

THE SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
DECEMBER 28, 2021

A Regular Business Meeting of the Smithfield Township Board of Supervisors was held on December 28, 2021, at the Smithfield Township Municipal Center at 1155 Red Fox Rd, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301, and via Zoom.

Present are Supervisors Jacob Pride, Robert Lovenheim, Brian Barrett via phone, and Office Manager Julia Heilakka. Solicitor Ronold Karasek and Engineer Jon Tresslar are not present.

1. Chair Jacob Pride calls the meeting to order at 7:00PM. A quorum is present.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance is recited.
3. Minutes
 - a. Robert Lovenheim motions to table the December 14, 2021, minutes, Brian Barrett seconds. Vote: all in favor; minutes tabled.
4. Public Comments on the Agenda
 - a. Chief Howard Ike introduces himself and would like to discuss Shawnee Fire Company dual dispatch at a later meeting.
5. Announcements
 - a. The Board announces an Executive Session re: Personnel Matters on Thursday, on December 16th, from 2:00PM to 2:40PM.
6. New Business
 - a. Consider: Adopt 2022 Budget. Jacob Pride overviews the proposed budget and states the millage will change from .616 to .800. Robert Lovenheim motions to adopt Resolution No. 489, Jacob Pride seconds. Vote: Jacob Pride and Robert Lovenheim in favor, Brian Barrett opposed: motion carries.
 - b. Consider: Resolution No. 490 – Adopting 2022 Millage Rate. Jacob Pride overviews the millage rates and taxes. Brian Barrett motions to approve the 2022 Millage Rates, Robert Lovenheim seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
 - c. Consider: Resolution No. 491 – 2021 Budget Revisions. Julia Heilakka states the budget revisions include the ARPA payment. Jacob Pride motions to adopt Resolution No. 491, Brian Barrett seconds. Brian Barrett thanks staff for their hard work. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

- d. Consider: 1% for Nature Funding Commitment Letter. Robert Lovenheim motions to sign the funding commitment letter, Brian Barrett seconds. Brian Barrett thanks Robert for suggesting the double enclosures for the parks. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
- e. Discuss: Municipal Roadway Detours. There are two roadway detours before the Township. The first is from PennDOT for a bridge replacement project on Hollow Rd, which will last for four weeks around September 2022. The ski area and Shawnee Fire Company are aware.

The second detour is for Smithfield Gateway. Boucher & James recommended approval of the detour for Driveway 10 and Music Center Drive for the installation of a porkchop, to be completed by October 2022. Robert Lovenheim motions to approve both detours, Brian Barrett seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

- f. Consider: Shawnee Fire Department Tire cost. Shawnee \$3,137.42 [considered in tandem with 6.g]
- g. Consider: Bushkill EMS Ambulance Repair Cost. The ambulance repair includes inspection and labor for two ambulances at \$2,131.16, and the fire department bill is for tires and labor at \$3,137.42. Brian Barrett motions to approve covering both invoices. Robert Lovenheim seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
- h. Consider: ESU Internship Host Agreement. This agreement allows the township to host an intern, but the township is not required to. Jacob Pride motions to approve the ESU internship host agreement, Robert Lovenheim seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
- i. Discuss: Green Light Go Agreement. Robert Lovenheim motions to table until the January 11th meeting, Brian Barrett seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
- j. Consider: Ratify First Disbursement of Municipal Tax Refund for Firefighters. These are refunds from the Volunteer Service Credit Program, totaling \$219.58. Robert Lovenheim motions to ratify the payment, Brian Barrett seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
- k. Consider: Ratify Advertising 2022 Reorganizational Meeting for STBS & STBA. The Board of Supervisors will meet on January 3rd at 4PM and the Auditors will meet January 4th at 5PM. Jacob Pride motions to ratify the advertisements, Robert Lovenheim seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.
- l. Consider: Sponsorship Radio Lease for Shawnee and Delaware Water Gap Fire Departments. Jacob Pride states while he supports the township pursuing the lease but wants a full solicitor review before the lease is signed.

Brian Barrett agrees it is a good idea to perform due diligence. Jacob Pride states the township bearing the brunt of this cost is a good way to assist the fire departments. The Board discusses a joint session with the involved fire companies and municipalities.

Brian Barrett motions to table this item, with the understanding the Board will pursue it, Robert Lovenheim seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

- m. Consider: Shawnee Valley PRD Annual Update. The annual update reflects the new owner and pushes back the development schedule. Robert Lovenheim asked the township solicitor why the Township has historically approved updates and was told that little has changed. Bridget Keating states that ordinances and laws have changed, so some proposed houses can no longer be built. Martha Carbone states that approving the development schedule is the Board's choice.

Brian Barrett cautions that not approving the plans will force SVPRD to build haphazardly; it is in the township's best interest to extend the agreement. The Board will further discuss this project at the January 11th hearing. Brian Barrett motions to approve the annual update. Rick Norris expresses concerns over water management in the area. Robert Lovenheim replies the Conservation District will need to look at the plan and seconds the motion. Martha Carbone expresses concerns for the Bog Turtle and Stormwater Management Plans. Jacob Pride reminds all parties that the Board is not the developer, and that environmental approvals are necessary. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

7. Bills to be Paid

- a. Ratify: \$72,871.88 (General Fund - \$71,388.09, Highway Fund - \$1,483.79). Ratify: General Fund - \$8,494.27. Robert Lovenheim motions to meet township obligations, Brian Barrett seconds. Vote: all in favor; motion carries.

8. Public Comment – none.

9. Robert Lovenheim motions to adjourn, Brian Barrett seconds; meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Minutes recorded by Julia Heilakka

Respectfully submitted:


Brian Barrett, Secretary