

HALIFAX TOWNSHIP
102 Fisher Street
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
January 13, 2020 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER - Chairman Bechtel called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL - Supervisors Bechtel, Bruner, Paul and McBurney, are present along with Solicitor Bruce Warshawsky, Secretary Wendy M. Wentzel, Engineer Tim DeWire, and Roadmaster Tim Belk. Supervisor Schreffler was absent.

RECORDING MEETING – None other than the Township Secretary

EXECUTIVE SESSION – An Executive Sessions was held January 6, 2020 from 6:30 for matters of litigation and also this evening, January 13, 6:30 pm – 6:58 pm for matters of litigation and real estate.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – None

SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

Paid Interim Bills – Motion was made by Supervisor Paul and second by Supervisor McBurney to approve the paid interim bills thru January 13, 2020. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0. **Current Unpaid Bills – Motion** was made by Supervisor McBurney and second by Supervisor Paul to pay the unpaid bills through January 13, 2020. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0. **Minutes – December 9, 2019 - Motion** was made by Supervisor Paul and second by Supervisor Bruner to approve the meeting minutes of December 9, 2019. Vote called. Motion carries 3-0-1 with Supervisor McBurney abstaining since he was not present at the November meeting. **Financial Report** – Placed on file for audit at a later period.

EMC REPORT – EMC Neiter was present to inform the Board that Dauphin County Public Safety was reviewing the addresses in the township and bringing those changes to the Township for approval of the changes. **Motion** was made by Supervisor Bruner and second by Supervisor Paul to send a letter to the residents living on Circle S Lane notifying them of their address change. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0. **Motion** was made by Supervisor McBurney and second by Supervisor Paul to send letters to residents living on Summer Drive and notifying them of their address changes. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0. EMC Neiter also noted that there are officer changes at the Halifax Fire Company for 2020.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT – There was no action taken on the Lee and Sandra Sweigard Subdivision and the Harteis Subdivision was accepted for review.

ENGINEER REPORT – Engineer Tim DeWire submitted and provided an overview of K & W's report dated January 6, 2020 for services in December 2019. The report was placed on record.

SOLICITOR REPORT – Solicitor Warshawsky submitted his report dated January 8, 2020 for services during December. The report will be placed on record. Bold text items are on the agenda. **North Country Unlimited** – Owner Josh Decker was present and presented a check for the judgment imposed by District Justice Johnson. Mr. Decker is still required to comply with the floodplain regulations by obtaining a permit and was asked to attend next month's meeting on February 10, 2020 and provide a report on the progress of obtaining a floodplain permit.

ROADMASTER REPORT – Roadmaster Belk provided an overview on his report for activities during the month of December. The Report is placed on record.

Chairman Bechtel asked that the Board think about whether to allow some sort of hunting on the east side of the Fort Halifax grounds along Armstrong Creek in the future. No action taken at this time.

SEO REPORT – Submitted and placed on record.

FRIENDS OF FORT HALIFAX – Submitted their report for the record. **Motion** was made by Supervisor Paul and second by Supervisor Bruner to permit the installation of a barn owl nesting box near the Susquehanna River at Fort Halifax and the kestrel nesting box along the edge of the field on the ridge at the tree line above on Armstrong Creek. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0.

NUISANCE REPORT

Neihart Nuisance – **Motion** was made by Supervisor Paul and second by Supervisor Bruner to abate this nuisance. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0.

Brother Nuisance – Solicitor Warshawsky informed the Board that fines have been accruing since December 11, 2019 which currently total \$800. Mr. Brother was present at the meeting and was told the fence around the unregistered vehicles is required to be completely enclosed. He was also informed that he needs to identify his cats that are currently roaming and creating a mess in the salt and anti-skid. If the cats are not addressed, the Township will be trapping them.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Lake Tobias Donation Check – **Motion** was made by Supervisor McBurney and second by Supervisor Paul to accept the generous donation of \$1,000 from Lake Tobias to be used at the discretion of the Board. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0.

Chairman Bechtel announced that the Township was in receipt of Halifax Fire Company's 2020 Budget. He also announced that the Township was in receipt of the appointed Auditors' Re-Org Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

Township Archeology Representative – Joe Baker was present to accept the artifacts collected which were in the former Archeology Representatives possession and turned over to the Township. He informed the Board that Dr. Burns of Juniata College would like to follow up with the metal detector findings from Fort Halifax. Mr. Baker noted that they are in search for some grant monies to staff a field school at Fort Halifax. They are seeking approximately \$25,000- \$30,000 which is mainly for salaries for the field school. March is the deadline for the grant application and is asking for a letter of support from the Township. **Motion** was made by Supervisor McBurney and second by Supervisor Bruner to provide a letter of support for a field school at Fort Halifax. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0. Motion was made by Supervisor McBurney and second by Supervisor Paul to appoint Amanda Rasmussen as Halifax Township's Archeology Representative. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0.

Nuisance Ordinance Revision – Tabled until February's meeting.

Kieffer Road Turnback – No action taken. On agenda for February's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Tax Resolution – **Motion** was made by Supervisor Bruner and second by Supervisor Paul to waive the reading of the resolution. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0. **Motion** was made by Supervisor McBurney and second by Supervisor Paul to approve the Tax Resolution. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0.

Appointment of CPA for 2019 Financials – **Motion** was made by Supervisor Bruner and second by Supervisor Paul to appoint TRW Financial to audit the 2019 Financial Records of Halifax Township for a fee of \$3,780 along with the Halifax Fire Company's 2019 Financial Records for a fee of \$1838. Vote called. Motion carries 4-0.

Circle S Lane – Addresses – See EMC Report above.

Summer Drive Addresses – See EMC Report above.

Skill Games – No action taken.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Kieffer Road Land Turnback
Nuisance “catch all” revision

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 14, 2020 – Senator John DiSanto’s Office – 9:00 a.m. – Noon at Township Building
January 16, 2020 – COG Meeting – 7:00 pm, Hosted by Halifax Township – 6:30 Refreshments
February 3, 2020 – Planning Commission Meeting -7:00- pm
February 10, 2020 – Board of Supervisor Regular Monthly Meeting – 7:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Supervisor Bruner and second by Supervisor Paul to adjourn at 8:31 pm. Vote called.
Motion carries 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy M. Wentzel
Secretary