

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
Erik Chuss, Secretary/Treasurer
Ed Moore, Supervisor

Others Present:

John V. Cornell, Township Manager
Tim Weis, Building & Zoning Officer
Steve Kramer, Public Works Director
James Farley, Finance Director
Rachel Sulzbach, Parks & Recreation Director
Wendy Nicolosi, Solicitor
Sean Policelli, Township Engineer
Greg Dorney, Police Chief

Absent:

Dan Martyak, Vice Chairman
Barb Bartek, Human Resource Manager
Chuck Gallagher, Fire Chief

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS:

Chairman John O'Neil announce this evening was solicitor Wendy Nicolosi's last meeting with the Township she has decided to go into private practice. John thanked her for her efforts over the past 5 years. Ed Moore echoed John's comments, Erik Chuss shared his thanks also. Next Chairman O'Neil announced the Board met in executive session prior to the meeting for personnel.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS BOARD MEETINGS:

Minutes of March 7, 2019 Work Session-

- Mr. Erik Chuss made motion accept and to approve the March 7, 2019; seconded by Mr. Moore; vote all in favor.

Vote called: 3-0

At this point Chairman O'Neil asked for any public comments for non- agenda items, being none the meeting moved onto invited guests.

INVITED GUESTS

➤ **Mr. Patrick Painter – CREATE Project**

Senior at Easton High School spoke about the project with the Nurture Nature Center regarding flooding. Specifically working with governmental agencies to communicate the hazards and flood risks to the public. The goal of the 12-member student panel is to educate students and the public on climate change and hazard related matters to be resilient during hazards through preparedness and mitigation. The ambassadors will be collecting stories of events and will present a final report at the Center in September 2019. Those with stories are encouraged to be interviewed. April 14, 2019 is the first opportunity for the public to share at the Nurture Nature Center. Mr. Chuss offered his assistance as well as a potential video he had made.

- **Planning Commission:** Mr. Weis shared the Township Planning Commission has been discussing the issues of tractor trailers and will have more information for the Board of Supervisors work session.
- **Recreation Board:** –Rachel Sulzbach reported the Rec Board had met on Monday March 18, 2018 however she was on vacation.
- **Forks Business Association (FBA):** Mr. Cornell noted the FBA agenda, minutes and financial report was in the Boards packet. Erik Chuss noted the recent scheduled Halo event had been cancelled due to illness. He noted the upcoming Pomfret Club event and Women of Strength Event. As well as three new businesses in park plaza.

➤ **Treasurer’s Report: Mr. Erik Chuss**

Secretary Treasurer Erik Chuss then presented the bills for February 2019.

	Total Outstanding Debt.....\$7,030,000.00	
	<u>3/05/2019</u>	<u>3/21/2019</u>
General Fund\$	171,691.74	265,247.45
Real state Tax\$	548,117.52	
Capital Improvement.....\$		
Recreational Capital\$		
State Liquid Fuels\$	18,529.97	25,315.37
Sewer Tap-in\$		
Escrow Fund\$		33,083.78
Utility Fund\$	17,793.35	128,538.27

Supervisor Erik Chuss made a motion to approve the **03/05/2019** payments; seconded by Mr. Moore

Vote Called: 3-0

Supervisor Erik Chuss made a motion to approve the **03/21/2019** payments; seconded by Mr. Moore

Vote Called: 3-0

OLD BUSINESS

1. Park & Recreation Board appointment consideration

Mr. O’Neil noted the Board had interviewed Amanda J Ulmer for the vacancy on the Recreation Board and called for a nomination to fill the vacancy, Mr. Moore made the motion, second by Mr. Chuss for the 4 year term to end in December 2023. By roll call vote; Mr. Moore aye, Mr. Chuss aye and Chairman O’Neil voted aye.

Vote 3-0

2. Board of Supervisors appointment

Chairman O’Neil explained there was a vacancy on the Board due to the accepted resignation of Robert Egolf at the February 21, 2019 meeting. The Board held 5 interviews for the vacancy; Richard Sigfreid, Tim Hughes, Kelly Keegan, Dan Reiter and Brian Frey. Mr. Also commented that Mr. Erik Chuss had chosen to not run for re-election, John then thanked Erik for his service to Township both on the Board of Supervisors and on the Planning Commission. Ed Moore then supported John’s comments and noted Erik’s assistance when he joined the Board. Chairman O’Neil then called for nomination to fill the vacancy. Mr. Chuss made a nomination to appoint Dan Reiter to fill the position until the end of the year. Mr. O’Neil called for a second, being non the motion failed. Next Mr. Moore nominated Mr. Brian Frey, Mr. O’Neil called for a second, Mr. O’Neil then seconded the motion. Mr. O’Neil called for discussion. Mr. Chuss stated his support for Mr. Reiter and noted the 22 years on the Recreation Board, 26 years as a residents and his desire to reward residents for their devotion. Mr. O’Neil commented he agreed with Mr. Chuss’s views on Mr. Reiter however during the interview process it was understood all the candidates had filed for election, but that was not the case. Mr. Moore also commented he understood Erik’s position but Mr. Frey’s negotiation skills is something this Board needs. Mr. O’Neil then called for a roll call vote; Mr. Moore aye, Mr. Chuss nay, and Mr. O’Neil voted aye.

Vote 2-1

4. Stockertown Sewer Agreement Ordinance

Solicitor Nicolosi noted the Board had authorized the advertisement of an ordinance to create an intermunicipal agreement with Stockertown Borough to sell 86,500 gallons per day at a rate of \$10.05 sewer capacity through the Easton area Joint Sewer Authority. Following discussion by way of motion by Chairman John O'Neil seconded by Erik Chuss and roll call vote; Ed Moore aye, Erik Chuss aye and Chairman O'Neil voted aye the motion passed to adopt ordinance #360.

Vote 3-0

5. Conditional Use Hearing 4300 Braden Blvd

Solicitor Nicolosi noted this was an advertised public hearing for a Conditional Use to expand the Bakerly French Bakery property owner JG Petrucci. Ms. Nicolosi entered the application and documents into the record. Further it was noted at court stenographer was present for the hearing. The applicant presented testimony, Board asked questions and time was allowed for public comment. Wendy read the ordinance summary of the Conditional Use standards. The hearing was the closed following testimony. By way of motion by Erik Chuss, second by Ed Moore by roll call vote; Mr. Chuss aye, Mr. Moore aye and Mr. O'Neil voted aye.

Vote 3-0

6. Conditional Use Hearing 4300 Braden Blvd.

Solicitor Nicolosi noted this was an advertised public hearing for a Conditional Use to have a proposed 100,005 square foot warehouse facility property owner JG Petrucci. Ms. Nicolosi entered the application and documents into the record. Further it was noted a court stenographer was present for the hearing. The applicant presented testimony, Board asked questions and time was allowed for public comment. By way of motion by Erik Chuss, second by Ed Moore by roll call vote; Mr. Chuss aye, Mr. Moore aye and Mr. O'Neil voted aye.

Bartolacci Zoning Challenge Hearing:

Solicitor Nicolosi explained this is continued until April 18, 2019 to hear the zoning challenge for apartments at tax parcels J8/18/7, J9/8/6, J9/8/7 and J8/20/3. Solicitor Nicolosi reminded the Board and public the proposed curative amendment ordinance which advertised for April 18, 2019 is an attempt to resolve the challenge, should the matter not be resolve both parties reserve the right to continue.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Township Manager – John Cornell, - Report in packet. Vacation notification and advisement of Mr. Weis handling the work session agenda current topics: gerrymandering, EOP plan update etc.. Erik requested plans in the packets and planning commission minutes.

Finance Director - Jim Farley, - Report on drive nothing additional

Human Resources – Barb Bartek, - Absent – no report

Public Works – Steve Kramer, - Report on drive, recycling performance grant \$43,000.00 for 2017.

Zoning Dept – Tim Weis, - Report on Drive.

Recreation – Rachel Sulzbach, - Furure discussion on tennis court lighting. Report on drive.

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Police Chief – Greg Dorney, - Report on drive.

Fire Chief – Chuck Gallagher, - Not Present, Report on drive.

Engineer – Sean Policelli, - Sean provided an update on the Frutchie Hill Road swale permitting with DEP. Comments received from DEP awaiting.

Solicitor – Wendy Nicolosi – Road sections that need that need dedication to be placed on Liquid Fuels Resolutions # 19032-1 Wagon Wheel Rd, Resolution#190321-2 Cherry Rd and Resolution. 190321-3 Uhler Road,

Meeting adjourned 8:17 pm

Minutes prepared by John V Cornell with benefit of recordation.