

HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 24, 2019

A. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

The regular 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, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Mr. George Reese Mr. Doug Weimer
Mr. John Silvis Mr. Tom Logan
Mr. Rob Ritson (via Phone)

Staff Present: Mr. Chris Skovira Mrs. Denise Rosak
Mr. Jason Winters Mrs. Melanie Phillips
Mr. Doug Cisco Mr. Dan Schmitt
Mr. Aaron Siko Mr. Patrick Karnash
Mr. Anthony Kovacic

B. HEARINGS: None

C. CITIZENS COMMENTS: (As Per Resolution #2012-24)

- 1) **Dennis Henry** – Mr. Henry of 1328 Middletown Road, Greensburg, advised the Board of Supervisors about the drainage and retention pond on the South side of the property on Route 136 which is draining mud into the rear parking lot of the Hempfield Manor nursing home. He said he has brought this matter to the attention of the Township over the years to no satisfaction. Mr. Henry requested action be taken to resolve this on-going issue as soon as possible.
- 2) **Lou Smail** – Mr. Smail of 1069 Spruce Street, Greensburg, advised that he was speaking on behalf of Mr. Scott Graham, who had a prior commitment this evening. Per Mr. Graham, the proposed fire and rescue club, which will be a work study and early dismissal program at the Hempfield Area High School, is progressing forward. He will be proposing the institution of the club at the July 17th, 2019 meeting of the Hempfield Area School Board. Mr. Graham is hopeful that the club, which will include both junior and senior firefighters, with college benefits offered at WCCC, will start at the beginning of the school year. Hopefully, this program will help to alleviate the staffing issues at the fire departments, along with providing college tuition for the students as an incentive.
- 3) **Greg Saunders** – Bovard Fire Chief Greg Saunders of 318 Price Street, Bovard, requested the Board of Supervisors' support by formally acknowledging that the Bovard Volunteer Fire Department is an active emergency services agency recognized by the Township. He explained that the letter of acknowledgement is necessary as part of the requirements for the department to purchase a new vehicle.
- 4) **Jacquelyn Reed** – Ms. Reed of 63 Cloverdale Street, Bovard, inquired whether or not there were any Township regulations prohibiting a neighbor from draining their sump pump onto

another neighbor's property. She explained that her yard is actually sinking and that she has spoken to her neighbor about it to no avail. Mr. Karnash will meet with Ms. Reed after the conclusion of the meeting to discuss her concerns.

- 5) **Vincent Mohn** – Mr. Mohn of 8529 S.R. 819, Greensburg, inquired the reason behind the Board of Supervisors hiring an outside collection agency to collect the street light taxes.

D. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:

- 1) **Legal & Personnel – June 19, 2019**

Supervisor Reese advised that there was an executive session conducted as referenced above.

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 1) **Consideration to Approve the Minutes from the May 14, 2019 Hempfield Township Board of Supervisors' Special Public Meeting** – Supervisor Weimer made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Logan, to approve the minutes of the Supervisors' May 14, 2019 special public meeting. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 2) **Consideration to Approve the Minutes from the May 28, 2019 Hempfield Township Board of Supervisors' Monthly Meeting** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Silvis, to approve the minutes of the Supervisors' May 28, 2019 monthly meeting. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

F. STAFF REPORTS:

Complete staff reports were presented to the Board of Supervisors at their Public Work Session meeting on Wednesday, June 19th, 2019. Some of the highlights of the staff reports were commented on as follows:

- 1) **Jason Winters, Township Manager:**

Mr. Winters advised the Board of Supervisors that Item No. 17 entitled “Consideration to Authorize the Township Manager to Sign all Needed Documents for the Township Dental Coverage Renewal with United Concordia for the Policy Period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020” was added to the agenda since the Public Work Session. He noted that there is no premium increase for the up-coming year.

- 2) **Melanie Phillips, Finance Director:**

Mrs. Phillips reported to the Board of Supervisors that revenues are at 51% collected at 42% into the year; and expenses are at 37%. In addition to her report, she noted the Capital Budget Report shows a \$129,991.22 savings for the year thus far.

- 3) **Anthony Kovacic, Fire and EMS Director:**

Mr. Kovacic advised the Board that the Essentials Program continues to be built upon and is up to fifteen (15) students. In regards to training, he said he was very pleased to report that some of the firefighters, that took the Preparatory Program for Firefighter I and then the certification, are starting to see the certifications coming in. He said that Steve Cole (Station 28 – Midway/St. Clair VFD) and Josh Kolar (Station 75 – Hannastown VFD)

recently received their certificates for nationally Certified for Firefighter I. Mr. Kovacic said work continues to increase the number of certified firefighters. In closing, he said the work also continues to build up the ISO numbers. The schedule includes testing of the aerial, ladders, and pumps in July; and hoses in August. With these preparations, he said he is hopeful that the Township will receive a positive review since it will be providing new, improved data for 2019.

