BERKS REGIONAL EMS

A) Monthly Report – August 2020

APPROVE MINUTES

**ON MOTION OF MRS. O'LEARY, SECOND OF MR. KALBACH, A UNANIMOUS
VOTE APPROVING MINUTES FOR 6/30/2020 AND 8/18/2020.**

TREASURER

A) Monthly Report – August 2020

Mrs. Carpenter informed the Board that, despite concerns about severe financial effects of the COVID-19 emergency, earned income tax collection is only \$19,000 less than in 2019.

TAX COLLECTOR

A) August 2020 Report

1) Year 2020 Real Estate

Balance collectable beginning of month – \$270,630.67

Cash collected - \$32,267.84

Balance collectable end of month - \$238,362.83

2) Year 2020 Real Estate Interim

Balance collectable beginning of month - \$5,999.24

Cash collected - \$1,081.53

Balance collectable end of month - \$4,909.75

3) Year 2020 SMP

Balance collectable beginning of month - \$3,705.00

Cash collected - \$390.00

Balance collectable end of the month - \$3,315.00

4) Year 2020 Refuse

Balance collectable beginning of month - \$55,530.00

Cash collected - \$6,450.00

Balance collectable end of the month - \$49,080.00

5) Year 2020 Per Capita

Balance collectable beginning of month - \$34,355.00

Cash collected - \$13,484.80

Balance collectable end of the month - \$20,240.00

DEPARTMENTS

Police Department

A) Monthly Report – August 2020

B) Speed Board Software – budget transfer

1) Memorandum from Manager re: proposed line item transfer, dated 9/14/2020

ON MOTION OF MRS. O'LEARY, SECOND OF MR. KALBACH, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO TRANSFER \$5,400 FROM THE HARDWARE LINE ITEM 4100-500/101-2 TO THE SOFTWARE LINE ITEM 4100-510/010-2 FOR SPEED BOARD SOFTWARE RENEWAL.

Fire Department

A) 2019 Annual Report

B) Monthly Report – August 2020

Chief Beane informed the Board that the CTFD responded to 4 structure fires last month, 2 in Cumru Township and 2 in other municipalities.

Administration

A) 15 Bare Ave. Sewer Charges – follow up

There were no representatives of the property owner present. Mr. Setley informed the Board that there was no justification for a reduction in the liens that were in place.

B) Refuse Collection – method of collection 2021

1) Request from Eagle Disposal to use “toters” in 2021

Ms. Johnston informed the Board that Eagle Disposal requested that the Township convert to refuse collection via toters (wheeled, lidded cans) in 2021. Such receptacles will not fit in certain parts of Flying Hills. Township staff became aware of complaints in Spring Township when their collection was converted to toters. When this issue was last discussed with the Cumru Board, there was concern about older and less able bodied residents being able to move the toters, especially on sloped properties.

Mr. Bilger requested more information because not using the toters might result in a higher cost for the next contract. Mr. Kalbach stated that he would not be able to move a toter, especially when full. The Board requested that the Manager ask Eagle Disposal if toters could be used on a house-by-house basis.

C) Refuse Collection – Berks County Solid Waste Authority

1) hazardous waste collection 10/24 and 10/25 – registration required

D) 2021 Budget – Pension Minimum Municipal Obligations

1) adopt resolution for police pension 2021 MMO in the amount of \$1,041,790

2) adopt resolution for non-uniformed 2021 MMO, as follows:

a) defined benefit portion of plan = \$23,692

b) defined contribution portion of plan = \$102,300

ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE ADOPTING THE 2021 POLICE PENSION AND NON-UNIFORMED PENSION MINIMUM MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION RESOLUTIONS AS PRESENTED BY THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.

Public Works

A) Monthly Report – August 2020

B) Pennwyn Playground Sewer Replacement – application for payment no. 2 (final)

1) Letter from BCM Engineers re: recommend payment of \$85,157.72, dated 9/4/2020

ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING PAYMENT NO. 2 TO WEXCON IN THE AMOUNT OF \$85,157.72 FOR THE PENNWWYN PLAYGROUND SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT.

Engineer

A) 2020 Road Work (Oregon Rd phase 1) – application for payment no. 2

- 1) Letter from Great Valley Consultants re: recommendation for payment \$73,805.34, dated 9/11/2020

ON MOTION OF MR. BILGER, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE AUTHORIZING PAYMENT NO. 3 TO BARWIS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$73,805.34 FOR OREGON RD PHASE 1 RECONSTRUCTION.

Solicitor

A) Home shooting range

Mr. Setley stated that the Exeter ordinance sets limits similar to the Game Commission. Mr. Reedy stated his house is only 120 yards away and shooting is in the direction of his house. He stated the back stop is 100 yards away and only 15 yards off the property line.

PAYMENTS OF BILLS

ON MOTION OF MR. KALBACH, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE APPROVING PAYMENTS OF BILLS FOR 8/21/2020, 8/28/2020, 8/31/2020 – PLGIT, 9/4/2020, AND 9/11/2020.

CORRESPONDENCE

- A) Western Berks Landfill permit renewal notice, dated 9/4/2020

COMMISSIONERS

A) Reminders:

- 1) Board of Commissioners workshop meeting 9/29/2020 at 7:00 p.m.
- 2) Park and Recreation Board meeting rescheduled to 9/21/2020 at 7:00 p.m.

B) executive session

7:45 p.m. – The Board went into executive session to discuss one personnel matter.

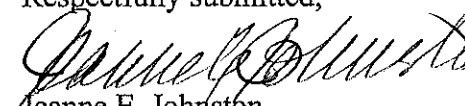
8:12 p.m. – The meeting reconvened.

ON MOTION OF MR. MILLER, SECOND OF MR. BATDORF, A UNANIMOUS VOTE TO PROMOTE DET. SGT. GEORGE KURIGER AND PATROL SGT. JAMES GRIFFITH TO THE RANK OF LIEUTENANT, EFFECTIVE ON A DATE TO CORRESPOND WITH THE BEGINNING OF A PAYROLL PERIOD IN OCTOBER.

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION OF MR. BATDORF, SECOND OF MR. KALBACH, A UNANIMOUS VOTE ADJOURNING THE MEETING AT 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Jeanne E. Johnston
Assistant Secretary/Manager