

Patterson Township Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting

November 9, 2017

The Patterson Township Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday, November 9, 2017 at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Complex, 1600 19th Avenue. Following the call to order and Pledge of Allegiance, roll call showed Commissioners Policaro, Inman, Bradow, Hoover and Mahosky present.

Minutes: The minutes and the deletion of the electronic recorded minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, October 12, 2017 were presented for approval. Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Mahosky approving as presented. Passed unanimous.

Public Comment/Visitors: Mr. Nate Biernesser, 135 Chippewa Drive, Beaver Falls, presented his plans for an Eagle Scout project to the Board. Mr. Biernesser explained the project is to reopen one of the trails in the Patterson Township Park. Mr. Biernesser believes the trail is currently closed due to eleven (11) trees lying across the trail and three (3) bridges needing maintenance. Mr. Biernesser presented pictures of the bridges needing repair. The first bridge will have three (3) supports and cement placed to hold the bridge in place and a hand rail added on the left side. The second bridge the ground underneath has collapsed and the bridge is currently on an angle. Mr. Biernesser stated he would like to place some extensions onto the existing foundation and place concrete down with some braces to secure the additions to the concrete and also place handrails on both sides of the bridge. Mr. Mahosky questioned how the concrete would be delivered to the site(s). Mr. Biernesser explained this will be done by man power. He has volunteers from his church and scout troop willing to help and a contractor who is willing to be on site to ensure everything is secure and as safe as possible. The third bridge needs a new handrail on the left side and a support due to an inch distance between the ground and one of the current supports. Mr. Biernesser stated while the construction is going on with the bridges he will have a patrol to clear the trails through the entire park, any twigs or anything bigger than your thumb will be brushed off the trail and will mark the trails with trail markers. The current trail markers are very difficult to decipher. Once that is complete, there will be volunteers cutting the trees using chainsaws to clear them out of the path to reopen the trail. Mr. Mahosky questioned whether he anticipated working on the steps. Mr. Biernesser stated they are not currently part of the plan, but acknowledged the steps are significant and hopefully in the future, with fellow scouts and their Eagle projects, work could be done on this along with additional railings and the overlook. Mr. Biernesser stated he would be starting this project on November 18, 2017 and finishing on November 25, 2017, planning on having everything completed on November 18, 2017 but if needed returning on November 25, 2017 to finish. Mr. Mahosky questioned the cost of the project. Mr. Biernesser explained the estimated cost, if they purchase everything, would be \$550.00. He is looking for donations from Home Depot to defray the cost. Thanks was extended from the Board for Mr. Biernesser's time and efforts in improving our park. Motion made by Mr. Hoover to purchase trail markers to be used for this project up to \$200.00, seconded by Mr. Mahosky. Passed unanimously.

Public Hearing: none

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report for the General Fund, Sewer Fund and PLGIT Accounts were presented by Mrs. Keller. There being no questions or comments, motion was made by Mr. Hoover; seconded by Mr. Mahosky accepting the report as presented. Passed unanimously.

Monthly Bills: The monthly bills for October/November were submitted for payment. Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Hoover approving payment. Passed unanimously.

Engineer's Report: Mr. Larry Lennon presented his monthly report regarding the following items:

MS4 Program – no change.

19th Avenue Storm Sewer Extension – still pending.

Meeting Room Wall Map – still pending.

2016 Darlington Road Sidewalk Construction – the contractor was notified, the complaint remains outstanding and no follow up has been received from the contractor.

Community Park Improvements – Three available park grants were presented: Beaver County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), DCNR Park Rehabilitation and Development, and CFA Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP). The township has applied for the GTRP grant in the past for the park. There are different local match requirements: DCNR at 50%, GTRP at 15%, and CDGB typically does not have a local match but it is recommended to show a match when a grant is submitted.

Spinnenweber Property Subdivision – currently working on preparing a subdivision for the December Commissioners meeting.

Solicitor's Report: Mr. Ken Fawcett presented his monthly report regarding the following items:

Mr. Fawcett requested formal action on for the revision of the sewer ordinance to maintain the 5% penalty and assess a \$25.00 posting fee on any bills sixty (60) days overdue. Motion made by Mr. Inman, seconded by Mahosky. Passed unanimously upon a roll call vote.

Social Media Policy – still pending.

Numbering of Buildings – still pending.

Fire Hall Rental Guidelines – still pending.