4) **Doug Cisco, Public Works Director:**

Mr. Cisco said the activities of the Public Works Department include hot mix preparations for the hot mix program, which should be starting in a couple of weeks, and numerous clean ups from the recent storms. The weed spraying program has started. Restoration work continues at the West Point pond project. Mr. Cisco advised that there is an action item on the agenda for a new John Deere mower and discussion about an ARLE grant. Relative to Mr. Dennis Henry's comments earlier in the meeting, Mr. Cisco stated that after a thorough investigation and discussion, the Township decided that there was no action required. He explained that the ravine has been there for over 30 or 40 years and that it is not causing any flooding to the nursing home property.

5) **Aaron Siko, Parks and Recreation Director:**

Mr. Siko updated the Board that there is a free concert at the amphitheater at the park on Friday, June 28th, 2019 at 7 p.m. of the 28th Infantry Division Band. Later on in the agenda, he said there is the CDBG grant for Hempfield Park and five (5) position changes in the department – two (2) new hires and three (3) moved to different positions.

6) **Dan Schmitt, Engineer:**

Mr. Schmitt commented that the hot mix paving program is scheduled to begin shortly. He said that the contractor indicated that they will be mobilized the week of July 8th. The pre-construction meeting will be scheduled and a determination made as to the order the roads will be done in. Once the road schedule is complete, the list will be posted on the Township's website and the streets will be posted as well. In another matter, Mr. Schmitt advised the Board that Sunoco Gas has performed a number of projects the last few years in Hempfield. During that time the engineering department documented the conditions of the roads prior to Sunoco's activities. Mr. Schmitt said that he was contacted by Sunoco wherein they requested consideration in having the Township complete the necessary road repairs and Sunoco would reimburse the costs incurred. Mr. Schmitt said he discussed this request with Derry Construction and they were interested in doing this additional work during the Township's paving program. Mr. Schmitt explained that he outlined all of the Township's concerns for the repairs and that Derry Construction responded that they would provide a cost estimate for the repairs to pass onto Sunoco.

7) **Chris Skovira Township Solicitor:**

Mr. Skovira advised that the solicitor's office prepared the resolutions for this evening's meeting and also worked on a couple of other items with the management staff.

8) **Patrick Karnash, Planning Coordinator and Interim Zoning Officer**

Mr. Karnash advised the Board of Supervisors that his department is asking for action on three (3) subdivision plans, which are all finals without any conditions. In addition, he said that there is an item on the agenda for release of financial security for Dunkin Donut on Route 30 in Jeannette. Lastly, Mr. Karnash asked the Board of Supervisors to pass onto him any input on zoning issues or questions so that, whenever the Township moves forward on updating the zoning ordinance, it covers all areas of concern.

G. TREASURER’S REPORT:

Supervisor Logan said that he had nothing additional to add to his report given at the Public Work Session on Wednesday, June 19, 2019.

H. PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to approve the following payment of bills as listed below. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

1.	General Fund	\$ 494,579.52	2.	Bond Issue	\$ 8,631.24
3.	Light District	\$ 4,930.92	4.	Parks & Recreation	\$ 2,125.00
5.	Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 3,460.00			

I. SCHEDULING OF HEARINGS: None

J. DECISIONS FROM HEARINGS: None

K. SUBDIVISION PLANS:

1) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-89; Granting Final Approval for the McMahan/Ord Subdivision – Plan No. 20190267:**

Location	Corner of Poplar Drive at White Oak Drive
Purpose	To adjust line to clear swimming pool
Planning Commission Recommendation	Approval 4-0

Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Silvis, to approve Resolution No. 2019-89. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

2) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-90; Granting Final Approval for the Ricketson-Adams Subdivision – Plan No. 20190274:**

Location	East side of Brookview Drive, 200’ from Forest Hills Drive
Purpose	To subdivide a small triangular parcel (Parcel A) to incorporate the encroachment of the existing asphalt driveway
Planning Commission Recommendation	Approval 4-0

Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Silvis, to approve Resolution #2019-90. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

3) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-91; Granting Final Approval for the Warren & Sally Ann Kemerer Subdivision – Plan No. 20190191:**

Location	400' East of the Intersection of Grange Road & Millersdale Road
Purpose	To put each single-family residence on its own separate parcel
Planning Commission Recommendation	Approval 4-0

Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Reese, to approve Resolution #2019-91. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

