

**HALIFAX TOWNSHIP**  
**102 Fisher Street**  
**Halifax, PA 17032**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING**  
**March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.**

**\*ANY ITEM LISTED ON THE AGENDA AND/OR REPORT MAY BE AN ACTION ITEM\***

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Bechtel called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

Supervisors Bechtel, Bruner, Paul, Schreffler, and McBurney were present along with Solicitor Warshawsky, HRG, Inc. Alex Greenly, Secretary Sara Glace, and Roadmaster Matt Roland.

**RECORDING MEETING:**

Halifax Township secretary is the only person reportedly recording the meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

There were no executive sessions held in the last month.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

No person spoke under public comment.

**SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT:**

**Paid Interim Bills:** A **Motion** was made by Supervisor McBurney and seconded by Supervisor Paul to approve the paid interim bills through March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Vote called. **Motion** carries 5-0.

**Current Unpaid Bills:** A **Motion** was made by Supervisor Schreffler and seconded by Supervisor McBurney to approve the unpaid bills through March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Vote called. **Motion** carries 5-0.

**Meeting Minutes:**

**February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes:** A **Motion** was made by Supervisor McBurney and seconded by Supervisor Paul to approve the February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes. Vote called. **Motion** carries 4-0-1. Chairman Bechtel abstained due to being absent February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Regular Meeting.

**Financial Report:** Placed on file for audit later.

**EMC REPORT:**

Chief Tim Neiter was not present but did submit a report for February 2024.

**PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:**

A report was submitted for the Planning Commission meeting that was held on Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Chairman Bechtel advised that the Karki Land Development Plan was tabled until the next Planning Commission meeting scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. The SALDO Terms were made available to review for the next Planning Commission meeting.

**ENGINEER REPORT:**

HRG, Inc. Engineer Alex Greenly was present to cover his report dated March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, on services that occurred during the month of February 2024. Engineer Alex Greenly advised that there was a preconstruction meeting was held with Farhat Excavating on February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**SOLICITOR REPORT:**

Solicitor Warshawsky submitted his report dated March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, services during February 2024. The report will be placed on record. Bold text items are on the agenda.

**Halifax Commons via Phone:** Marc Underberg called during the Board of Supervisors Meeting to advise that PennDOT wishes to put a roundabout at the Triangle. He advised the Board of Supervisors that he would like to request a Scoping Meeting that is considered an Informal Meeting to include one Board Member, Halifax Township Engineer, and Solicitor.

**Camp Hebron Cabins:** No action required as the Original Camp Hebron Cabin Plan was not recorded. So, once the changes have been made to the Original Camp Hebron Plan, the Camp Hebron Plan will be ready for recording once signatures have been obtained.

**ROADMASTER REPORT:**

A report was submitted for February 2024 by Matt Roland, Ryan Malone, and Colton Warfel.

**JCB Grapple:** A **Motion** was made by Supervisor McBurney and seconded by Supervisor Schreffler to authorize the purchase of JCB Grapple in the sum of \$8,200.00 from the Capital Improvement Account. Vote called. **Motion** carries 5-0.

**Road Mower Quotes:** Roadmaster Roland advised the Board of Supervisors that he would like to obtain a few more quotes prior to making a purchase.

**Matamoras Dirt Road Project:** A **Motion** was made by Supervisor McBurney and seconded by Supervisor Paul to approve the advertisement of Matamoras Dirt Road Project Bid Packet in the Penn Live Newspaper. Vote called. **Motion** carries 5-0.

#### **SEO REPORT:**

No report was submitted as there was no work done for the month of February 2024.

#### **FRIENDS OF FORT HALIFAX REPORT:**

Scott Theurer, member of the Friends of Fort Halifax, was present and submitted a report for February 2024.

**Resolution 24-03-2024:** A **Motion** was made by Supervisor McBurney and seconded by Supervisor Paul to dispense with the reading of the Resolution 24-03-2024. Vote called. **Motion** carries 5-0. A **Motion** was made by Supervisor McBurney and seconded by Supervisor Paul to approve the Resolution 24-03-2024. Vote called. **Motion** carries 5-0.

#### **NUISANCE REPORT:**

No discussion or action taken.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE:**

**CD:** A **Motion** was made by Supervisor Schreffler and seconded by Supervisor McBurney to roll the CD over in the initial amount of \$228,384.48 for another three months with a 5.20% APR. Vote called. **Motion** carries 5-0.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Ziegler's Nuisance Complaint:** Halifax Township Solicitor Bruce Warshawsky advised the Board of Supervisors that Ziegler's Nuisance Complaint would be going before the Magisterial District Judge on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Nothing further to discuss.

**Keiffer Road:** No discussion or action taken.

**Public Railroad Crossing:** HRG, Inc. Engineer Alex Greenly is working with Supervisor McBurney to stake out the railroad crossing at Fort Halifax Park.

**Steven Von Bueren:** Steven Von Bueren attended the Board of Supervisors Meeting to further discuss the bill that he received from Halifax Township for Stormwater Inspection done by Herbert, Rowland, & Grubic, Inc., Halifax Township's Engineer Alex Greenly because of a complaint received by Halifax Township Board of Supervisors. An agreement was reached that Mr. Steven Von Bueren would pay \$770.60 (half) after a long discussion of who is responsible for paying the bill and requested a letter stating that he would only owe \$770.60 to Halifax Township.