Highland Avenue Property Update – Mrs. Hurst stated the title search was conducted through American General and it came back clean. Everything has been sent to the Blackhawk School

Board as they have to approve the sale. Mrs. Hurst stated she has sent the information along with the petition for the purchase to the business manager, who advised he would present the information to the Board and let Mrs. Hurst know if she needs to be in attendance at the next school board meeting held on November 21, 2017.

Mr. Mahosky questioned the Solicitor as to the liability insurance regarding having the Boy Scouts working in our township park. Mr. Fawcett explained Mrs. Keller has been in touch with the township insurance carrier and the understanding is the volunteers would not be covered under the township workers compensation as they are not employees of the township; for general liability purposes the insurance agency advised if something happened to someone else as a result of the work being done that scenario would be covered. Mr. Fawcett stated the conditions the Boy Scouts are working on are things that are in deteriorating condition and falling down. Any improvement they make is better, but then once it is improved it is the township's property. Mr. Hoover stated regardless of whether a licensed contractor make the improvements, once the improvements are made the township is liable for the condition of the park. Mr. Mahosky explained, as a Board, a decision needs to be made to move forward with the project or have the items removed all together. Motion made to approve the park project as presented by the Eagle Scout by Mr. Mahosky, seconded by Mr. Inman. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Policaro questioned if Mr. Biernesser incurs expenses is the township going to reimburse him. Mr. Hoover explained, it is his experience in dealing with the Eagle Scouts, as part of the project they are responsible for soliciting donations and funding the project. He is responsible to submit a financial statement to his Troop Master and present a fundraising plan. He is also responsible for presenting before and after pictures of the project.

Mr. Fawcett brought to the attention of the Board the officer involved best practices policy questioning if this was reviewed. Chief Stanislawski stated he has reviewed this and would like to discuss at a future date.

Committee Reports: Fire – Mr. Hoover presented the following reports:

Mr. Hoover reviewed the October fire calls with a total of 16 calls in the amount of \$384.50. Mr. Hoover motioned for payment; seconded by Mr. Mahosky. Passed unanimously.

Emergency Management Position – still pending.

Active 911 Software – Mr. Hoover advised in speaking with the Fire Chief, they will move forward with purchasing the Active 911 Software after the first of the year.

Rescue Truck Preventative Maintenance – Mr. Hoover advised the work on the rescue truck has been completed in the amount of \$2,490.00 which was approved at the September meeting.

Pumper Truck Refurbishment – Mr. Hoover advised the fire department is currently looking at used and new fire trucks and the value of our current truck in regards to trade in value and private sale. Mr. Hoover advised they hope to hold discussions with the Board after the first of the year.

Fire Department Roof – Mr. Hoover stated additional money was put into the budget for repairs made to the fire department roof.

Parks/Recreation/Finance – Mr. Mahosky presented the following items:

Mr. Mahosky reiterated the Scout project to address some of the issues at the park.

At Mr. Mahosky's request, Mrs. Keller proceeded with the first reading of the 2018 General and Sewer Fund Budget(s). She noted the changes in the 2017 General Fund Budget (income/expenditures) verses what is being proposed for 2018.

- 2017 Income: \$1,328,888.00 2018 Income: \$1,340,751.00
- 2017 Expenditures: \$1,456,366.44 2018 Expenditures: \$1,465,497.00

The difference (cash carryover) is currently \$124,746.00, which is the amount needed to balance the General Fund budget on December 31, 2017.

Mrs. Keller also noted the changes in the 2017 Sewer Fund Budget (income/expenditures) verses what is being proposed for 2017.

- 2017 Income: \$654,100.00 2018 Income: \$654,100.00
- 2017 Expenditures: \$713,400.00 2018 Expenditures: \$685,800.00

The difference (cash carryover) is currently \$31,700.00, which is the amount needed to balance the Sewer Fund budget on December 31, 2017.

Mr. Bradow stated he had a couple questions on the budget and would stop by the Township Secretary's office to review.

Motion made to pass the first reading of the budget by Mr. Mahosky, seconded by Mr. Inman. Passed unanimously.

Motion to advertise the proposed 2018 budget by Mr. Hoover, seconded by Mr. Inman. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Policaro gave a proposed date of Friday, December 22, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. to hold the end of year meeting at the Township Office.

Public Works – Mr. Inman presented the following items:

Spinnenweber Property Donation. – Mr. Inman advised the family of Mr. Spinnenweber has agreed to donate the entire lot and a piece of property on the back of the lot where the stream runs through. Mr. Inman advised he has sent the maps to Lennon, Smith, and Soulerett Engineering.