L. SITE PLANS: None

M. ITEMS FOR ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

- 1) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-92; Granting the Release of Financial Security for Dunkin Donuts to Heartland Restaurant Group – Plan No. 20130004** – Supervisor Weimer made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Silvis, to approve Resolution No. 2019-92. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 2) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-93; Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement with Apollo Design Group for the Publication of the Township Newsletter in Conjunction with Hempfield Area School District and Authorize the Township Manager to Execute all Needed Documents** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Silvis, to approve Resolution No. 2019-93. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 3) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-94; Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement with Adapt Management for Grant Administration Services for the SAFER Grant and Authorize the Township Manager to Execute all Needed Documents** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Reese, to approve Resolution No. 2019-94. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 4) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-95; Authorizing the Township Manager to Submit Two Applications for the PennDOT ARLE Grant Program – Forbes Trail Road Embankment Project and Route 30 Traffic Signal Upgrade Project** – Supervisor Weimer made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Silvis, to approve Resolution No. 2019-95. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 5) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-96; Authorizing Agreement with Anthony & Emily Ferrarini, 1075 Tony Hill Road (Tax Map #50-20-00-0-026) for 10 Years at \$250 Per Month for Location of Township Radio Repeater** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Reese to approve Resolution No. 2019-96. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 6) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-97; Establishing the Positions of Hempfield Township Fire Chief/Director of Emergency Services and Deputy Fire Chief and Approving the Job Descriptions** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to approve Resolution No. 2019-97. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 7) **Consideration to Approve Resolution No. 2019-98; Appointing Anthony Kovacic as Hempfield Township Fire Chief/Director of Emergency Services and Approving an Employment Agreement through December 31, 2022** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to approve Resolution No. 2019-98. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

- 8) **Consideration to Authorize the Township Manager to Advertise the Position of Township Deputy Fire Chief** – Supervisor Reese made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Logan, to authorize the Township Manager to advertise the position of Township Deputy Fire Chief. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 9) **Consideration to Authorize Township Manager to Consult with the State Auditor General on the Establishment of a Hempfield Township Fire Department Relief Association** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to authorize the Township Manager to consult with the State Auditor General on the establishment of a Hempfield Township Fire Department Relief Association. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 10) **Consideration to Approve the Acceptance of the 2019 Westmoreland County CDBG Grant Award for the Removal of Architectural Barriers/ADA Renovations at Hempfield Park in the Amount of \$143,875.00 and Authorize the Township Manager to Execute all Needed Documents** – Supervisor Weimer made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Reese, to approve the acceptance of the 2019 Westmoreland County CDBG Grant Award for the removal of architectural barriers/ADA renovations at Hempfield Park in the amount of \$143,875.00 and authorize the Township Manager to execute all needed documents. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 11) **Consideration to Authorize the Township Solicitor to Enter into a Stipulated Settlement Agreement on Tax Assessment Appeal for ABCB 4589 LLC (Tax Map #50-20-12-0-038) on Case #4054 of 2018** -- Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to authorize the Township Solicitor to enter into a Stipulated Settlement Agreement on Tax Assessment Appeal for ABCB 4589 LLC (Tax Map #50-20-12-0-038) on Case #4054 of 2018. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 12) **Consideration to Authorize the Township Solicitor to Withdrawal the Environmental Hearing Board Appeal** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to authorize the Township Solicitor to withdraw the Environmental Hearing Board Appeal. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 13) **Consideration to Authorize the Purchase of a 2019 John Deere Tractor with a Tiger Wild Kat Mower (Boom Mower) from SEI Stephenson Equipment, Inc. for the Amount of \$115,410.00 (Costars #4400020106) and Authorize the Township Manager to Process and Sign all Needed Documents** – Supervisor Reese made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Logan, to authorize the purchase of a 2019 John Deere Tractor with a Tiger Wild Kat Mower (Boom Mower) from SEI Stephenson Equipment, Inc. for the amount of \$115,410.00 (Costars #4400020106) and authorize the Township Manager to process and sign all needed documents. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.
- 14) **Consideration to Approve the Purchase of a Sutphen Monarch Heavy-Duty Custom Rescue Pumper (Costars Contract #013-0009) and Authorize the Township Manager to Execute all Needed Documents and Authorize the Director of Finance to Prepare Funding Options** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Ritson, to approve the purchase of a Sutphen Monarch Heavy-Duty Custom Rescue Pumper (Costars Contract #013-0009) and authorize the Township Manager to execute all needed documents and authorize the Director of Finance to prepare funding options. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

15) **Consideration to Approve the 2019 Parks & Recreation Summer Seasonal Part-Time Employees as Listed on Exhibit “A”:**

