

The meeting of the Douglass Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:15 P.M. Attending were Chairman Josh Stouch, Vice Chairman Tom Wynne, Supervisor Alan Keiser, Solicitor Robert Brant, Jamie Magaziner of MCPC, Pete Hiryak, Mike Heydt, Andrew Duncan, Chief Templin, and approximately 6 residents/developers.

Mr. Stouch led in the Pledge of Allegiance. A reporter was present at this evenings meeting. Mr. Stouch announced that an Executive Session was held tonight prior to the meeting from approximately 6:00pm to 7:15pm involving real estate and personnel matters. No decisions or votes were taken.

Mr. Stouch asked if there were any additions, corrections, or comments to the minutes of September 21st, 2020 Board of Supervisors Meeting, none were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Wynne, seconded by Mr. Keiser to approve the minutes of the September 21st, 2020 Board of Supervisors Meeting. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Wynne-Aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Stouch asked if there were any questions, comments, or corrections to the October 5th, 2020 Board of Supervisors Agenda, none were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Keiser, seconded by Mr. Wynne to approve the October 5th, 2020 Board of Supervisors Agenda as presented. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Wynne-Aye. Motion passed.

Landscape Ordinance Presentation – Jamie Magaziner, MCPC

Ms. Magaziner gave a brief overview of the Landscape Ordinance. The ordinance rewrite was initiated to bring Douglass Township's Landscape Ordinance up to date and provide protections against the impacts of development on other lands and will also help the Township to ensure aesthetic consistency in development of all kinds and to visually improve properties while protecting water quality and providing other ecological services. This draft was reviewed by two landscape architects at the County. Several definitions were added to help minimize conflict in the ordinance to clearly define the intent to be understood. Updates to buffer requirements defining Softening Buffers, Filtering Buffers, and Screening Buffers. Updates to Parking Lot Landscaping were made with interior planning requirements, and additional parking lot standards. This draft also includes an updated planting list, reviewed and edited by landscape architects. It also incorporates language which permits the Board of Supervisors to approve any changes to the list by resolution as an alternative to an ordinance amendment. The invasive/noxious species plant list has been updated to refer to the DCNR's list, which provides a more up to date list than what can be provided in ordinance. These changes will ensure that any necessary updates can be made quickly, without having to go through the ordinance amendment process. Mr. Wynne thanked Ms. Magaziner and the Planning Agency for all the hard work put into this ordinance. The manager stated that Mr. Brant's office has reviewed this proposed ordinance and requires authorization for advertisement from the Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Mr. Keiser to give Mr. Brant's office authorization to advertise the proposed Landscape Ordinance. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Wynne-Aye. Motion passed.

Solicitor's Report – Robert Brant, Esq.

Fire Company Building & Property Update – Mr. Brant stated that he submitted a letter to the Board listing the steps that may be necessary to effectuate the transfer of property from Douglass Township to Gilbertville Fire and Rescue Company. A lot consolidation plan will need to be formally filed with the Township for review and approval, following approval it will need to be recorded at the Montgomery County Recorder of Deeds along with a Deed of Consolidation. Following the recording, a Deed will need to be recorded conveying the property from the Township to the Fire Company containing a provision that in the event the property is no longer used by the volunteer Fire Company it will revert to the Township. The Township can waive the filing of a formal land development plan for the construction of the new fire station, however a formal request for a waiver should be

submitted and the Board of Supervisors would need to act on it, Township Engineer Khal Hassan would review any plans for construction. Prior to any recording of a Deed to the Fire Company it will be necessary for a lease to be prepared and executed by the Fire Company and the Township providing for the lease of the Police Department space. The Fire Company will be obtaining construction financing and I recommend that they obtain independent counsel to represent them in connection with the construction loan closing and he also recommends to fill out application to fast track the process. Chief Duncan stated that he will discuss this with the GF&R Executive Board at their meeting tomorrow night.

2021 Emergency Service Tax Resolution (EMS .1mill & Fire .3mill) for BOS review – Mr. Stouch stated that the Board is considering proposing an Emergency Service Tax Resolution (EMS .1 mill and Fire .3 mill) for Fire & Ambulance services in our Township and he asked Manager Hiryak to put together the numbers on what it would cost each taxpayer. Mr. Stouch also asked the Fire Company and Ambulance to put together a presentation for the public to inform them of what this money would be used for. Chief Duncan and Chief Schmoltze stated that they would gather the information. No questions were given on the Solicitor Report.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Mr. Wynne to accept the Solicitor's Report as presented. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Wynne-Aye. Motion passed.

Manager's Report - Pete Hiryak

1. The Manager reviewed the upcoming meetings as follows: Thursday, October 8th, 2020 P/A Meeting @ 7pm, No Workshop, Act 209 Committee on 11/12/2020 the manager will contact members, Monday, October 19th, 2020 BOS Agenda Meeting @ 6:30pm, BOS Meeting @ 7pm.
2. Douglass Township Voting Locations for the General Election on Tuesday, November 3rd, 2020
District #1 – Remains at Shepherd of The Hills Church, 527 Hoffmansville Rd., Bechtelsville PA 19505
District #2 – (Formerly E.C. Trinity Church) Changed to Shepherd of The Hills Church, 527 Hoffmansville Rd, Bechtelsville PA 19505
Districts #3 & #4 – (Formerly Gilbertsville Fire Company) Changed to Tri-County Bible Church, 142 Buchert Rd, Gilbertsville PA 19525

Mr. Stouch and the Manager stated that parking will be directed and authorization has been given to notify the Fire Police for traffic control at both sites, voting location changes have been posted on the Township Website and will be posted on Social Media.

3. PARRC Agreement & Ordinance advertised for 10/19/2020 – Mr. Brant's office has reviewed the agreement. No questions or comments were given on the Manager's Report.

A motion was made by Mr. Wynne, seconded by Mr. Keiser to accept the Manager's Report as presented. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Wynne-Aye. Motion passed.

Public Comment

No public comment was given.

Old Business/New Business

Mr. Stouch presented the Emergency Management Coordinator Andrew Duncan with the EMS Training & Certification Award for Douglass Township. Mr. Stouch stated that this completes FEMA requirements for Local, State, & Federal EMS training. The Board extended their appreciation to Mr. Duncan for this achievement. No other old business/new business was given.

A motion was made by Mr. Wynne, seconded by Mr. Stouch to adjourn the meeting at 7:43pm. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Wynne-Aye. Motion passed.

The next Board of Supervisor's Meeting will be held on Monday, October 19th, 2020 @ 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Marcy Meitzler