

HEMPFIELD

— TOWNSHIP —

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MONTHLY PUBLIC MEETING

MAY 26, 2020 | 7:00 pm

Supervisors Present: Mr. George Reese
Mr. Rob Ritson

Mr. John Silvis
Mr. R. Douglas Weimer

Staff Present: Mr. Jason Winters
Mrs. Callie Krueger

Mr. Scott Avolio

A. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Hempfield Township Board of Supervisors, held at the Hempfield Township Municipal Building, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman, George Reese.

B. HEARINGS

1. Graham Family Trust to be Included in Agricultural Security Area – Tax Map #50-20-00-0-047

Mr. Avolio – Is anybody present representing the Graham Family Trust regarding this application for Agricultural Security Zoning? Please step forward. Raise your right hand. Do you swear to tell the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you God?

Mr. Nathan Graham – I do.

Mr. Avolio – Can you state your name for the record?

Mr. Graham – Nathan Graham.

Mr. Avolio – Could you tell the Board the purpose for your application?

Mr. Graham – To secure Ag Secured land to keep it as farm ground and to keep it as is currently.

Mr. Avolio – Could you just for the Board, you are referring to Tax Map 50-20-00-0-047, describe geographically where that generally is?

Mr. Graham – North of Greensburg, Business Route 66 between Route 993 and Oakford Park Rd.

Mr. Avolio – Approximately how many acres?

Mr. Graham – Just a little bit over 18.

Mr. Avolio – Anything else you'd like to tell the Board?

Mr. Graham – Not really.

Mr. Avolio – Then I'd ask the Board if they have any questions.

Mr. Weimer – Mr. Graham, are all 18 acres in Hempfield Township or is part of it in Penn as well?

Mr. Graham – Yes.

Mr. Weimer – All in Hempfield?

Mr. Graham – All in Hempfield.

Mr. Ritson – Is there additional property that's not being, is the 18 acres total amount of property or is there a secondary number of acres that aren't included in the Ag Security Area?

Mr. Graham – no it's the 18 acres.

Mr. Ritson – There are no other tracts of ground that's not being included that's adjacent to but that's part of the trust?

Mr. Graham – No.

Mr. Weimer – What type of active farming is going on there?

Mr. Graham – Excuse me?

Mr. Weimer – Do you have active farming there now?

Mr. Graham – Yeah. There are animals on the ground and planted in crops. Soybean and corn.

Mr. Ritson – Does the sewer line, the proposed sewer line is that at the front of that property heading up 66? Have you been notified? That extension of sewer line from right by the bypass all the way up to Barbonus Acres does that encroach on part of your property?

Mr. Graham – It could.

Mr. Ritson – Has the Water Authority reached out to you at all or contacted you about right of ways on that?

Mr. Graham – Early on.

Mr. Silvis – (inaudible) Where he's talking about I think is already done.

(inaudible discussion)

Mr. Reese – John do you have anything else?

Mr. Avolio – Are there any other witnesses or anyone else testifying on behalf of the trust? Please step forward. Raise your right hand. Do you swear to tell the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you God?

Mr. Dennis Graham – Yes.

Mr. Avolio – State your name.

Mr. D. Graham – Dennis Graham.

Mr. Avolio – What would you like to add to this application?

Mr. D. Graham – What's that?

Mr. Avolio – What would you like to add to this application?

Mr. D. Graham – Well you know the property there we are in negotiations to buy the property next door which would be another 50 acres. And that would be kept as farm ground too. Part of the, if you realize where this is, part of this property we are bordered by Penn Township. Back when I was a little kid if you know where Palko Truck Repair is, that whole side became Hempfield Township. Before Hempfield got, what do I want to use, anyhow Penn Township annexed those properties and it went to Hempfield Township all the way down to the creek. So that even where (...) is now that's Penn Township. So we want to make sure we keep it in Hempfield Township too.

Mr. Ritson – Is that 50 acres is that in Penn?

Mr. D. Graham – No, that's in Hempfield.

Mr. Ritson – Okay so would you be looking to do that as an Ag Security too?

Mr. D. Graham – Yes. Pretty sure. If it happens.

Mr. Weimer – Those 50 acres are on the same side?

Mr. D. Graham – Well, some of its... I also own property across the road where our business is. There are 10 or 15 acres behind that which would be part of the other, if it would be purchased and that would be put in Ag too. It's all farmed now and was all planted last weekend in corn.

Mr. Avolio – Does that conclude on witnesses? (inaudible) Mr. Chairman I believe we can close the hearing.

Mr. Reese – Anything else?

Mr. Ritson – I only have one question, for you. It's more of a global issue. We have a map, right, of all Ag Security Areas in our municipality? Or we should have a map.

Mr. Avolio – We should have a map, correct.

