

Patterson Township Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
March 12, 2020

The Patterson Township Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 7:11 pm at the Municipal Complex, 1600 19th Avenue. Following the call to order and Pledge of Allegiance, roll call showed the following Commissioners were present; Commissioner Inman, Commissioner Hoover, Commissioner Wagoner, and Commissioner Bartoe. Commissioner DeLuca was absent.

Minutes: The minutes and the deletion of the electronic recorded minutes of the meetings held on Thursday, February 13, 2020 were presented for approval. Motion was made by Commissioner Wagoner; seconded by Commissioner Hoover approving as presented. Passed unanimously.

Public Hearing: None

Public Comment/Visitors:

Randy Eckelberger- 57 Old Oak Drive—Came to the Board to discuss where residents can put yard debris such as grass clippings. Commissioner Inman advised that at this time there is no plan with regard to a place for residents to place yard waste. He advised that the Township is continuing to look into options for composting to obtaining dumpsters to put yard debris in. Resident advised he has been waiting for 2 years for a plan to be put into place and requested a call from Commissioner DeLuca who was absent from the meeting.

Resident also came to address trees that he believes are on Township Property as they are in the right of way for the Road. Mr. Eckelberger believes that the trees are creating an unsafe condition. He requests that the Township take a look at these trees on S. Old Oak drive along his property and consider removing them. Commissioner Inman advised that the Township will look into this.

Mr. Eckelberger also requested that the Township replace the street sign for South Old Oak Drive at the corner of S. Old Oak Drive and 8th Street. Commissioner Hoover made a motion to supply a street sign for S. Old Oak Drive to be installed at the intersection of S. Old Oak drive and 8th Street; seconded by Commissioner Bartoe as presented, Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report for the General Fund, Sewer Fund and PLGIT accounts were presented by Secretary Christin Milnes. A motion was made by Commissioner Hoover; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner accepting the report as presented. Passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wagoner advised the board that March is when money from the Township's WesBanco into the investment accounts at PLGIT. The current balance in the WesBanco General Fund is \$603,734.31 and the current balance of the WesBanco Sewer account is \$193,040.20. Discussion was held on past practices of moving funds to PLGIT. Commissioner Wagoner suggested that at this time only a transfer from the General fund be made. Secretary Christin Milnes recommend to move a \$150,000.00 to the PLGIT Prime and \$250,000.00 to the PLGIT Term October account. Commissioner Wagoner made a motion to allow Secretary Milnes to move funds from WesBanco General Fund to the PLGIT general account seconded by Commissioner Bartoe, passed unanimously.

Monthly Bills: The monthly bills for February/March were submitted for payment. Motion was made by Commissioner Wagoner; seconded by Commissioner Hoover approving payment. Passed unanimously.

Engineer's Report: *Mr. Ned Mitrovich*, presented his monthly report regarding the following items:

MS4 Program –Next progress report due September 2020. Mock Inspection will be held with Township staff in the coming months. Staff training and mock inspection to be completed on March 13. Annual MS4 training will be held at the April Commissioners meeting.

PA Small Water and Sewer Program Grant: Application was filed for funding consideration awaiting results.

2020 Road Program: Road bids are set to be opened at the April Commissioners meeting, the scope of the 2020 Road program will include the remainder of St. Andrews drive and Fairway drive.

US Census Boundary and Annexation Survey: updated boundary lines were submitted to the US Census to correct current Boundary lines.

Chapter 94 Sewage Questionnaires: the questionnaires are being finalized for submission to Brady's Run and Beaver Falls Municipal Authority. Discussion was held on the questionnaires, the DEP is requesting more and more detail every year. The Township should expect this to continue moving forward.

Solicitor's Report: *Mrs. Sherri Hurst*- presented the following report:

Ordinance 472- Attorney Hurst advised the Board will need to make a motion and pass this ordinance which updates the Township code to make the new "No Left Turn" signs enforceable on Highland Ave. A motion was made by Commissioner Hoover to adopt Ordinance 472 seconded by commissioner Bartoe. Pass unanimously.

Committee Reports: Public Safety –

Commissioner Inman presented the following reports:

Police Report– Police Chief Stanislawski submitted his February report for review. No comments or questions were asked.

Commissioner Inman advised that is seeking a motion to increase the pay rate for the part time Police officer steps as follows ; increase step 1 from \$16.36 to \$18.00 increase Step 2 from \$17.21 to \$19.00 and increase step 3 from \$18.99 to \$20.00 Motion was made by Commissioner Bartoe to increase the part time Police Officer hourly pay rate as follows: increase step 1 from \$16.36 to \$18.00 increase Step 2 from \$17.21 to \$19.00 and increase step 3 from \$18.99 to \$20.00, seconded by Commissioner Wagoner under discussion Commissioner Hoover asked if any investigation was complete into what other municipalities are paying their part time officers, Commissioner Inman advised that he had reached out to the neighboring municipalities, however did not have a written report. Commissioner Wagoner asked Chief to confirm how long the

probationary period is, Chief Stanislawski advised the Probationary period is 1 year. Roll call vote; Commissioner Hoover no, as he does not believe he has enough information; Commissioner Wagoner yes, Commissioner Bartoe Yes, Commissioner Inman Yes, passes.

