

MEETING GENERALITIES:

The Forks Township Board of Supervisors met in a Regular Meeting at the Municipal Building, 1606 Sullivan Trail, Easton, Pennsylvania on his date with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members present were:

John O'Neil Chairman
Dan Martyak, Vice Chairman
Erik Chuss, Secretary/Treasurer
Ed Moore, Supervisor
Brian Frey, Supervisor

Others Present:

John V. Cornell, Township Manager
Steve Kramer, Public Works Director
James Farley, Finance Director
Lisa Pereia, Solicitor
Sean Policelli, Township Engineer
Greg Dorney, Police Chief
Chuck Gallagher, Fire Chief
Barb Bartek, Human Resource Manager

Absent:

Tim Weis, Building & Zoning Officer
Rachel Sulzbach, Parks & Recreation Director

Public Comment: None

Chairman O'Neil called the meeting to order and asked if there was any public comment for non-agenda items, being non-Mr. O'Neil asked for Supervisor Comments.

Vice Chairman Martyak questioned the process for addressing blighted properties, Mr. Cornell explained the enforcement process and noted Northampton County has enacted blight task force and further noted 2 properties in the Township were referred to the task force.

Secretary Treasurer Chuss then reminded the Board and public of the May 18, 2019 Amp Up the Art and encouraged everyone to attend, Mr. Chuss also thanked the township staff for their assistance with the event.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:

1. Gerrymandering Resolution discussion

On April 4th Mr. Richard Taylor requested the opportunity discuss a resolution regarding gerrymandering, the Board will discuss passing of the such a resolution.

Mr. Cornell reminded everyone this issue had been discussed at the April work session but due the fact of not a full board and other pressing matters, discussion was tabled to this evening. It was noted Mr. Taylor was present if there were any questions, Mr. Chuss noted he had reached out to the Pa State Senator Scavello who has spoken Senator Bascola and they are aware of the effort. Erik suggested adding reference to the joint effort. Mr. Moore asked to change the language to di-politized versus impartial. Following discussion, it was agreed the Solicitor would prepare the resolution for consideration at the May 16, 2019 meeting

2. Plastic Bag and Straw Regulation discussion

Continue discussion will take place on the suggestion of passing an ordinance to prohibit the use of plastic bags and plastic straws.

Mr. Cornell reminded the Board and public of the prior discussions began when Ms. Kelly Keegan presented last month. Discussion took place regarding listening to business community, the Forks Business Association and encouraging the State to pass legislation for the issue.

3. Surface Pro Tablets for Board of Supervisors discussion

Discussion will take place regarding possibly using the devices for the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Farley opened the discussion and explained the current Board iPad's and the need to upgrade in conjunction with the overall computer upgrades. Discussion took place regarding warranties, and cost and budgeting. The Board responded favorably and were satisfied.

At this time Chairman O'Neil noted Mr. Martyak had suggested the meeting move to department head reports so the staff may leave, by way of motion vote all in favor the motion passed.

4. Department Head Roundtable

- **Township Manager: Sewer capacity Wilson Borough looking sell capacity 500,000 gpd.**
- **Township Engineer: GP Permit Ritchey Hill received, ready to plan construction**
- **Finance Director: GFOA Conference and forecasting**
- **Township Solicitor: Hearing on liquor license**
- **Human Resource Manager: nothing to add**
- **Public Works Director: Rescue truck sold for \$40,000.00, recycling front end loader, and yard grinding**
- **Police Chief: Cameras in vehicle update and body cameras are coming via grants**
- **Zoning Officer: Not present**
- **Fire Chief: Not present**
- **Recreation: Not present**

5. Apartment ordinance continued discussion

On April 18, 2019 the Board agreed to table action of a possible zoning ordinance amendment to ad Use B10 in the EC district. Continued discussion will take place on the potential ordinance.

The solicitor explained this is not a hearing, but an opportunity for additional discussion on the suggested apartment ordinance. Each of the Board members shared their thoughts on the history, and what information they were looking for as part of the decision-making process. Topics discussed were school district impact, traffic, airplanes, litigation outcomes, options of what the township might get instead of apartments, recommendations and planning commission input, loss of control,

Meeting adjourned 9:24 pm

Minutes prepared by John V Cornell without benefit of recordation.