Mr. Ritson – Do we have that, Jason?

Mr. Winters – Patrick has that and we were looking, Tom requested that a few months ago. We were working on it with the County (inaudible).

Mr. Ritson – I just wanted to take a broader application in how we're looking at it from a planning perspective. I was just curious, I would like to see that at some point.

Mr. Silvis – What was the issue back when, when Penn Township annexed that property?

Mr. D. Graham – Well, we want to make it so if we spread manure for the animals they wouldn't give us crap.

Audience Member – That's not what he's saying. He wanted to know the issue back when Penn Township annexed it.

Mr. D. Graham – Oh. You mean when they got the neighbors?

Mr. Silvis – Yeah, why did they annex it?

Mr. D. Graham – I don't know. Guys, that was before most of any of you was born.

Mr. Silvis – I don't remember.

Mr. Weimer – I have a question.

Mr. Avolio – Yes.

Mr. Weimer – It was brought up here about the MAWC project now we are talking about maps apparently this area was not agricultural security whenever the plan was approved to put sewage in that region. Would this ag security approval impact the project that's already been approved?

Mr. Avolio – It should not impact any proceedings that began prior to the agricultural security application.

Mr. Weimer – Okay.

Mr. Ritson – I have a follow-up question to that. Under testimony, they said they hadn't received any formal notice of proceeding.

Mr. Avolio – I don't know if that's accurate.

Mr. D. Graham – You and I have talked. A while back we had.

Mr. Avolio – I'm sorry, is that on this parcel?

Mr. D. Graham – Yes.

Mr. Avolio – There is a condemnation proceeding against this parcel.

Mr. Ritson – Is that a question or a statement?

Mr. Avolio – I asked if this was the parcel because I have a communication where MAWC with Mr. Dennis Graham regarding 3 parcels of property. I think you just stated that this parcel is included in those discussions.

Mr. D. Graham – It is one of those that you talked to me about, yes.

Mr. Avolio – So based on that information I would like to state to the Board that this is a piece of property that the sewer line is going through.

Mr. Reese – Any other questions?

Mr. Avolio – We can close the hearing.

Mr. Ritson – I'll motion to close the hearing.

Mr. Weimer – Second.

Mr. Reese – Questions? All in favor?

Board – I.

Hearing closed at 7:10 p.m.

C. CITIZENS COMMENTS (AS PER RESOLUTION #2012-24) – NONE

D. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

1. **April 27, 2020 – Legal and Personnel**
2. **May 20, 2020 – Legal and Personnel**
3. **May 26, 2020 – Legal**

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **Consideration to Approve the Minutes from the April 27, 2020 Hempfield Township Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting**

Mr. Ritson made a motion seconded by Mr. Weimer to approve the minutes from the April 27th, 2020 Hempfield Township Board of Supervisors Monthly Meeting. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

F. STAFF REPORTS – (WRITTEN REPORTS DISTRIBUTED PRIOR TO MEETING)

Mr. Jason Winters – Township Manager

The Township continues to monitor COVID-19 and we have entered the Yellow Phase. The Green Phase should be soon so updates will be given regarding Recreation opening and moving the entire Public Works Department back to the building. A discussion was held at the Work Session regarding the impact of COVID on the budget. A special meeting has been scheduled for June 25th at 6:00 pm to discuss how finances have been affected and determine changes within each department. The stormwater presentation has been pushed back to July due to scheduling conflicts. The High School is holding a Senior Parade on Thursday. There will be no road closures but the Fire Police are assisting. Old Business on the agenda

tonight is regarding Redgrave Drive, it is requested that it is tabled because communication has not yet been received from PEMA.

G. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was presented at the Work Session.

H. PAYMENT OF BILLS

Consideration to Approve the following Payment of Bills:

- 1. General Fund - \$206,943.96**
- 2. Light District Fund - \$659.94**
- 3. Recreation - \$2,110.00**

Mr. Ritson made a motion seconded by Mr. Silvis to approve the payment of bills as listed above. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

I. SCHEDULING OF HEARINGS – *NONE*

J. DECISIONS FROM HEARINGS

- 1. Consideration to Authorize Resolution No. 2020-58; Authorizing the Graham Family Trust to be included in the Agricultural Security Area for Tax Map #50-20-00-0-047.**

Mr. Ritson made a motion to table Resolution No. 2020-58 seconded by Mr. Weimer. Vote: 3-1 (Silvis). Motion carried.