Commissioner Inman requested a motion for the Chief to offer one part time officer a guaranteed 32 hours per week to fill the current void for staffing. Ren Bartoe make motion to give the chief authority to offer one part time officer a guaranteed 32 hour a week with the contingency that Patterson Township has the priority in scheduling over any other employer seconded by Commissioner Hoover under discussion Commissioner Hoover asked why it was necessary to make a motion on this; Chief advised that currently the Part time positions are on an 'as needed' basis and if this is approved there may be times when there was more than one officer on shift to fill the hours which were guaranteed. Commissioner Wagoner advised that based on her review of the schedules there is not currently 32 hours a week which are available, Chief is seeking permission to schedule more than one officer per shift to stay within budgetary limits. Commissioner Hoover asked if this 32 hour guarantee would fill all the current open shifts as well as provide additional patrols within the Township, if so how will the current part time police offers be affected, Chief Stanislawski advised that the current part time officer would continue to be used on a 'as needed' basis. Chief Stanislawski also advised that he believes that if the board does not offer a position with guarantees hours we will need to have a new civil service list completed as the Township, as is other municipalities are struggling to find part time Police officers. Pass unanimously.

Commissioner Inman requested a motion to approve the payment of unused sick days for officer Girting. Motion was made by Commissioner Wagoner to approve payment for 13 unused sick days to Officer Girting seconded by Commissioner Hoover pass unanimously.

Commissioner Bartoe presented the following reports:

Commissioner Bartoe advised that the Lenten Fish Fry's began on February 28th and will continue until April 10th.

Commissioner Bartoe advised that the Merger discussions are still in the discussion stages, Commissioner Bartoe will meet with Commissioner Hoover, and the chiefs from both departments to continue discussions, at this time there has been no discussions with the Borough of Patterson Heights.

After 35 years of service Chief Frank Policaro III resigned as Fire Chief and moved to Active Retired membership as he is moving out of the township. Commissioner Bartoe requested that Board of Commissioners send him a letter of appreciation for his dedicated service to the Fire Department for 35 years. As a result of this retirement the Officers of the fire department have selected the following members as officers: Chief Phil Graeser, Assistant Chief Tyler Crognale, First Captain: Hank Crognale, Second Captain Sean Stiefel Commissioner Bartoe made a motion to send a letter of appreciated and to accept the new officer , seconded by Commissioner Hoover pass unanimously.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bartoe to accept new membership application from Dakota Scheidweiler as an active member in the Fire Department, seconded by Commissioner Hoover pass unanimously.

February fire calls with a total of 16 calls in the amount of \$573.63. Commissioner Bartoe motioned for payment; seconded by Commissioner Hoover. Passed unanimously.

Motion was made by commissioner Bartoe to pay Witmer Public Safety bill in the amount of \$28.00 for a hose adapter, seconded by Commissioner Hoover pass unanimously.

Motion was made by commissioner Bartoe to pay Marecic Mechanical Repair bill in the amount of \$463.17 for truck maintenance to Engine 90, seconded by Commissioner Hoover pass unanimously.

Commissioner Bartoe advised the Board the Engine 90 will need to go out for refurbishment as it is 20 years old and needs a number of NFPA upgrades as well as some body work. The NFPA upgrades include: updated LED lighting, new safety bumpers, updated reflective markings, new directional arrows, removal of rust and new paint and lettering. Motion was made to put the refurbishment of Engine 90 out for bid made by Commissioner Bartoe seconded by Commissioner Wagoner pass unanimously.

Public Works/Building & Grounds/Zoning/Land Use/Refuse/Recycling – Commissioner DeLuca presented the following report:

No report

Administration/ Finance/ Recreation and Community Life – Commissioner Wagoner presented the following report:

No report for administration or Finance.

Commissioner Wagoner made the following report with regard to Recreation and Community Life

Commissioner Wagoner advised that she has received all of the information regarding the survey which we provided to the Township for the Lowman's property as well as the estimate received from the Engineers, at this time she believes the Real Estate agreement will address the resident's current concerns and will allow the Township to explore options after she is able to walk to park and determine where the markers are at and see what repairs and maintenance is needed. Once the Walkthrough is completed she will reach out to the Boy Scouts and the North county trail organization to seek assistance with completing the repairs and maintenance.

Government Affairs/ COG/ Civil Service – Commissioner Hoover presented the following report:

Commissioner Hoover advised with regard the Civil Service, the Civil Service Commission has met and completed its reorganization, the group selected Bert Robinson as its president and Scott Weyman as the Secretary. Randy Eckelberger is the remaining active member and Bill Wagoner and Hank Mahosky will remain as alternate members. There currently is one opening for an alternate member. Once the Reorganization was completed the Commission did vote and provided a certified list to the Board of Commissioners. The list contained the following ranking: number one: Shane Finnin Number two Kyli Hermick; Number three Bryan Borghi. A copy of this list was provide to the Township Secretary and the President of the Board. Commissioner Hoover made a motion to certify the list and for the chief to move forward with background investigation stage of the hiring process. Seconded by Commissioner Bartoe pass unanimously.

Code Enforcement – Monthly Report for February was submitted for review. No comments or questions were asked.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wagoner; seconded by Commissioner Hoover approving **all** Committee Reports as presented. Passed unanimous.

Unfinished Business:

Commissioner Inman advised the Board that the Allegheny League of Municipalities spring conference has been canceled.

Township Agencies: none

Communications:

Letter- Beaver County District Attorney Office- re Beaver County Law Enforcement and Youth Forum Motion was made by commissioner Bartoe to allow Chief Stanislawski to attend the Forum seconded by Commissioner Hoover pass unanimously.

Invitation- PA State Association of Boroughs- 2020 PA Municipal updates in Hershey Aug 5 &6 \$275/person

New/Miscellaneous Business:

Sewer Fund – Joint Sewer Transfer- Quarterly Payment - \$61,251.84 to Joint Sewer Users: motion made by Commissioner Wagoner; seconded by Commissioner Hoover. Passed unanimously.

Executive Session: Executive session from 8:15pm-8:30 pm

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, motion was made by Commissioner Hoover to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Christin Lyn Milnes

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