	Name	Position	Pay Rate Per Hour	New/Returning
1.	Kiley Burns	Facility Attendant	\$12.00	Return
2.	Kevin Hepler	Facility Attendant	\$11.00	Return
3.	Nancy Stango	Facility Attendant	\$11.00	Return
4.	Olivia Neill	Park Attendant	\$10.00	Return
5.	Shelby Sperber	Park Attendant	\$10.00	Return

Supervisor Weimer made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Logan, to approve the above-listed 2019 Parks & Recreation Summer Seasonal Part-Time Employees as listed above. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

16) **Consideration to Authorize the Township Manager to Advertise an RFP for an Insurance Benefit Coverage as Part of the Westco SAFER Grant** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to authorize the Township manager to advertise an RFP for an insurance benefit coverage as part of the Westco SAFER Grant. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

17) **Consideration to Authorize the Township Manager to Sign all Needed Documents for the Township Dental Coverage Renewal with United Concordia for the Policy Period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020** – Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Reese, to authorize the Township Manager to sign all needed documents for the Township dental coverage renewal with United Concordia for the policy period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

18) **Consideration to Approve the Following Emergency Service Applications as Members of the Hempfield Township Bureau of Fire, 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	Fire Department
1.	Nick V. Casper	Senior Firefighter	Fort Allen
2.	Zachary C. Hill	Senior Firefighter	Fort Allen

Supervisor Reese made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to approve the above-listed emergency service applications as members of the Hempfield Township Bureau of Fire, 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. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

N. OLD BUSINESS:

1) **Consideration to Authorize the Solicitor to Prepare and Advertise an Ordinance for the Addition of Stop Signs on Forbes Trail Road at the Intersections of Fetters Road and**

Murdock Way – Mr. Winters recommended this item be removed from the agenda because the Township is going to apply for the ARLE (Automated Red Light Enforcement) Grant for the necessary improvements. Supervisor Weimer made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Reese, to remove from the agenda consideration to authorize the Solicitor to prepare and advertise an ordinance for the addition of Stop signs on Forbes Trail Road at the intersections of Fetters Road and Murdock Way. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

O. NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) **Consideration of Approve Dollar Bank as a Depository for the Township of Hempfield** – Supervisor Logan requested that an item be added to the agenda to consider approving Dollar Bank as a depository for the Township of Hempfield. Supervisor Reese asked if the members of the Board of Supervisors or anyone in the audience had any comment on the item to be added to the agenda. An audience member asked why the Board was considering approving Dollar Bank as a depository. Supervisor Logan said that there was a proposal in-house for possibly a better rate for some of the Township’s money that is in depository. He explained that the Township would first have to appoint Dollar Bank as a possible depository so that we can discuss it at the Board’s July work session, if we’re actually going to move any money or not and that rate would still hold. Supervisor Logan made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Weimer, to approve Dollar Bank as a depository for the Township of Hempfield. Vote: 5-Yes. Motion carried.

P. PROCLAMATIONS: None

Q. SUPERVISORS’ COMMENTS:

Supervisor John Silvis – Supervisor Silvis commented as follows: “Fourth of July is coming up. Always wish and hope everybody has safe and happy 4th of July. Comment on the article in the newspaper and how many fires we have had since he (Anthony Kovacic) has been on staff almost one (1) year. We have had six (6) and take the dumpster fire makes it seven (7). Key to fire prevention is being proactive. Greg Saunders reached out to Phantom Fireworks. They were very cooperative and showed and explained what kind of preventions they have. Both he and Shaw went up to the Phantom Fireworks. Let it be said fire prevention is more important than fighting fires. If we continue this trend our ISO should come down.”

Supervisor Doug Weimer: – Supervisor Weimer commented as follows: “Welcome and congratulations to Anthony Kovacic to the long list of Hempfield fire chiefs. I am sure all of the firefighters in the room are anxiously waiting to move forward for the plans of the Bureau of Fire and continue to bring up list of the individuals of serving and volunteering. Congratulation to the firefighters that got their certifications. Congratulations to Parks & Recreation, Aaron Siko and staff for the great start at the park and the use of the amphitheater. Movie in the park this past Friday and the weather held for us. There was a crowd there. As the year progresses, we will see more recreation use of it.”

Supervisor Rob Ritson: – Supervisor Ritson commented as follows: “Congratulations on really great thing with Anthony Kovacic. I want to say to the firemen – this is just the beginning for us. Very fruitful discussions last week. Kovacic put on great presentation. Whatever way I can help, I am all in.”

Supervisor Tom Logan – Supervisor Logan commented as follows: “Thank you Tony for your help and the volunteer fire departments of Hempfield Township. To date received seven million

dollars in fire departments in Hempfield Township since the beginning of 2016. Definitely committed to moving forward and get it moving.”

Supervisor George Reese – No comments made.

R. ADJOURNMENT

Supervisor Reese adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary