

**FORKS TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Northampton County, Pennsylvania**

**REGULAR MEETING
March 15, 2018**

MEETING GENERALITIES:

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

Board Members present were:

John O'Neil, Chairman
Erik Chuss, Vice Chairman
Ed Moore, Supervisor
Robert Egolf, Secretary/Treasurer

Others Present:

John V. Cornell, Township Manager
Steve Kramer, Public Works Director
James Farley, Finance Director
Wendy Nicolosi, Solicitor
Sean Policelli, Township Engineer
Chuck Gallagher, Fire Chief
Tim Weis, Building & Zoning Official
Greg Dorney, Police Chief

Absent

Dan Martyak, Supervisor
Rachel Sulzbach, Parks & Recreation Director
Barb Bartek, Human Resource Manager

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS BOARD MEETINGS:

Minutes of February 1, 2018 Work Session Meeting

Voted: 3-1 Abstain (John O'Neil)

Minutes of February 15, 2018 Regular Meeting

One correction on Page 2, line 3 – "3 openings for the position" correct to "1 opening, 3 being interviewed"
Page 3 line 15 & 16 – "other colleagues conquer with the exception of Supervisor Chuss who is opposed to the entire project" correct to "Supervisor Chuss is not opposed to entire project, he is opposed to the project as presented"

Voted: 3-1 Abstain (John O'Neil)

Minutes March 18, 2018 Work Session

Number Correction for Waste Water vote was called, and it was 5-0

Voted: 4-0

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Any public comments for non-agenda items:

Frank Albarico, 1331 Briarwood Lane. Better communication rather than the electrical sign. Steve Kramer stated the township implemented a NIXEL system which is automated for communication via text message, email or voice. Information is on website on how to register and on the Public Works Facebook page. Mr. Albarico suggested to put on the next quarterly Township Newsletter. Steve also stated there will be a mailing for the next billing cycle for the utility bill that will have a flyer with the information.

Supervisor comments: None

Planning Commission:

Tim Weiss, Building & Zoning Official:- The next Workshop Planning Commission will be working on computer system, sidewalk and curbing deferrals. More information forth coming

Recreation Board: - None

FBA:

March 14th the most recent meeting, given a list of upcoming events one particular event on April 11th, we will be doing the State of the Township at the Riverview Estates anyone interested can sign up through the Chamber to attend. Normal monthly reports and working of various projects.

Ribbon cuttings coming up in township - Children's Dental Health on April 7th and the Lessons Center both at Park Plaza,

April 13th is Casino Night for the FBA and Palmer PIB at the Palmer Legion Hall.

June 14th Easton awards reception at the State Theatre for the Center of the Arts

Treasurer's Report: Bob Egolf, Secretary/Treasurer – 2 motions

Total Outstanding Debt.....\$7,335,000.00

		<u>3/1/2018</u>	<u>3/15/2018</u>
General Fund	\$	199,190.83	197,574.97
Real state Tax	\$		370,709.69
State Liquid Fuels	\$	16,905.84	7,703.24
Utility Fund	\$	9,692.34	145,848.05
Escrow Fund	\$		39,053.36

Bob Egolf made a motion to approve the March 1, 2018 payment; seconded Ed Moore

Vote Called: 4-0

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Bob Egolf made a motion to approve the March 15, 2018 payment; seconded Erik Chuss

Vote Called: 4-0

OLD BUSINESS

1. 2T's Land Development Approval Consideration

Individuals present for 2T's - Lou Ferone, Engineer & Advisor and Attorney Douglas Tasick

Project is for a close loop go cart track on the north side of the property. Eliminating the driving range and the Par 3 course is officially closed.

Looking for waivers and referrals from the board. Go through engineer's letter Feb 15th, page 2

1) Preliminary final and request waiver from receiving preliminary approval and making final approval.

2) Waiver from requirement for development agreement. Limited amount of development taking place.

Solicitor stated they have no secure improvements, so no reason, but should have a . Storm Water Covenant of record.

3) Carbonate Geology Analysis by a specialist – township engineer agreed it is not necessary since they aren't doing storm water.

4) Road widening concrete curbs and sidewalks – sidewalks don't extend that far up in the township, request a deferral not a waiver, agreed.

5) Request for waiver from the recreational lands or fees in lieu thereof. First part of the township ordinance is designed to ensure there are recreational lands or facilities in the township. 2 T's entire facility is for that purposes, provides recreation for the young people of the township. It actually enhances that section of the ordinance. The other issue is there is a method of calculating the fee for the recreational agreement. That method is based on the square footage of any building. There is are no building and are requesting waiver for that particular requirement. Similar request being made for the capital improvement fund. No change of use of this land, with regards to traffic. Removing one type of recreation and replacing it with another. Same with calculating of the fee, fee based upon new square footage of fee, requesting that waiver requirement be made.