Maintenance Truck Purchase – Mr. Inman advised there have been multiple issues with the current maintenance truck. Mr. Inman stated he has received bids from multiple CoStars vendors on the pricing of purchasing a new truck, the lowest bid being Baierl Ford/U.S. Municipal including the truck, snow plow, lighting, and all of the different attributes being \$43,349.00. Mr. Hoover questioned if the current truck is still running. Mr. Inman stated it is currently running, but it is smoking when started and is afraid it will not pass inspection. Mr. Hoover questioned if the engine

has been looked at by anyone. Mr. Inman stated the truck was looked at and it was estimated at \$6,000 for repair without a guarantee on the repairs. Mr. Bradow questioned if the \$6,000 was spent to repair the truck, would it be in good working order. Mr. Inman stated it would not, due to the truck being fourteen (14) years old and there would be no guarantee. Mr. Bradow questioned if the other mechanical parts are in good working condition. Mr. Inman replied the truck is worn out. A discussion was held on repairing the truck verses purchasing a new truck.

Motion to purchase the truck from Bairel Ford/U.S. Municipal for \$43,349.00 and pay from the Sewer Maintenance Fund, seconded by Mr. Hoover. On a roll call vote; 4 ayes, 1 nay (Bradow).

Ordinances/Policies – Mr. Bradow presented the following items:

Act 172 – Tax Credit for Volunteer Fireman – still pending.

Replacement of Doors – Mr. Bradow stated he is pursuing the replacement of the front door of the Municipal Building. The repair or replacement of the men’s room door will be put on hold until the beginning of the new year. Mr. Bradow stated he has contacted two (2) companies to look at the main door; Skerlec Contracting from Monaca and Beaver Valley Remodeling from New Brighton. Mr. Bradow stated the Police Chief has contacted another agency to quote replacement or repair of the main door. Mr. Bradow stated he will obtain quotes on both a glass door and a metal door.

Mr. Bradow advised there is a fireworks law the governor signed to allow municipalities to sell and use fireworks. Meetings are being held, but not near Patterson Township. Mr. Bradow is requesting the Board to contact Bob Kellner who is conducting the meetings to request a meeting at the Park Inn in Beaver Falls.

Mr. Bradow advised the Senate is to be voting in November on a bill to allow local police to use radar. Mr. Bradow requested a letter be sent to our local Senator requesting they vote to approve this bill.

Mr. Bradow stated the storage shed in the quarry has been leaking, bids for repair were received. Mr. Cipolla was requested to put roof tar on the roof as a temporary fix. Permanent repair of the roof will be discussed at a later date.

Mr. Policaro requested Mr. Marzano, who was in the audience, to submit a bid if he is interested in pursuing the replacement of the front door.

Code Enforcement – Mr. Morrow submitted his September report for review. No comments or questions were asked.

Police/Township Office/COG – Mr. Policaro presented the following items:

Police Report for October 2017 - No comments or questions were asked.

Motion was made by Mr. Inman; seconded by Mr. Mahosky approving **all** Committee Reports as presented. Passed unanimous.

Unfinished Business: None presented

Township Agencies: None

Communications: None

New/Miscellaneous Business: The quarterly transfer from the Sewer Account to the Patterson Township Municipal Authority for the loan payment was presented. Motion made by Mr. Inman, seconded by Mr. Hoover approving payment of \$26,976.57 to PTMA. Passed unanimously.

The lease payment to Patterson Township Municipal Authority in the amount of \$5,000 was presented. Motion made by Mr. Inman, seconded by Mr. Mahosky approving payment to PTMA. Passed unanimously.

Invoices were received from Hallett Associates for the actuarial services performed in 2017. The amounts, \$11,025.00 for Non-Uniform and \$10,675.00 for Police were approved to be paid on motion by Mr. Inman. Seconded by Mr. Mahosky. Passed unanimously.

Invoice was received from Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners (PSATC) for the 2018 dues in the amount of \$1,337.65. Motion to pay made by Mr. Inman, seconded by Mr. Mahosky. Passed unanimously.

Executive Session: None needed

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, motion was made by Mr. Inman to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Hoover the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Rebecca A. Keller
Township Secretary

Copy: Kenneth G. Fawcett, Esq.
Larry Lennon, Jr., P.E.
Board of Commissioners