

MINUTES OF THE OLEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MEETING HELD JULY 10, 2023

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Oley Township Municipal Building by Jeffrey Spatz with Supervisors Mark Hoch and Edwin Pollock in attendance. Solicitor Kenneth Picardi was also in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was observed.

The meeting agenda was posted in the meeting room and the township website twenty-four hours prior to the start of the meeting. No public comment was heard on any of the listed agenda items.

There being no changes to the May 8, 2023 workshop minutes, a motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Mark Hoch to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2023 workshop meeting as presented. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor...motion carried. There being no changes to the June 12, 2023 workshop minutes, a motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Mark Hoch to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2023 workshop meeting as presented. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – abstained. Two in favor, one abstained...motion carried. There being no changes to the June 12, 2023 regular minutes, a motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Mark Hoch to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2023 meeting as presented. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – abstained. Two in favor, one abstained...motion carried.

The police department report for the month of June 2023 was read indicating 286 calls for the month. There was discussion of vehicles going 98 MPH on Main Street on weekends, the police will be asked to watch for this.

The road department report for the month of June 2023 was read. The shoulder machine support chain broke when the machine was full of material and fell onto the roadway which broke the framework, a new Swenson shoulder machine would cost \$8,467.23, the machine was disassembled and determined that only the framework needs to be replaced/repared which would cost approximately \$3,000. A motion was made by Mark Hoch and seconded by Edwin Pollock to authorize the repair of the shoulder machine at a cost not to exceed \$3,500 with work being performed by Z-Weldco. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor...motion carried.

Todd Kegerise, Emergency Management Coordinator, provided us with a storm damage review from the July 9, 2023 flooding event. Mill Road bridge at Reider Road is real bad and currently closed, and Oley Furnace Road bridge between Mill Road and Spook Lane is also bad and is currently closed. Mr. Kegerise is in the process of performing a windshield survey of storm related damage which he will submit to Berks County Department of Emergency Services. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Mark Hoch to adopt Resolution #637-23 declaring a disaster emergency due to a July 9, 2023 day-long rain event causing flooding and road and bridge closings and continues to cause injury, damage, and suffering to persons and property and has created significant impact on municipal resources. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor...motion carried. Mr. Kegerise thanked Oley

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Fire Company for the use of their utility truck for him to perform his duties in surveying the entire township for storm damage. Evan Hoch of M&M Sandwich & Pizza Shop offered to provide one free meal from now until July 15, 2023 to any of our local fire, ambulance, and police with proper identification as a “thank you” for all their services during this recent emergency. Mr. Hoch said William Gotwals of Gotwals Brothers offered their services to haul stone if needed for any bridge/road repairs. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to place concrete blocks and proper signage to close the Mill Road bridge at Reider Road to any kind of traffic. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried. It was agreed to block off one lane of Oley Furnace Road bridge with proper signage.

The Fire Chief’s report for the month of June 2023 was reading indicating a total of 34 calls for the month. Michael Kline thanked Gotwals Brothers for the use of their equipment to rescue victims that were trapped in flood water yesterday. Mr. Spatz would like to do something at a future meeting to recognize the fire personnel that achieved certain levels of fire training.

The Ambulance Chief’s report for the month of June 2023 was read indicating a total of 85 calls for the month.

The Richard Hartline property located at 336 Main Street is in violation of failing to call for final inspection on a building permit, citation to be filed. Stop work order issued to Brian M. Miller, II & Kaylee A. Wallace for property located at 2876 West Philadelphia Avenue for building a detached garage without any permits, citation issued. The Brandy Lynn Brigman property located at 8 Rose Virginia Road is in violation of failing to obtain zoning permit for installation of shed. Notice of violation issued to Diane F. Petry for property located at 438 Main Street for burning domestic refuse. The Allen & Susan Standhardt property located at 15 Rose Virginia Road is in violation of weeds.