**Fort Halifax Farmhouse & Barn:** Supervisor McBurney advised Halifax Township residents and the Board of Supervisors that there was a walk through with Dauphin County at Fort Halifax Farmhouse and Barn in the last month. One question that keeps coming up: Does the building envelope and the land for Fort Halifax Park share the same deed or are they subdivided? The Board of Supervisors advised that the land and the building envelope share the same deed with an easement agreement with Dauphin County Conservation District regarding the land at Fort Halifax Park. The Halifax Township Board of Supervisors discussed HRG, Inc. surveying the Fort Halifax Park land and the building envelope to start a subdivision. A **Motion** was made by Supervisor McBurney and seconded by Supervisor Schreffler to approve HRG, Inc. to survey Fort Halifax Park land and building envelope. Vote called. **Motion** carries 5-0.

**Doli 24" pipe:** A **Motion** was made by Supervisor McBurney and seconded by Supervisor Bruner to allow Doli to replace the 24" pipe for a max sum of \$14,000.00. Vote called. **Motion** carries 5-0.

**Brother's Property:** Mr. Geoffrey A. Brother was sent a Pre-Nuisance letter on February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, advising the violation of Nuisance Ordinance 2013-8 Sections 2A and 2B by accumulating junk. It appears that Mr. Geoffrey A. Brother has tried to resolve the matter, so no further action is currently needed by Halifax Township Board of Supervisors.

**America250PA Dauphin County Resolution:** The Board of Supervisors decided that they would like to have more time to discuss America250PA Dauphin County Resolution prior to approving the resolution.

**Mailbox Fee:** The Board of Supervisors feel that the current way that Halifax Township handles reimbursement to residents for the damage to a mailbox if a snowplow hits it works. Why change what is working.

**Solicitation Permits:** Halifax Township Board of Supervisors have found that there really is not a good Solicitation Ordinance or Permit out there because of the Supreme Court (Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York, Inc. v. Village of Stratton), 536 U.S. 150 (2002), held that a municipal ordinance that required individuals to obtain a permit prior to engaging in door-to-door advocacy and to display the permit upon demand violated the First Amendment exercise of free speech and the religious free exercise rights of the canvassers. These constitutional limitations relate to governmental action and not action by private individuals on their property. The Supreme Court has recognized the right of homeowners to state that they do not want any solicitations, whether religious, political, commercial, or otherwise. Private Individuals have the right to prohibit solicitation activities by posting of signage such as "no solicitations" or "solicitation prohibited."

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Sewer Extension Project:** Creek Road, Triangle Manor, and Hill Drive have all been destroyed with the Sewer Extension Project. Who pays for the repairs? State Route 225 will be affected soon with the Sewer Extension Project. Who pays for the repairs on State Route 225? Halifax Township Board of Supervisors have been told that there is not much money allocated for the repairs of the roads affected by the Sewer Extension Project, but Halifax Township will be held responsible for the repairs to State Route 225. Halifax Township Board of Supervisors requested that Halifax Township Solicitor Warshawsky send a letter to Halifax Area Water and Sewer Authority. A Motion was made by Supervisor Bruner and seconded by Supervisor McBurney to have Solicitor Warshawsky to send a letter to Halifax Area Water and Sewer Authority that Halifax Township Board of Supervisors intends to sue them for the millions of dollars in damages done to Halifax Township roads and potentially State Route 225 because Halifax Township holds the Highway Occupancy Permit. Vote called. Motion carries 5-0.

**Ameer Farhat:** Building Inspection Underwriter of Pennsylvania Mike Gensemer advised that Mr. Ameer Farhat would indeed need to obtain a building permit for his Q-Hut since it is more than 1,600 square feet since it does require UCC inspections.

**Halifax Communities That Care:** A Motion was made by Supervisor Bruner and seconded by Supervisor Paul to approve a donation of \$250.00 be made to Halifax Communities That Care. Vote called. Motion carries 5-0.

**Doceo Lease Contract:** A Motion was made by Supervisor Bruner and seconded by Supervisor Paul to approve a new contract to lease a new printer for Halifax Township Administrative Office. Vote called. Motion carries 5-0.

**Upper Dauphin Council of Government & EMS Study:** Halifax Township Board of Supervisor Chairman Bechtel advised Halifax Township residents and the Board of Supervisors that Upper Dauphin COG was awarded \$51,000.00 towards EMS Study in Millersburg and Halifax, Pennsylvania.

**Liquid Fuel Roads:** Halifax Township's Liquid Fuels Tax Fund amount for 2024 \$186,063.07 from Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. The Board of Supervisors would like to use the monies to repair McClellan and Ridge Road.

**LED Light Replacement:** Supervisor Paul informed the Board of Supervisors that he only had one quote. He plans to get a few more quotes. Chairman Bechtel proposed the idea of extending the office out to give more storage area for filing here at the Halifax Township building.

**Penn E&R:** Penn E&R notified Halifax Township that PPL Electric Utilities Corporation intends to rebuild approximately 2.5 miles of existing transmission line to address reliability and operability issues. This rebuild will require work areas on the ground equating to approximately 27.8 acres of disturbance. The transmission line traverses through residential, forested, meadow, agricultural, and utility land areas.

## **AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:**

**Road Mower Quotes**  
**Frank Wilmarth & Letter**  
**Ziegler's Nuisance Complaint**  
**Keiffer Road**  
**Public Railroad Crossing**  
**Fort Halifax Farmhouse & Barn**  
**Brother's Property**  
**America250PA Dauphin County Resolution**  
**LED Light Replacement/Building Extension**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024-Planning Commission Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024-Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024-Spring Cleanup 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024-Spring Cleanup 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024-Spring Cleanup 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (noon)

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

A Motion was made by Supervisor Bruner and seconded by Supervisor Paul to adjourn at 9:44 p.m. Vote called. Motion carries 5-0.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Sara M. Glace**  
**Secretary/Treasurer**