Asking the Board to approval plans as submitted.

Mr. Chuss made motion to approve including all waivers, the storm water covenant and with the exception on the deferral of the widening of concrete sidewalks, curbs and street lights.

Comments from the Board – It's a permitted use and the Developer is taking as much action as he can take to mitigate any potential noise complaints, which is the biggest complaint about this project. If it becomes a problem, there are ordinance regarding noise. If it becomes a problem we can have it tested and work with the land owner to address it.

Public comments –

Robert Reed, 678 Biltmore Ave, Jacobs Farm **Questions regarding entrances, exits, and parking**. One facility is being taken out and replaced with the go carts. Same entrances, exits and parking currently there and approved by PennDOT. There is room for additional parking is required. **Question regarding clearly posting signs, personnel and storage**. Currently it is all regulated by the State Dept. of Agriculture, which

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2Ts currently applies to. No flammable materials for the go carts. ***What barriers to protect surrounding homes, from electric, noise and crashes.*** North side of post track putting in a solid wood fence, several hundred feet the length of the track, for sound barrier. Lighting will be changed to pole mount 15 ft. tall, so everything is drawn down and won't spill over to surrounding properties.

Steven Cosmar, 324 Dogwood Terrace, Where will carts be stored? Roof area with track with open sided chain link where ridership takes place and for storage. Asked about fire extinguisher equipment – part of the Dept of Agriculture and is part of the plan to add extinguishers.

Resident - Batteries can be dangerous on recharge. Township will review the batteries.

Voted 4-0

2. Utility Fund/Inter-fund Loan Resolution 180315

Not looking for resolution, just review. Inter-fund Loan Township will need to take based on our budget forecast. One loan for the rescue truck being constructed and second loan was a bundle with 2 dump trucks and a tractor for \$410,000/10 years. The \$410,000 is now \$402,000 Mr. Kramer was able to get our price. Looking or tentative approval, bills coming potentially coming due in about 4 months, July time period with sometimes meetings being cancelled or postponed.

for the meeting that the vote needs to take place. Mainly to expedite the payment to whoever the provider is in a timely manner to avoid any late fees. Looking for authorization to prepare the resolution.

Vote 4-0

3. Bartolacci Zoning Challenge Hearing

Wendy Nicolosi, Solicitor – That matter has been continued until April 19, 2018

4. Forks Sullivan Trail quarter study grant 180315-01

At the Workshop, we discussed concept of pursuing additional grants from the State and/or Federal Government, through the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission, this one is referred to Multimodal has to do pedestrian and other means of transportation. We also discussed a potential amount to pursue and Sean identified through his staff, an amount of \$400,000 to \$500,000. If you accept it and grant me to be signatory for the application, once it's prepared and it acknowledges the fact if we would get the grant, no guarantees we would get it, we would be responsible for 30% match.

Grant not awarded until January/February 2019. No obligation to accept grant.

Motion to approve

Vote: 4-0

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Wendy Nicolosi, Solicitor – Need to have Fog Ordinance passed again, which was scheduled for this meeting.

Motion to approve

Vote: 4-0

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Township Manager – John Cornell, - Zoning Hearing Board and Recreation Board vacancy deadline is March 23, 2018 at 3:30pm - Received 2 inquiries, one for each position.

Follow up at Workshop meeting – Park House rental - 1employee has an interest. Suggest have the solicitor draft a lease for consideration at April 5th Workshop.

Working on an EMA table top drill and have Chuck Chapman and our EMA coordinator be part of the drill. Problem identified was no generator at Rec Center but only handles emergency lighting not support facilities. Ended using Community building to house some people to stay warm. No date yet but will come back to the Board.

Thanked Mr. Kramer, Public Work Dept., Fire Dept. and Police Dept. for all their help during the storm. Coordination with Met Ed and everyone else is great.

Finance Director - Jim Farley, - Nextel flyer will be going out in next billing.

Human Resources – Barb Bartek, - Absent

Public Works – Steve Kramer, - Would like to thank Fire and Police Dept. Administration and Parks Dept. it was a strenuous Friday. Report is on the drive.

Zoning Dept – Tim Weis, - and nothing additional

Recreation – Rachel Sulzbach, - Absent

Police Chief – Greg Dorney, - Report on the drive. Police plan on using Nextel.

Fire Chief – Chuck Gallagher, - Fire in township all departments worked well together

Engineer – Sean Policelli, - Next month's FBA the Sullivan Trail Corridor

Solicitor – Wendy Nicolosi, - Nothing to report

Meeting Adjourned, 8pm

Final minutes 5/15/18 scripted by L Nicasanti