Incoming communications:

1. Letter dated May 25, 2023 (received June 20, 2023) from Friend, Inc. requesting permission to hold the Brake the Cycle Poverty bicycle event on August 12, 2023 from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. beginning and ending at Kutztown University. The proposed route in our township was reviewed and they will be on Bertolet Mill Road, Hoch Road, Cleaver Road, Oysterdale Road, Tollhouse Road, Yoder Road, Manatawny Road, Spangsville Road, Church Road, Covered Bridge Road, Walker Road, Jefferson Street, Stitzer Road, Mill Road, Reider Road, and Oley Furnace Road. They expect to have less than 100 participants that will travel the course through Oley Township so they would not be required to submit an application for a permit. It was suggested that they re-route around Oley Township since most of these roadways have significant damage due the recent flooding event. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to deny the request to hold the Brake the Cycle of Poverty bicycling event on August 12, 2023 as per the designated route due to a majority of the roadways that would be traversed being closed due to major damage experienced during the July 9, 2023 flooding event. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

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2. Letter dated June 23, 2023 from OTM, LLC informing us they represent Darren & Sandra Rhoads who will be constructing a single family detached dwelling at 1728 Memorial Highway and this project requires an individual NPDES permit and they are requesting the township to complete the Municipal Notification of Planned Land Development for Chapter 102 Permits form. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Mark Hoch to authorize the Secretary to complete the Municipal Notification of Planned Land Development for Chapter 102 Permits for Darren & Sandra Rhoads for the construction of a single family detached dwelling at 1728 Memorial Highway. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Mr. Spatz said we can appoint up to three township residents on the Local Traffic Advisory Committee. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Mark Hoch to appoint Benjamin N. Raker, Tyler Spier, and Jeffrey Berkey as the three township residents on the Oley Township Local Traffic Advisory Committee. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried. The traffic calming workshop meeting that was scheduled for this evening prior to this meeting had been cancelled due to weather related emergencies and it will now be held Monday, August 14, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

The settlement on the Trails End Lane property was held on June 23, 2023.

An audit was recently conducted by the Auditor General's office on the pension plans and it was determined that our actuarial firm is using total W-2 earnings for employees without backing out the overtime in order to calculate benefits, in order to be in compliance it was recommended that we amend Ordinance #308 for the Oley Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan to eliminate the term "excluding overtime". A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Edwin Pollock to authorize the Solicitor to amend Ordinance #308 for the Oley Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan to change the definition of Compensation in Section 1-331 by eliminating "excluded overtime" and change Section 1-340.2 by eliminating "overtime shall be excluded". Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried. A motion was made by Jeffrey Spatz and seconded by Mark Hoch to retroactively approve from 2016 – 2022 to include overtime in the compensation used to calculate a Plan member's benefit contributions for the Oley Township Non-Uniformed Pension Plan. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Atty. Picardi indicated there were some typographical errors in the numbering of Ordinance #387 (Agritainment/Agritourism) and we need to adopt an amending ordinance to make the corrections. A motion was made by Mark Hoch and seconded by Edwin Pollock to authorize the Solicitor to advertise for the adoption of an ordinance to correct typographical errors in Ordinance #387 (Agritainment/Agritourism). Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

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Received recommendation from LTL Consultants to release maintenance bond in amount of \$255,053.20 for Meadowview Farms II to Oley Valley Development, Inc. A motion was made by Mark Hoch and seconded by Edwin Pollock to authorize the release of the maintenance bond in amount of \$255,053.20 for Meadowview Farms II to Oley Valley Development, Inc. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

The financial report was called for and read. A motion was made by Mark Hoch and seconded by Edwin Pollock to accept the financial report and pay all the bills and salaries. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

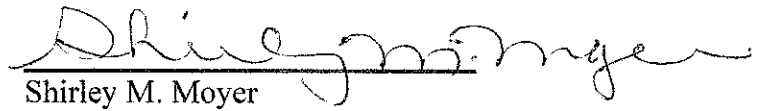
Public comment:

1. Todd Kegerise – Asked for any individuals that would have an interest in the position of Emergency Management Coordinator for Oley Township beginning in 2024 should submit their name to the Supervisors for consideration.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, August 14, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

A motion was made by Mark Hoch and seconded by Edwin Pollock to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. Jeffrey Spatz – yes; Mark Hoch – yes; Edwin Pollock - yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Shirley M. Moyer
Secretary/Treasurer

Cc: J. Spatz
M. Hoch
E. Pollock
K. Picardi
D. Allebach
N. Ulrich