K. SUBDIVISION PLANS

- 1. Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2020-59; Granting Final Approval for the Fox-Lopez Subdivision Plan – Plan No. 2020155**
 - Location: Intersection of Wagner and Moore's Grove Road**
 - Purpose: Subdivide existing home from remainder of farm**
 - Planning Commission Recommendation: Approved 7-0**

Mr. Ritson made a motion seconded by Mr. Weimer to approve Resolution No. 2020-59. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

L. SITE PLANS – *NONE*

M. ITEMS FOR ACTION TO BE TAKEN

- 1. Consideration to Approve Ordinance No. 2020-01; Authorizing the Execution of a Cable Franchise Agreement Between the Township of Hempfield and Comcast of Pennsylvania III, LLC**

Mr. Weimer made a motion seconded by Mr. Ritson to approve Ordinance No. 2020-01. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

- 2. Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2020-60; Authorizing the Disposition and Destruction of Specific Records**

Mr. Weimer made a motion seconded by Mr. Reese to approve Resolution No. 2020-60. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

- 3. Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2020-61; Adopting the Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) for the Township of Hempfield Updated May 2020**

Mr. Ritson made a motion seconded by Mr. Weimer to approve Resolution No. 2020-61. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

4. **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2020-62; Granting the Release of Financial Security for the North Hempfield Self Storage Plan – Plan No. 20120032**
Mr. Ritson made a motion seconded by Mr. Weimer to approve Resolution No. 2020-62. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.
5. **Consideration to Adopt Resolution No. 2020-63; Authorizing the Abatement of the Temporary Tent Fee Through December 31, 2020**
Mr. Weimer made a motion seconded by Mr. Reese to adopt Resolution No. 2020-63. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.
6. **Consideration to Accept the Declaration of Intent for the North Hempfield Volunteer Fire Department for the Property at 1284 Business Route 66 and all Related Assets and Authorize the Solicitor to Begin the Process to Transfer Ownership and Create a Transfer Committee**
Mr. Weimer made a motion seconded by Mr. Ritson to Accept the Declaration of Intent for the North Hempfield Volunteer Fire Department for the property at 1284 Business Route 66 and all related assets and authorize the Solicitor to begin the process to transfer ownership and create a Transfer Committee. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.
7. **Consideration to Authorize the Solicitor to Advertise Amendments to the Current Zoning Ordinance and Schedule a Hearing for July 27, 2020**
Mr. Ritson made a motion seconded by Mr. Weimer to authorize the Solicitor to advertise Amendments to the current Zoning Ordinance and schedule a hearing for July 27, 2020. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.
8. **Consideration to Authorize the Township Solicitor to Enter into a Stipulated Settlement Agreement on a Tax Assessment Appeal for PIAD Precision on Case #4998 of 2019**
Mr. Weimer made a motion seconded by Mr. Reese to Authorize the Township Solicitor to enter into a Stipulated Settlement Agreement on a Tax Assessment Appeal for PIAD Precision on Case #4998 of 2019. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.
9. **Consideration to Approve the 2020 Parks & Recreation Summer Part-Time Employees as Listed on Attachment “A”**
Mr. Ritson made a motion seconded by Mr. Reese to approve the 2020 Parks & Recreation Summer Part-Time Employees as listed on Attachment “A”. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.
10. **Consideration to Approve the Following Emergency Service Applications as Members of the Hempfield Township Fire Department, to be effective Upon the Township Receiving a Physical Report from the Township Physician Stating that the Individual is Capable of Performing Activities Related to the Appointed Position and Successful Criminal History and Act 153 Clearance Requirements**

Name	Position	Department
Shane M. Altman	Sr. Firefighter	Midway/St. Clair
Frank A. Ness	Sr. Firefighter	Ft. Allen

Mr. Ritson made a motion seconded by Mr. Reese to approve the listed Emergency Service Applications as Members of the Hempfield Township Fire Department, effective upon the receipt of a physical report from the Township Physician stating that the individual is capable of performing activities related to the appointed position and successful Criminal History and Act 153 Clearance Requirements. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

N. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Consideration to Authorize the Township Manager to Sign the Letter of Interest for the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Unified Grant program for 15 Redgrave Drive.**

Mr. Ritson made a motion seconded by Mr. Reese to table the signing of a Letter of Interest for the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Unified Grant Program for 15 Redgrave Drive. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

O. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Weimer discussed the impact of COVID-19 on the residents and businesses within the Township and mentioned that he and many others are confused by the stages put forth by the Governor.

Mr. Weimer made a motion seconded by Mr. Ritson to send a letter to the Governor stating that the Township is ready to open. Vote 4-0.

P. PROCLAMATIONS – *NONE*

Q. SUPERVISORS COMMENTS

Mr. Weimer would like to see more people at the next meeting. He hopes that everyone had a nice Memorial Day Weekend. Mr. Weimer also hopes that the Governor will work with the Township.

Mr. Silvis suggested that the Township put out a notice to the public to support local businesses.

R. ADJOURNMENT

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hempfield Township Board of Supervisors was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. by Chairman, Mr. George Reese.

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY